

# Ethics Counsel and Hearing Officer

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – January 21, 2025

City Staff Representative: Department: Alicia Calderón, City Attorney City Attorney's Office

### Code of Ethics Brighton Municipal Code Article 2-10

Purpose is to protect the integrity of City government by defining and discouraging certain actions that may create an appearance of impropriety that undermines public trust and prohibiting public officials from acting on any matter in which they may have a conflict of interest.



# **Procedure for Complaints**

A confidential written complaint may be filed for a matter occurring within the past twelve months against any City Council Member, employee, or member of a City board or commission.

- The Ethics Counsel may dismiss a frivolous complaint.
- The Ethics Counsel may investigate complaints and make findings that the matter should proceed to a hearing or be dismissed.
- The Hearing Officer acts as the judicial officer at the hearing.
- The Ethics Counsel is in the role of prosecutor.



#### Complaints:

- Contact information for person submitting;
- Full description of facts known;
- Identity and contact information of others who may have knowledge.

# Conflicts of Interest (2-10-20)

Any situation in which a Council member, an appointee to a City board, commission, or authority, or a City employee:

- Has a substantial interest in any transaction with the City;
- Has a relative or a business affiliation with a substantial interest in any transaction with the City;
- Is an officer of an organization that has taken an official position on any transaction with the City;
- Is on the board of directors of an organization that is substantially affected by a transaction with the City;
- Is affiliated with a law, accounting, planning or other professional firm that has substantial interest in any transaction with the City; or
- Is required to receive official notice of a quasi-judicial action from the City.

### **Code of Ethics**

Restrictions (2-10-30)

- Shall not use public office for financial gain.
- Shall not use or disclose confidential information.
- Shall not vote or participate on any matter where there is a conflict of interest.
- Shall not use City property for personal gain except under same terms as any other person.
- Shall not accept anything of value (gifts), with some exceptions (less than \$65 dollars, campaign contributions, salary, awards, reimbursement for a conference from a nonprofit or government entity).



# Resolution to Appoint: Ethics Counsel and Hearing Officer

Ethics Counsel: Corey Hoffman Hearing Officer: Geoff Wilson

