

MEETING: REGULAR MEETING OF THE ETHICS BOARD

DATE & TIME: Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 6:00 PM

**LOCATION: Germantown Village Hall Board Room
N112 W17001 Mequon Road**

NOTICE: Citizens not wishing to attend the meeting personally or virtually may submit any public comments by sending an email to comments@germantownwi.gov by 4 p.m. on the day of the meeting so that it can be provided to the members of the body for their consideration.

AGENDA

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** *This meeting has been given public notice in accordance with Section 19.83 and 19.84, Wis. Stats, in such form that will apprise the general public and news media of subject matter that is intended for consideration and action.*
- II. **ROLL CALL:**
- III. **MEETING MINUTES:**
 - A. March 26, 2025 (Forthcoming)
- IV. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. Complete Preliminary Investigation of Complaint of Melanie Smythe. The Ethics Board may convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations, and then may reconvene into open session to take such action as deemed appropriate.
- V. **ADJOURNMENT:**

UPON REASONABLE NOTICE, effort will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service, please contact the Village Clerk at (262)250-4700 at least 2 days prior to the meeting.

BUSINESS OF THE ETHICS BOARD

MEETING DATE: April 24, 2025

PLACEMENT: Action Item

ITEM TITLE: Complete Preliminary Investigation of Complaint of Melanie Smythe. The Ethics Board may convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations, and then may reconvene into open session to take such action as deemed appropriate.

SUBMITTED BY: Brian Sajdak, Attorney

SUMMARY EXPLANATION:

Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(f) authorizes the Ethics Board to convene in closed session for the purpose of considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. In this case, the Board will be completing a preliminary investigation of the complaint to determine whether it establishes probable cause that a violation has occurred. The potential need to go into closed session is to avoid a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of the individual who is subject to the complaint as often the mere suggestion of impropriety does damage as the public's attention span often does not follow the eventual resolution. However, not that the reference to sub. (b) means that the subject of the complaint may request that this consideration be handled in open session. If that request is made, it would be improper to go into closed session.

ATTACHMENT:

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

ACTION BY Committee: