City of Lyndon

Ethics Committee Working Group Minutes

Date: Wednesday, September 3, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Lyndon City Hail

1. Call to Order

Chair Mera Kathryn Corlett called the meeting to order. All committee members were present:

- Mera Kathryn Corlett, Chair
- · Malick Diallo, Secretary
- Calvin Shaak, Member

2. Ethics Complaint Hearing

- The committee acknowledged receipt of a formal complaint filed on August 21, 2025.
- Respondent provided a written response.
- Hearing tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 17, 2025.
- Attendance will include the complainant (Sharon Morris), the respondent (Councilwoman Stanley), and the author of referenced correspondence for transparency.

3. Standards of Conduct Revisions

Reviewed draft revisions to ethics code.

- Members emphasized starting with **standards of conduct** to establish tone before conflicts of interest.
- Key elements under discussion:
 - Trust and fairness as guiding principles.
 - **Examples** included to make expectations clearer.
 - Advisory opinion process to be highlighted: "When in doubt, seek an advisory opinion."

4. Conflicts of Interest

- Discussion on employment, nepotism, and business relationships.
- Committee considered barring city officials/employees from bidding on city contracts; consensus was to reference **KRS 61** and adapt in plain language rather than banning all.
- Question raised whether to include "incompatible offices" language; Malick favored clarity, Calvin noted redundancy with state law.

5. Public Perception and Governance Concerns

- Concern raised about a citizen-run Facebook group labeled "City of Lyndon" that may mislead residents.
- Committee agreed this is **not an ethics issue** but acknowledged possible public safety concerns if misinformation spreads.
- Police Chief had indicated this was not a priority for enforcement.

6. Council Professionalism

- Members discussed perception of council infighting and how it affects public trust.
- Agreed that **training on communication**, **professionalism**, and **perception** would benefit council.
- Suggested contacting Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) for options.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am after discussion of revisions and next steps.

Mera Kathryn Corlett

Malick Diàllo

Calvin Shaak