

WHEREAS, Section 806 of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, as amended, requires every town to adopt a code of ethics setting forth for the guidance of its officers and employees, the standards of conduct reasonably expected of them: and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Hope recognizes that public officers and employees must maintain themselves above reproach if public confidence in our town government is to be continued: and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Town Board of the Town of Hope to set forth these rules of ethical conduct to guide the officers and employees of the Town of Hope, such rules to be in addition to, not in conflict with, the prohibitions of Article 18 of the General Municipal Law or any other general or special law relating to ethical conduct and interest in contracts of municipal officers and employees. Now therefore be it,

RESOLVED that every officer or employee of the Town of Hope shall be subject to and shall abide by the following standards of conduct:

GIFTS: He shall not directly or indirectly solicit any gift: nor shall he accept or receive any gift having a value of twenty-five more, whether in the form of money, services, loan, travel, entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise, or any other form, under circumstances from which it could reasonably be inferred that the gift was intended to influence him, or could reasonably be expected to influence him, in the performance of his official duties or was intended as a reward for any official action on his part.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: He shall not disclose confidential information acquired by him in the course of his official duties or use such information to further his personal interest.

REPRESENTATION BEFORE AGENCY: He shall not receive or enter into agreement, express or implied, for, compensation for services to be rendered in relation to any matter before any municipal agency of which he is an officer, member or employee, or of any municipal agency over which he has jurisdiction or to which he has the power to appoint any member, officer or employee.

REPRESENTATION FOR CONTINGENT FEE: He shall not receive, or enter into any agreement, express or implied, for, compensation for services to be rendered in relation to any matter before any agency of the Town of Hope, whereby his compensation is to be dependent or contingent upon any action by such agency with respect to such matter, provided that this paragraph shall not prohibit the fixing at any time of fees based upon the reasonable value of services rendered.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: To the extent that he knows thereof, a member of the Town Board and any officer or employee of the Town of Hope, whether paid or unpaid, who participates in the discussion or gives official opinion to the Town Board on any legislation before it shall publicly disclose on the official record the nature and extent of any direct or indirect financial or other private interest he has in such legislation.

CONFLICTING INVESTMENTS: He shall not invest or hold any investment directly or indirectly in any financial, business, commercial or other private transaction which creates a conflict with his official duties.

PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT: He shall not engage in, solicit, negotiate for or promise to accept private employment or render services for private interests when such employment or service creates a conflict with or Impairs the proper discharge of his, official duties.

FUTURE EMPLOYMENT: He shall not after the termination of employment with the Town of Hope, appear before any board or of such town in relation to any case, proceeding or application in which he personally participated during the period of his service or employment or which was under his active consideration. And be it further

Town of Hope Code of Ethics

RESOLVED, that nothing herein shall be deemed to bar or prevent the timely filing by a present or former municipal officer or employee or any claim, account, demand or suit against the Town of Hope, or any agency thereof, on behalf of himself or any member of his family arising out of any personal injury or property damage or for any lawful benefit authorized or permitted by law; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby directed to cause a copy of this resolution to be distributed to every officer and employee of the Town of Hope and to every future officer and employee before entering in the duties office or employment, and be it further

RESOLVED, that, in addition to any penalty contained in any provision of law, any person who shall knowingly and intentionally violate any of the provisions of the code hereby enacted may be fined, suspended or removed from office or employment in the manner provided by law; and be it further

RESOLVED that any officer or employee of the Town of Hope may by written request, to the Board of Ethics of the County of Hamilton for advisory opinions on matters relating to this code and or Article 18 of the General Municipal Law, in the manner provided by law and the regulations of said board, and said Board of Ethics of Hamilton County is hereby authorized to act in such capacity with respect to officers and employees of the Town of Hope; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk shall file in the office of the Comptroller of the State of New York a certified copy of this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk shall file with the Board of Ethics of the County of Hamilton a certified copy of this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Hope, New York held on the 13th day of February, 2012.

PRESENT: Supervisor Edwards

Councilpersons, Steve Tomlinson, John Stuart,

Dianna Downing

ABSENT: Councilman Mark Stuart

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

Robert C. Edwards,
Supervisor