ETHICS COMMISSION
MUNICIPAL OFFICE COMPLEX MEETING ROOM 3
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25TH, 2026
7:00 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

-Chairman Kevin Staehly called the meeting to order at **7:01pm** on Wednesday, March 25th, 2026.

-Present: Kevin Staehly (Chairman), Rebecca Skinner (Secretary), Janie Pittendreigh, Jayne Thomas

-Absent: Paul Stuhlman

2. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting of January 28th, 2026

-The draft minutes of the January 28th, 2026 Regular Meeting were circulated to members.

-Ms. Pittendreigh moved to approve the minutes as presented.

-Ms. Thomas seconded the motion.

-The motion passed unanimously.

3. Old Business

A. Ordinance Revisions

-Chairman Staehly circulated a packet of proposed redrafting for the Town of East Haddam's of Ethical Conduct provided by Attorney Kari L. Olson from the law offices of Harris Beach Murtha.

-The commission will complete an external review of proposed changes for discussion next meeting.

-Commission members discussed adding a definition of "conflict of interest" as defined in the Code of Ethical Conduct to the Town of East Haddam's Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest Form for additional clarity.

-Chairman Staehly discussed potential next steps for collective review of drafting with Attorney Kari L. Olson.

-Chairman Staehly moved to authorize the chairman to approve up to 10 more hours of work for Attorney Kari Olson for continuation and culmination of the work on the Code of Ethical Conduct.

-Ms. Skinner seconded the motion
-The motion passed unanimously.

B. Other Discussion

-Chairman Staehly noted continued work on getting notice in the paper per current openings on the Ethics Commission.

4. Next Meeting Date

-Commission agreed to a special meeting scheduled for April 2nd 2026 at 6:45pm.

5. Audience of Citizens

-First Selectman Todd Gelston inquired per problems the commission is currently trying to address within the current Code of Ethical Conduct.
-Commission Members discussed the difficulties experienced when trying to apply the existing Code of Ethical Conduct in the event of a complaint and the goal of creating more clarity for future members of the Ethics Commission.
-Linda Zemienieski gave an example to the Commission of what could work per adding a notice in the town paper indicating the commission has vacancies

6. Adjournment

-Chairman Staehly moved to adjourn the meeting.
-Ms. Thomas seconded the motion.
-The meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.

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

You may also access the YouTube Live link from the Town's website:
www.easthaddam.org

For YouTube Live viewers, public participation will take place via written questions or comments by emailing:
Public.questions@easthaddam.org

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