

Public Announcement for Residents of Jamesburg

The Jamesburg Borough's Ethics Committee is looking for volunteers to sit on the "Jamesburg Municipal Ethics Board"

The purpose of a municipal ethics board is to ensure that our elected officials, administrators and department heads/employees avoid substantial conflict with the proper discharge of duties in the public interest, secure unwarranted privileges and or advantages.

The council's ethics committee has researched the New Jersey statutes on establishment of a "Municipal Ethics Board"

We were able to locate information that would help us in establishing an ethics board for the Borough of Jamesburg. We also looked at other municipalities to see how their ethics board was structured.

Each municipality of the state may, by ordinance establish a municipal ethics board consisting of six members who are residents of the municipality, at least two of whom shall be public members. The members shall be chose by virtue of their known and consistent reputation for integrity and their knowledge of local government affairs. No more than three members of the ethics board shall be of the same political party.

The ethics board can consist of 4 council members and two public members.

Or, the ethics board can consist of all public members, no council members.

The members of the ethics board shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed by the municipality for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Members of a municipal ethic board are often respected members of the community with no background in government. They may be drawn from various religious backgrounds and have strong grounding in the principles of their faith; they may be accomplished members of the American Bar Association, thoroughly versed in the code of professional responsibility that governs the practice of law, or they may be civic minded citizens, committed to public service and confident in the wisdom of their own moral compasses.

The committee is in the first stage of this project. We want to determine the makeup of a board that would best serve the Borough of Jamesburg. Each member will have to be voted on by the council.

If you have an interest or have questions, please contact me directly, Council Women Brenda Deans, Chairperson of the Jamesburg Borough Ethics Committee.

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