

## Synthia Ravell

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**From:** Tom Hart <commissionerhart@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2020 2:22 PM  
**To:** Synthia Ravell  
**Subject:** FW: Ethics Complaint  
**Attachments:** Ethics Code.pdf; MINUTES - Board of Ethics 9-10-2020 - FINAL.pdf; Pearson & Kennedy ltr re response to 8-3-2020 ethics complaints 9-2-2020.pdf; Pearson 8-3-2020 Refiled Ethics Complaint #1.pdf; Pearson 8-3-2020 Refiled Ethics Complaint #2.pdf

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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**From:** [Synthia Ravell](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 16, 2020 11:33 AM  
**To:** [Thomas Hart \(CommissionerHart@gmail.com\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Robert P. Sullivan](#); [John Tabor \(johnktabor@gmail.com\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Ethics Complaint

Board of Ethics Member, Hart,

Attached are the following items which have been previously supplied to other members of the Board in preparation for the meeting this evening:

1. A copy of the complaints filed by Ms. Pearson dated August 3, 2020.
2. A copy of the response letter issued by Assistant Mayor Splaine and myself which highlights the question which has been referred to the Board.
3. A copy of the City's Code of Ethics which contains the relevant ethics law and describes the role of the Board of Ethics in the administration of the ordinance.
4. Minutes of the Board of Ethics meeting held on September 10, 2020.

Thank you,

*Synthia M. Ravell*

**City of Portsmouth**  
**1 Junkins Avenue**  
**Portsmouth, NH 03801**

**(603) 610-7204 (Direct Dial)**  
**(603) 427-1577 (Fax)**

City Hall Hours: Monday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; Tuesday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
(NOTE: If a holiday falls on a Monday, City Hall will be open until 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday)

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**From:** Synthia Ravell

**Sent:** Thursday, September 3, 2020 4:26 PM

**To:** John Tabor (johnktabor@gmail.com) <johnktabor@gmail.com>; 'amwjcw@comcast.net' <amwjcw@comcast.net>; 'rgamester@comcast.net' <rgamester@comcast.net>; Joe Onosko (jonosko@comcast.net) <jonosko@comcast.net>

**Cc:** Robert P. Sullivan <rpsullivan@cityofportsmouth.com>; 'votencypearson@gmail.com' <votencypearson@gmail.com>; Esther Kennedy (estherkennedyportsmouth@gmail.com) <estherkennedyportsmouth@gmail.com>; Karen Conard <kconard@cityofportsmouth.com>

**Subject:** Ethics Complaint

Board of Ethics

As you are aware from prior correspondence, a question raised by Ms. Nancy Pearson against Councilor Esther Kennedy is being referred to the City's Board of Ethics. Accordingly, you will be contacted by Synthia Ravell of this office in an effort to determine the earliest convenient time when the Board can be called together for an organizational meeting. At the organizational meeting, it is anticipated that the Board will select a Chair and determine ground rules for moving forward. It is not anticipated that any substantive decisions will be discussed at the first organizational meeting.

Attached for your review are the following:

1. A copy of the complaints filed by Ms. Pearson dated August 3, 2020
2. A copy of the response letter issued by Assistant Mayor Splaine and myself which highlights the question which has been referred to the Board.
3. A copy of the City's Code of Ethics which contains the relevant ethics law and describes the role of the Board of Ethics in the administration of the ordinance.

The Board of Ethics is a public body and consequently its proceedings will be governed by the Right to Know (RTK) law of the State of New Hampshire RSA 91-A. You may call this office with RTK questions.

The Board has 30 days under the ordinance, "to investigate and hold meetings and to report to the appropriate governing body as a whole if their findings warrant further action." Therefore, the final decision must be made by October 2, 2020.

You may expect to receive an email from Ms. Ravell tomorrow for scheduling purposes.

RPS

**Robert P. Sullivan, City Attorney**  
**City of Portsmouth**  
**1 Junkins Avenue**  
**Portsmouth, NH 03801**

**(603) 610-7204 (Direct Dial)**

**(603) 427-1577 (Fax)**

**[rpsullivan@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:rpsullivan@cityofportsmouth.com)**

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