

TOWN OF AMSTERDAM  
LOCAL LAW NO. 1, 1970

A local law relating to a code of ethics and a board of ethics for the Town of Amsterdam.

Be it enacted by the town board of the Town of Amsterdam as follows:

ARTICLE I  
INTENT OF TOWN BOARD

Section 1. State<sup>ment</sup> of legislative intent. The Town Board of the Town of Amsterdam recognizes that there are state statutory provisions mandating towns to establish rules and standards of ethical conduct for public officers and employees which, if observed, can enhance public confidence in local government. In the light of a tendency today on the part of some people to downgrade our local governments and to discredit our public servants and our free institutions generally, it appears necessary that every effort be made to assure the highest caliber of public administration of this town as part of our state's important system of local government. It is the purpose of this local law to implement this objective through the establishment of standards of conduct, to provide for punishment of violation of such standards and to create a board of ethics to render advisory opinions to the town's officers and employees as provided for herein.

Section 2. The standards, prohibited acts and procedures established herein are in addition to any prohibited acts, conflicts of interest provisions or procedures prescribed by statute of the State of New York and also in addition to common law rules and judicial decisions relating to the conduct of town officers to the extent that the same are more severe in their application than this local law.

ARTICLE II  
CODE OF ETHICS

Section 1. Definitions. As used in this local law, the term "town" shall mean any board, commission, district, council or other agency, department or unit of the government of the Town of Amsterdam.

The term "town employee" shall mean any officer or employee of the Town of Amsterdam whether paid or unpaid, whether serving in a full-time, part-time or advisory capacity.

Section 2. Rule with respect to conflicts of interest. No town employee shall have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in any business or transaction or professional activity or incur any obligation of any nature, which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his duties in the public interest.

Section 3. Standards. a. No town employee shall accept other employment which will impair his independence of judgment in the exercise of his official duties.

b. No town employee shall accept employment or engage in any business or professional activity which will require him to disclose confidential information which he has gained by reason of his official position or authority.

c. No town employee shall use or attempt to use his official position to secure unwarranted privileges or exemptions for himself or others.

d. No town employee shall engage in any transaction as representative or agent of the town with any business entity in which he has a direct or indirect financial interest that might reasonably tend to conflict with the proper discharge of his official duties.

e. A town employee shall not by his conduct give reasonable basis for the impression that any person can improperly

influence him or unduly enjoy his favor in the performance of his official duties, or that he is affected by the kinship, rank, position or influence of any party or person.

f. Each town employee shall abstain from making personal investments in enterprises which he has reason to believe may be directly involved in decisions to be made by him or which will otherwise create substantial conflict between his duty in the public interest and his private interest.

g. Each town employee shall endeavor to pursue a course of conduct which will not raise suspicion among the public that he is likely to be engaged in acts that are in violation of his trust.

h. No town employee employed on a full-time basis nor any firm or association of which such employee is a member nor corporation a substantial portion of the stock of which is owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such employee, shall sell goods or services to any person, firm, corporation or association which is licensed or whose rates are fixed by the town in which such employee serves or is employed.

Section 4. Violations. In addition to any penalty contained in any other provision of law, any such town employee who shall knowingly and intentionally violate any of the provisions of this local law may be fined, suspended or removed from office or employment in the manner provided by law.

### ARTICLE III BOARD OF ETHICS

Section 1. There is hereby established a board of ethics consisting of three members to be appointed by the Town Board, all of whom reside in the Town of Amsterdam and who shall serve without compensation and at the pleasure of the Town Board of the Town of Amsterdam. A majority of such members shall be persons other than town employees but shall include at least one member who is an elected or appointed town employee of the Town of Amsterdam.

Section 2. The board of ethics established hereunder shall render advisory opinions to town employees on written request and upon request of the town board make recommendation to such town board as to any amendments of this local law. The opinions of the board of ethics shall be advisory and confidential and in no event shall the identity of the town employee be disclosed except to authorized persons and agencies. Such opinions shall be on the advice of counsel employed by the board of ethics, or if none, of the town attorney.

Section 3. Such board of ethics upon its formation shall promulgate its own rules and regulations as to its form and procedures and shall maintain appropriate records of its opinions and proceedings.

#### ARTICLE IV ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. Upon the adoption of this local law, the town supervisor shall cause a copy thereof to be distributed to every town employee of this town. Failure to distribute any such copy or failure of any town employee to receive such copy shall have no effect on the duty of compliance with this code, nor the enforcement of provisions hereof. The town supervisor shall further cause a copy of this local law to be kept posted conspicuously in each public building under the jurisdiction of the town. Failure to so post this local law shall have no effect on the duty of compliance herewith, nor the enforcement provisions hereof.

Section 2. Within thirty days of the adoption of this local law, the town clerk shall file a copy thereof in the office of the state comptroller.

Section 3. The town board may appropriate moneys from the general town funds for the maintenance of and for personnel services to the board of ethics established hereunder, but such board of ethics may not commit the expenditure of town moneys except within the appropriations provided herein.

ARTICLE V  
SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

Section 1. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this local law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered.

ARTICLE VI  
EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 1. This local law shall take effect immediately.

Sewer Supt-Roger Baldwin (Term Expires 12/31/12) One Year Term 842-7961  
Dog Control-Michael Auriemma, 197 Truax Rd., Amsterdam, (Term Expires 12/31/12) 842-7961 Ext 304  
Water Supt-Carl Rust (Term Expires 12/31/12) One Year Term 842-7961 Ext 305  
Water Deputy-Randy Gardinier (Term Expires 12/31/12)

Town Deputies

Deputy Supervisor-Bart Tessiero  
 Bookkeeper-Andrew Caddell, Deputy Bookkeeper-Charles Caruso  
 Deputy Town Clerk- Nancy Oare-Deputy Tax Collector Nancy Oare  
 Deputy Highway Superintendent Herbert Menge

Planning Board (Four Year Term)-Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Weds of each month Phone Expires  
 Chairman James A. Partyka, P.O. Box 641, Hagaman, NY 12086 842-0605 12/31/14  
 James Russo, PO Box 10, 32 Dania Drive, Hagaman, NY 12086 842-5197 12/31/15  
 Daniel DiCaterino, 494 McKay, Road, Amsterdam, NY 12086 842-7961 12/31/13  
 Keith Kazala, 199 Pioneer Street, Amsterdam, NY 12010 842-6204 12/31/15  
 Nicholas Bartosik, PO Box 424, 32 Hagaman Ave, Hagaman, NY 842-5917 12/31/12  
 Mike Anostario, 195 Waterstreet Road, Amsterdam, NY 12010 842-5515 12/31/14  
 Frank Bochniak, 109 Miami Avenue, Amsterdam, NY 12010 842-7961 12/31/12  
 Secretary Darlene Thibodeau (Term Expires 12/31/11)

Zoning Board (Four Year Term)-Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Weds of each month Phone Expires  
 Thomas Sorbero, 158 Steadwell Rd., Amsterdam, NY 12010 843-1251 12/31/15  
 Michael Fariello, 478 Log City Road, Amsterdam, NY 12010 843-4673 12/31/14  
 Richard Boice, PO Box 141, Hagaman, NY 12086 843-0071 12/31/12  
 Neil Pareene, 111 Robb Road, Amsterdam, NY 12010 842-9303 12/31/13  
 Dennis Heaton, 156 S. Country Ridge Drive, Amsterdam, NY 843-0826 12/31/14  
 Alt Member Megan Comish, 156 Waterstreet Rd, Amsterdam, NY 843-5684  
 Secretary Darlene Thibodeau (Term Expires 12/31/11)

Board of Assessment Review (Five Year Term) Phone Expires  
 Deborah Tessiero, 17 Albea Drive, PO Box 216, Hagaman, NY 842-6508 09/30/12  
 Joseph Bartone, 15 Highland Ave., Fort Johnson, NY 12070 842-8821 09/30/13  
 Wayne Marotta, 44 Northern Blvd, Hagaman, NY 12086 843-8667 09/30/14  
 Brent Phetteplace, 179 Hagaman Ave., Amsterdam, NY 12010 843-7147 09/30/16  
 Steven Pasquarelli, 223 State Highway 67, Amsterdam, NY 848-1126 09/30/15

Code of Ethics (Three Year Term)  
 Neil Martuscello, Morrow Road, Amsterdam, NY 12010 843-3348 12/31/12  
 Pat Szurek, 685 McKay Road, Amsterdam, NY 12010 843-2632 12/31/13  
 Ed Emmrich, 188 Chapman Drive, Amsterdam 12010 843-2742 12/31/14

Town Clerk Hours: Monday-Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm 842-7961/843-6136 Fax

Court: Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm 842-7411/ 843-6934 Fax  
 Court is held Tuesday at 6 pm & Thursday at 7 pm

Highway Department 843-2620/843-6136 Fax  
 Montgomery County Sheriff's Department 736-1850 or 911  
 Montgomery County SPCA 842-8050  
 MOSA Transfer Station 843-5990  
 County Waste 762-0088