



**ETHICS COMMISSION  
MUNICIPAL OFFICE COMPLEX  
MEETING ROOM 1  
MONDAY, September 29, 2025  
7:00 P.M.  
Public Hearing**

**Minutes**

**1.) Call to Order**

- Chairman Kevin Staehly called the Public Hearing to order at 7:01 PM on September 29, 2025.
- Chairman Staehly referenced Complaint Petition 01-2025, submitted by Mr. Scott Jezek against Selectman Erik Dill.
- Chairman Staehly noted that, during the prior public hearing, concerns were raised regarding procedural guidance provided to the Commission by the Town Attorney, Timothy Herbst. As a result, the Commission opted to retain independent legal counsel with no prior relationship to the Town, with an emphasis on ethics-related expertise.
- Chairman Staehly introduced Attorney Kari Olson of the law firm Harris Beach Murtha, who was retained by the Ethics Commission to serve as an independent legal advisor and ensure procedural integrity during the Public Hearing.
- Attorney Olson provided a memorandum to the Commission outlining procedural guidance prior to the meeting. A copy of this memorandum was made available to the public at the hearing.

**2. Reading of Complaint Petition**

- Chairman Staehly noted that Complaint Petition 01-2025, submitted by Mr. Scott Jezek on July 24, 2025, and accepted by the Ethics Commission on August 4, 2025, was read into the record at the previous Public Hearing.
- As no member of the public requested that the complaint be re-read at this meeting, the Commission did not reread it aloud.
- Members of the public were advised that the full text of the complaint is available in the official minutes of the August 27, 2025, Public Hearing.

### **3. Presentation of Complainant**

-Chairman Staehly opened the floor to the complainant, Mr. Scott Jezek.

-Mr. Jezek presented his complaint to the Commission, summarizing the events that led to the filing of Complaint Petition 01-2025 against Selectman Erik Dill. He referenced recent town meetings and actions by the Board of Selectmen related to lake ordinances in the Town of East Haddam, which he stated formed the basis of his concerns.

### **4. Response of the Respondent**

-Chairman Staehly opened the floor to the Respondent, Selectman Erik Dill.

-Attorney Jonathan Berchem, representing Selectman Dill, presented objections to the Complaint Petition.

-A written summary of the respondent's objections was submitted to the Commission earlier on September 29, 2025, and was formally acknowledged during the Commission's Special Meeting held prior to the Public Hearing.

### **5. Examination of Witnesses / Presentation of Evidence**

-Chairman Staehly distributed GIS property cards to Attorney Jonathan Berchem and Selectman Erik Dill for review. These materials were submitted as part of the complaint by Mr. Jezek. The respondent confirmed that the property and ownership details were accurate.

-Chairman Staehly initiated the examination of witnesses.

-All witnesses were sworn in prior to providing testimony.

-The following individuals provided sworn testimony: Tanya Bourgoin, Randolph Dill, Irene Haines, Linda Zemienieski, Scott Jezek, and Erik Dill.

-Each witness responded to questions from the Commission concerning circumstances related to the complaint.

-Following the Commission's examination, Attorney Jonathan Berchem was provided the opportunity to ask follow-up questions of each witness.

### **6. Comments from the General Public**

-Mr. Jay Moreau spoke in opposition to the complaint and offered a positive character statement regarding Selectman Dill.

-Mr. Randolph Dill also spoke in opposition to the complaint and submitted photographs of the waterfront area associated with the property cited in the petition.

-Ms. Tanya Bourgoin offered clarification regarding her earlier testimony and corrected terminology used during the discussion.

-Mr. Scott Jezek stated he did not object to the hearing being closed but raised concerns about the timing of the respondent's written objections, stating he had insufficient time to review them.

-Attorney Jonathan Berchem responded that the written summary had been submitted prior to the meeting and was not a late filing. He reiterated key points from the respondent's objections.

-Mr. Jezek provided a follow-up statement emphasizing the importance of interpreting the Ethics Code in light of the facts.

-Attorney Berchem agreed and stated that the Commission's discussion should reference the Ethics Code in its deliberations.

-Note: Materials submitted during public comment (e.g., photographs) are retained in the official record on file with the Ethics Commission.

## **7. Adjournment**

-The public hearing was adjourned at 8:26 PM

-The Commission then reconvened its earlier Special Meeting's and entered Executive Session to continue deliberation on Complaint Petition 01-2025.

**Participants unable to attend in person may view the meeting on YouTube Live at the following link:**

**[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLZq-CmatoKY6FW829c6mBA?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLZq-CmatoKY6FW829c6mBA?view_as=subscriber)**

**You may also access the YouTube Live link from the Town's website:**

**[www.easthaddam.org](http://www.easthaddam.org)**

**For YouTube Live viewers, public participation will take place via written questions or comments by emailing:**

**[Public.questions@easthaddam.org](mailto:Public.questions@easthaddam.org)**

**Questions/comments may be sent prior to and during the meeting.**