



Council Agenda Item

Meeting Date: December 19, 2023

Agenda Item: Legal Counsel for Ethics Committee

Staff Contact (name, email, phone): Karri Anderberg kanderberg@whitewater-wi.gov

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

On December 14, 2023, the Clerk's office received a notarized complaint regarding a violation of the code of ethics.

Under the ordinance, legal counsel shall be furnished after consultation with the chair of the ethics board.

The Ethics Board will convene on December 21, 2023 to elect a chair, vice-chair and secretary, as well as discuss written rules of procedures, request legal assistance and set up future meeting dates.

Preliminary indications are that outside legal counsel will be necessary and requested by the Ethics Board.

Von Briesen & Roper have assigned Attorney Mark S. Kapocius to assist the Ethics Board in anticipation of the Board's request for counsel on December 21, 2023.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

None

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

Unknown

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the anticipated request for outside legal counsel for the Ethics Board.

Approval is being requested at this meeting due to the fact that Council does not meet again until January 16, 2024, which would unduly delay the work of the Ethics Board.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

1. Code of Ethics