

COUNCIL ON ETHICS  
Minutes

of the March 9, 2009 Meeting held in Conference Room B of Town Hall.

**Present:** Virginia Benin, Julie Higgins, Stephen Hudspeth, and Peter Kaskell.

**Absent:** John Ingersoll who was in Florida and hence unavailable to attend.

**Visitors in Attendance at the Council's Request:** Ann Bell, James Meinhold, and Warren Serenbetz.

Steve Hudspeth opened the meeting at 8:00 p.m., and the agenda for the meeting was unanimously adopted.

The first order of business was consideration by the Council of a Request for an Advisory Opinion (the "Request") received by the Council on March 3, 2009 from James Meinhold, a member of the Board of Finance ("BOF"), respecting his acceptance of a board position with The Friends of Ambler Farm (the "Friends") while continuing to serve on the BOF. After interview by the Council of Ms. Ann Bell, President of the Board of the Friends, and Mr. Warren Serenbetz, Chair of the BOF, as well as of Mr. Meinhold and review of a financial report for the Friends and portions of the Board of Selectmen's Budget relating to Ambler Farm, the Council proceeded to deliberate on the Request. The results of its deliberations are reflected in the Council's Advisory Opinion appended to these Minutes and hereby incorporated within them.

The Council then heard a brief report from Mr. Hudspeth on the status of certain Connecticut state initiatives now underway respecting legislated municipal ethics standards and enforcement for all municipalities statewide.

It was agreed that the next scheduled meeting of the Council shall take place on a date to be selected by agreement among the members during the month of September, 2009 at the Town Hall, unless events before then require a meeting sooner.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Dated: March 12, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Hudspeth, Chair