

ETHICS BOARD - SPECIAL CALLED MEETING AGENDA
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2018 | 6:00 PM

<u>Ethic Board Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mary LaSonde, Chairman	X	
Avery Randolph	X	
Rodney Lawrence	X	
Lucina Sagers - Secretary	X	
Walter Denson		X
Sharon Kellam (arrived late)	X	

1. Call Meeting To Order:

The meeting was called to order by Madam Chair at 6:10 p.m. Five members constituted a quorum.

2. Approval of the September 17, 2018 Minutes

Ms. Sagers moved to approve the meeting minutes with a second from Mr. Lawrence. **The motion was carried.**

3. Adoption of the Agenda:

A motion was made to approve the agenda with a revision that the Rules of Conduct be read before the public hearing and with an addition to go to Executive Session before the public hearing. The officer in attendance read the Rules of Conduct. Mr. Randolph made the motion with Mr. Lawrence providing a second. **The motion was carried.**

4. Establishment of Public Hearing Protocol

Madam Chair read the protocol for the hearing as follows: Complainant and Defendant will be allowed brief statements to be held to a three (3) minute time limit. No more than three (3) witnesses per side will be sworn in. All should be prepared to answer questions from the Board. Madam Chair called for witnesses from either side. Neither council member had a witness. Council Member Ruffin was called to be seated at the front table.

5. Executive Session

A motion was made to initiate the Executive Session before the start of the public hearing at 6:20 p.m. by Mr. Lawrence and seconded by Mr. Randolph. Ms. Sagers made a motion to move out of the Executive Session to the Board's session at 6:50 p.m. Mr. Randolph seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

6. Public Hearing of Ethics Board Complaint by Council Member Ruffin against Council Member Stamps-Jones

Prior to the hearing, copies of the Complaint were distributed to the Board and Council Members. The Complaint's exhibits were introduced to the record at this time. The violations against Council Member Stamps-Jones from the 8/10/18 Complaint were reviewed. Protocol was also reviewed for the hearing by Madam Chair.

Council Member Ruffin was called to the podium and sworn in before making his statement. Questions were asked by the Board and answered regarding the Complaint filed. Council Member Stamps-Jones was then called to the podium to ask her questions to Council Member Ruffin regarding the complaint. Madam Chair reminded all that the Public Hearing questions and answers should relate to the charges in the Complaint.

Council Member Stamps-Jones was called to the podium and sworn in before making her statement. Questions were posed by the Board and responded to by Council Member Stamps-Jones. After hearing all information that was brought forward, and asking for any further questions, Madam Chair indicated these items would be deliberated at the next Ethics Board meeting on 10/18/18 for findings and rulings.

7. Executive Session

A motion was made to initiate the second Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. by Ms. Sagers and seconded by Mr. Randolph. Mr. Randolph made a motion to move out of the Executive Session to the Board's session at 8:03 p.m. Ms. Sagers seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

8. Public Hearing of Ethics Board Complaint by Council Member Ruffin against Council Member Stamps-Jones (cont.)

Following the executive session, Mr. Lawrence asked a question and received answers for both Council Members

9. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting will be a Special Call meeting held on Thursday, October 18, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

10. Adjournment:

There being no other items on the agenda, Ms. Sagers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. with Mr. Lawrence providing the second. **The motion carried.**

Mary LaSonde

Lucina Sagers