



CITY OF YPSILANTI
Board of Ethics MEETING
Monday, October 28, 2019 @ 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Page

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Steven Landstrom
Patricia Berry
Beth Currans
Brian Geiringer
Sally Lusk

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

V. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

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- A. Approve the minutes of July 24, 2019.
[Board of Ethics - 24 Jul 2019 - Minutes](#)
- B. Approve the Ethics Board Meeting 2020 Meeting Schedule.
- C. Approve the Ethic's Board Annual Report.

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- D. Clarification of Board Bylaws
[Board of Ethics Bylaws](#)

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- E. Attorney Opinion
[Attorney Opinion on Bylaws](#)

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- F. Ethics Complaint Violation Discussion
[Attorney Opinion and Complaint](#)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

VII. ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES

Board of Ethics Meeting

7:00 PM - Wednesday, July 24, 2019
Council Chambers

The Board of Ethics of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Wednesday, July 24, 2019, at 7:00 PM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

II ROLL CALL

Steven Landstrom	Present
Patricia Berry	Present
Beth Currans	Present
Brian Geiringer	Present
Sally Lusk	Present

III AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as amended.

IV PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

Amber Fellows, lives in Ward 3, and is the Chair of HRC. Ms. Fellows, stated that Mr. Hangenauer was interested in the Oath of Office. According to Ms. Fellows, Mr. Hangenauer mentioned that they are not furnished with the information of the City's Code of Ethics before an Oath, and would like to know if this can be added. Ms. Fellows stated that the City Clerk sent over helpful information from the State Constitution which states no changes can be made. Ms. Fellows suggested a copy of the Board of Ethics to be sent to all Boards and Commissions after the sworn-in has been taken place.

V RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

a) Approval of May 30, 2019 meeting minutes.

Member Lusk Moved, supported by Member Currans to approve May 30, 2019 meeting minutes.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

b) Open Meetings Act Presentation

John Barr, City Attorney, lead the Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act presentation. These two Acts are commonly known as the

Sunshine Act.

Board member Geiringer asked if whispering during an open meeting is allowed. Mr. Barr stated that whispering is probably allowed if it's done one by one and that the public can see it being done. He also stated that it's probably okay if you pass a note. The note will then become a public record. Mr. Barr stated that the board cannot get together as a team and make a decision behind closed doors.

Board Member Lusk questioned if an address from the public be required. She also mentioned that the City Council does. Mr. Barr stated that the City Council can ask for the address rather than requiring it.

Board Member Lusk understood that the commission date was established in 1993, but there has not been one in a while and wanted to know what happened during the interim. According to Mr. Barr, a number of things had happened: 1. Being an official was a privilege, but also a duty and can be a bother, 2. Unpaid, and 3. You are an advisory commission.

Mr. Barr also stated that it's hard to get people to volunteer for all of the boards, not just for the Boards of Ethics. This is partly due to: 1. the resistance to the public to volunteer to serve, and 2. record keeping wasn't good; difficult financial condition in the last 15 years.

Board Member Barry asked how ethics concerns go the board and the process. Mr. Barr stated that the complaints can come to the city in different ways such as filing a complaint with the police department, City Clerk, or City Manager. If it's an ethics complaint, it should go the City Attorney first. Mr. Barr, the Attorney, will then make the decision if it's a probable cause.

Board Member Barry, asked if there were any records of complaints or judgments that goes to both the Attorney and the committee. Mr. Barr stated that the Clerk keeps all records. If it's a public record it can be FOIA. Then it will go to City Attorney's office to determine if it's releasable or not. Board Member Barry asked if the Board would need to formally request as an individual citizen to received information. Mr. Barr stated that the Board can ask the Clerk.

Board Member Currans asked if it was possible to state something in the Bylaws to require the notification of the board when a complaint is filed. Mr. Barr stated that he would have to take a look at the ordinance.

c) Addressing the use of Title

Board member Landstrom asked when the Board can use their titles. Mr. Barr stated that each member of the board cannot speak for the city or the commission because the commission only speaks with a resolution passed by the board. He also stated that you cannot make your own opinion. You area allowed, for example, to put it on your letter head and other things of that nature as long as you're not using it to represent that you're speaking for the

City or Commission.

- d) Election of Vice-Chair

Member Berry nominated Member Geiringer as Vice-Chair.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

- e) Approve Regular Meeting Schedule

Member Berry, seconded by Member Currans voted to approve the regular meeting schedule.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

The Board voted Monday, October 28th from 7pm-9pm being the next meeting to finalize the yearly ethics board report.

- f) Discuss the creation of Board Bylaws

Member Berry, seconded by Member Lusk to approve the bylaws.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Board Member Berry asked if the Board was politically diverse. Mr. Hellenga, the City Clerk confirmed the Board being politically diverse. Under article 3, titled membership, all Board Members agreed to remove the last sentence. In addition, add the following after the first sentence, "Members of the board of Ethics shall be city residents." This will clarify the first sentence.

Board Member Currans, asked if anyone else approves the Bylaws other than the members of the Board of Ethics. Mr. Hellenga stated that that Council has the right to review the Bylaws and send them back to for edits, but they don't have to approve them.

Board member Landstrom asked Mr. Hellenga, regarding article 2, if one or three members can be considered independent. Both Mr. Hellenga and Board Member Berry clarified that the Board cannot be all republicans, democrats, or independent. Board Member Landstrom raised questions about diversity on the Ethics Board and how important it is. All other members chimed in this discussion. Board Member Currans asked Mr. Hellenga if there was already a statement stating if any of the appointments are to consider geographic, color, ethnicity, gender, party and etc. Mr. Hellenga stated that diversity is a goal among council, and doesn't think it hurts to add the goal of diversity in the Bylaws for the Board of Ethics.

The Board can recommend a member for termination due to unexcused absences or ethics violation. The board will allow 2 excused absences. Upon the third absence, membership will be under review by the board.

The board agreed to approve the Bylaws. Mr. Hellenga will check for typos before next meeting.

The meeting recessed at 9:05 p.m. and was reconvened at 9:07 p.m.

- g)** Discussion of potential ordinance amendments

Member Berry moved, seconded by Member Geiringer to table discussion of potential ordinance amendments.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

- h)** Review Human Relations Commission resolution regarding Ypsilanti's oath of office.

Board member Berry suggested that the board can result to discuss Amber's suggestion at the next meeting.

- i)** Schedule future special meetings

VI PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

VII ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

BYLAWS
BOARD OF ETHICS
YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN
DATE

ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1 **Board of Ethics**

Established by the City Charter, City Code Chapter 46, Article II and as amended.

Section 2 **Purpose**

The purpose of the Board is: to provide an orderly procedure for consideration and review of the issues which may arise concerning questions of standards of ethical conduct for public officers and employees.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Ethics shall consist of five members appointed by the mayor with the approval of the city council. Members of the board shall be city residents.

No city council member, officer or employee and no officer or employee of any other governmental unit shall be a member of the board ethics.

No more than three members of the board of ethics shall be members of the same political party. Each member of the board of ethics shall file an affidavit of party affiliation prior to taking office. The board member need not be a member of any political party and may serve as an independent with no political party affiliation.

The Board hopes to achieve diversity in its membership

ARTICLE III. BOARD

Section 1 **Powers and Duties of the Board**

The board of ethics shall make studies of ethical problems in city government. The board of ethics shall make recommendations to the city council for amendments to ordinances related to ethics for city officers and employees, and standards of conduct for officers and employees of the city.

The board of ethics shall file an annual report with the city clerk on or before December 31 of each year which shall be delivered to the city council and all department heads. Unless City Council requests a joint meeting, a representative or designee shall appear and report to City Council in person or as reasonably requested.

The board of ethics will review all complaints received, and schedule hearings as needed. The board will be guided by the City Attorney in determining the appropriate process for each complaint.

Section 2 **Term**

All board Member Terms will be five years

The Board chair shall be selected by the members for a term of one year.

No person shall serve more than one full five-year term, provided that a person serving an initial term of two years or less, and a person appointed to fill a vacancy of a remaining term of two

years or less shall be eligible for appointment to one additional five-year term.

Section 3 Quorum

A quorum will consist of a simple majority (51%) of the Board of Ethics. A quorum of the Board of Ethics must be present to conduct business.

Section 4 Meetings

A minimum of two regular meetings of the Board shall be held each year. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be held at any time upon twenty-four (48) hour notice, oral or written, by the Chair, Vice-Chair, or by two other members of the Board of Directors.

Section 5 Notice of Meetings

The Board shall post Special Meetings 18 hours prior to the meeting pursuant to the Open Meetings Act. Regular Meetings must be posted 10 days prior to the first meeting.

Section 6 Termination

The Board can recommend member removal for unexcused absences or ethics violations

Section 7 Vacancies

Vacancies will be filled by nomination of the Mayor and approval of City Council

Section 8 Absences

The board will allow for two excused absences, upon a third excused absence membership will be under review by board. The Board will review any unexcused absence.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1 General

Of the five members a Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected

Section 2 Election and Terms of Office

Each officer shall serve one year, or until a replacement has been elected. The term will begin the first regular meeting of the year.

Section 3 Resignation and Removal

Resignations from the Board must be done so in writing, and no less than 10 days prior to the next meeting. A super majority of the board will determine whether a removal of a member will be recommended to Council.

Section 4 Duties and Responsibilities of Officers

The Officers shall possess such powers and perform such duties as shall be determined by the Board of Ethics.

A Chair's responsibilities are to set agendas, conduct meetings, be the liaison with the Mayor and City Council, and gavel if needed. Act as representative of the Board

The Vice-Chair fills the responsibilities of the Chair while absent

ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES

Section 1 Committee formation

Subcommittees may be created to study assigned topics and present reports to the Board

ARTICLE VI. EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

Section 1 Documents, Obligations and Disbursements

All approved documents will be forwarded to City Council by the City Clerk's Department

ARTICLE VII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1 Parliamentary Authority

The most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall serve as the Parliamentary Authority for the organization.

Section 2. Voting – Motions will be passed by the majority of seated members

Section 3. Conflict of Interest – Any member having a conflict of interest or appearance of a conflict of interest will recuse themselves from consideration of that issue.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments

Bylaws may be amended by a simple majority of seated members.



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MEMORANDUM

To: Ypsilanti Board of Ethics
From: John M. Barr, Ypsilanti City Attorney
Date: October 21, 2019
Re: Bylaws Board of Ethics



I was asked to research the Ypsilanti Board of Ethics By-laws and the Ypsilanti City Code to determine if the By-laws could be amended to require that the Board receive notice of any ethics complaint filed with the City.

The City Code provides in section 46-34 in part:

(a) *Filing of complaint.* Any person may file a written, sworn, and signed complaint with the city attorney alleging a violation of ethics by any officer or employee of the city. The city attorney shall review the complaint as to proper form, determine whether the complaint falls under the scope of the board of ethics as defined throughout this article, determine whether the complaint alleges a prima facie case, and make a nonbinding recommendation to the board of ethics for action (e.g. order a hearing, forward to another agency for investigation, dismiss the case, etc.). (b)

(b) *Examination of complaint.* The board of ethics shall examine the complaint, consider the city attorney's recommendation and decide upon a course of action.

Thus, the By-laws do not need to be amended, as by City Code, all ethics complaints filed go to the City Attorney and then to the Ethics Board.

Note that there have been very few ethics complaints filed since the ordinance was enacted. My search found only two, one that I am considering now and one other, and that went to City Council as the Ethics Board did not have quorum at the time.



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MEMORANDUM

To: Ypsilanti Board of Ethics
From: John M. Barr, Ypsilanti City Attorney
Date: 10/22/2019
Re: Opinion re Sammy L. Jones-Darling ethics complaint
against Mayor Beth Bashert

Mr. Sammy L. Jones-Darling filed an undated ethics complaint received by this office October 21, 2019, under section 46-39 of the Ypsilanti City Code alleging unethical behavior on the part of Mayor Beth Bashert.

The complaint (copy attached) alleges unethical behavior in that Mayor Bashert used her position as Mayor to assist in the sale of vehicles at Dunning Toyota. That she and her employer "openly advertised and her employer has openly advertised her position as Mayor of Ypsilanti as a method of gaining customer trust for the sale of new/used automobiles."

Section 46-34 of the Ypsilanti City Code provides a procedure when an ethics complaint is received:

(a) *Filing of complaint.* Any person may file a written, sworn, and signed complaint with the city attorney alleging a violation of ethics by any officer or employee of the city. The city attorney shall review the complaint as to proper form, determine whether the complaint falls under the scope of the board of ethics as defined throughout this article, determine whether the complaint alleges a prima facie case, and make a nonbinding recommendation to the board of ethics for action (e.g. order a hearing, forward to another agency for investigation, dismiss the case, etc.).



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- (b) *Examination of complaint.* The board of ethics shall examine the complaint, consider the city attorney's recommendation and decide upon a course of action.
- (c) *Investigation.* If the board of ethics finds that a willfully false complaint has been filed, it may recommend that a perjury investigation be conducted by the appropriate agencies.
- (d) *Hearing; notice; recommendation.* If a hearing is ordered, the board of ethics shall set a date for the hearing not more than 30 days from the date of the complaint. Notice of the hearing shall be given to the officer or employee involved, immediate supervisor, city manager, mayor and city attorney by personal service or certified mail return receipt requested. Notice shall be given not less than ten days prior to the hearing. The hearing shall be public and any party to the hearing may be represented by counsel. After the hearing, the board of ethics shall make an advisory report and recommendation within 30 days of the conclusion of the hearing.
- (e) *Referral to law enforcement agency.* The board of ethics by majority vote on probable cause shown may refer any incident, case or proceeding to any appropriate law enforcement office or agency at any time for investigation.
- (f) *Hearing after completion of law enforcement investigation.* If any matter has been placed with any law enforcement agency for investigation the board of ethics shall not proceed with any hearing concerning the same matter and or facts until the conclusion of the investigation.
- (g) *Informal hearings.* Hearings shall be informal. Witnesses shall be sworn by the presiding officer of the board of ethics or other official authorized to administer oaths. The officer or employee shall have the right to counsel and the right to present evidence and witnesses and to cross examine witnesses. The rules of evidence need not be followed. Insofar as practical, hearings shall follow the administrative procedures act, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1969 (MCL 24.201 et seq.). A record shall be kept of the proceedings. The record may be by electronic means (tape or other recorder). The board of ethics shall not have subpoena power.
- (h) *Prospective application.* The board of ethics shall only investigate or consider conduct or issues which occur after the effective date of the ordinance from which this article derives.

(Ord. No. 819, § 4, 5-31-1995)



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Allegations submitted in the complaint include a copy of an email Presidents' Day Sale where Beth Bashert was identified as "Toyota Sales and Leasing Consultant and Mayor of Ypsilanti," and sworn statement of Mr. Jones-Darling that Mayor Bashert did discuss personal business while in a meeting with Mr. Jones-Darling about Human Relations Commission business and also discussed personal business with someone at her "official office hours" at Cultivate.

The Ypsilanti City Ethics Ordinance in section 46-79 provides in part:

- (a) No city officer or employee shall make use of his public position, or any confidential information received through holding such public position, to obtain financial gain for himself, a member of his immediate family or an associated business or organization or entity.

The purpose of this section is to prevent a city officer from requiring favors from someone dealing with the city or using confidential information for gain. The section does not *per se* prohibit a city officer from discussing personal business while in a meeting, but it should be avoided.

The question of using an official city title in advertising for a business is a more difficult question. The ordinance does not give guidance in this situation. On the one hand, the use of the title is only descriptive, but on the other hand it could be taken as some kind of official city endorsement. The first amendment would allow the use of an official title in political advertising, as in *Re-elect Mayor Brown!*.



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In the case of both political and commercial advertising, name recognition is a gain. A question can be made as to whether it is a financial gain, and if so to what value.

The ordinance does not specifically prohibit the use of a title. Some commentators hold that one should not use an official title in business, and some municipalities have specific policies against the practice. An article from the Institute for Local Government *Using Public office to Promote One's business Interest* that discusses the issue is included with this memo. Note that the article discusses California law and reference to California law is not applicable to Michigan. The general principals are valid however.

Therefore, I am of the opinion that no action be taken in this instance and the complaint be received and dismissed, but that advice be given that to avoid the appearance of impropriety, the use of an official City title should not be used in commercial advertising, unless the advertising is for the benefit of the City.

Enc. Article, Complaint, Presidents' Day Sales ad



Everyday Ethics for Local Officials

Using Public Office to Promote One's Business Interests

October 2002

QUESTION

I am newly elected. Several years ago, I became active in the local chamber of commerce to increase the visibility of my business and my stature in the community. Ultimately, I became president of the chamber. Later, people in the community encouraged me to run for elected office. This was flattering, of course, and I also thought it would be good for business, just as my service to the chamber has been.

Now I am finding that my public service is significantly affecting the time I spend on my business, which is creating a financial hardship for my family. As a result, I have stepped up my business marketing efforts – something that my fellow elected officials seem to disapprove of. One even questioned my ethics. What are your thoughts on this issue?

ANSWER

Public service does indeed require a great deal of time and, in most jurisdictions, the stipend paid to elected officials is minimal. Such a stipend comes nowhere close to compensating an individual for the many hours that public service involves. Many elected officials find it challenging to juggle their family, work and public responsibilities.

In this way, what you are describing is a “right-versus-right” dilemma—a tension between your responsibilities to provide for your family and your new responsibilities to promote the public’s trust in your leadership and your agency.

There also is a “personal cost” aspect to this dilemma, inasmuch as you may become aware of business and financial opportunities during your service as an elected official. In most instances, the public’s trust in your leadership will be enhanced if you forgo taking advantage of those opportunities. Applying the either the newspaper or neighbor test, in most instances the consensus will be that the public did not elect you for your personal financial gain.

Public Service As, Well, Public Service

Why is this? While your original motivation for joining the chamber and running for elected office was to increase your business' visibility, this can no longer be your motivation. When the voters elected you, they did so with the expectation that you would place the public's interests first – not your business or financial interests.¹

This is one way in which the public sector differs from the private sector. In the private sector, aggressive marketing efforts and pursuit of financial gain are often necessary and admired. In the public sector, however, personal financial interests cannot take precedence over public duties.

Some local agencies have specific policies where officials must agree not to use their agency affiliation in any kind of individual communications (see "Examples of Policies on this Issue," below). This avoids the public perception that public resources are supporting the communication or that the agency has endorsed it.

About Those Marketing Activities

You don't say what kind of marketing efforts are causing concern. Wearing a T-shirt or other form of logo-wear that advertises your business at meetings is an obvious example of a marketing approach to avoid (particularly if the meeting is televised). So is any communication or situation that links your business endeavors or interests with your public service in any way.

Thus, there are at least two key things to do to avoid ethical questions about your business endeavors.

- Avoid mentioning your status as an elected official or your public agency affiliation (including use of agency seals or pictures of government buildings) in your business communications (and vice versa – avoid mentioning your business in your communications as an elected official); and
- Avoid marketing to people who have matters pending before your agency.

Let's examine the second issue more closely.

Marketing to Those with Business Before the Agency

Most public officials find it best to keep personal financial interests completely separate from their public duties. This means not doing business with those who have issues before your agency, so the public can be assured that a public official's decision was not influenced by business considerations or a desire to curry favor with customers or potential customers.

The perception of those being marketed to should also be taken into consideration. Needless to say, it would be unethical (and likely unlawful) to imply that a public decision is tied in any way to whether someone does business with you. Moreover, even if such considerations are the farthest thing from your mind, your customers may not know this and may worry that a decision not to do business with you will adversely affect your decision on their issue with your agency.

Examples of Policies on this Issue

Here is how some agencies have addressed this issue in their local ethics policies:

- Elected officials may use their title only when conducting official business, for information purposes, or as an indication of background and expertise, carefully considering whether they are exceeding or appearing to exceed their authority.
- Elected officials should avoid any action that could be construed as, or create the appearance of, using public office for personal gain, including use of official stationery or other agency resources to obtain or promote personal business.
- No official may engage in any activity or enterprise resulting in the use of agency time, facilities, equipment or supplies for private gain, or prestige or influence for private gain.

The issues surrounding the use of public resources for business is something to take particularly seriously. One Northern California public official was criminally prosecuted for using public agency resources to support her business.

Sample ethics codes are available from the Institute's website at www.ca-ilg.org/ethicscodes.

Political Reform Act Restrictions On Sources of Income

Another reason to not market to those who have business before your agency is that it could create conflict-of-interest issues for you in the future. This may be one of the reasons that your colleagues are concerned – your marketing efforts could create Political Reform Act issues that will require you to disqualify yourself from voting on certain matters affecting your customers.

As a public official, you may not make, participate in or influence a governmental decision that will have a foreseeable and material financial effect on the economic interests of public officials or their immediate family. The Fair Political Practices Commission has adopted an eight-step procedure for identifying when a financial conflict of interest may arise.

One of the steps analyzes whether a person has an “economic interest” in the decision within the meaning of the Political Reform Act. Receiving \$500 or more in income from one source within 12 months prior to the decision creates an economic interest. Additionally, if an official has been promised \$500 or more from any one source within the 12 months prior to the decision, the person or entity that promised the money is a source of income to the official.

You will want to consult with your agency attorney about your specific relationships with customers.

Beyond the Laws Minimum Requirements

But candidly, the Political Reform Act may not be your best source of guidance on the issue you present. Recent discussions among officials about ethics in public service have focused on the distinction between what the law requires of public officials and higher ethical principles.

Aspirational Goals

Relevant ethics code provisions relevant to this topic include:

- **Trustworthiness**
I avoid any actions that would cause the public to question whether my decisions are based on the personal interests instead of the public's interests.
I do not use my public position for personal gain.
- **Fairness**
I am impartial and do not favor those who either have helped me or are in a position to do so.
- **Responsibility**
I do not use agency resources for personal or political benefit.

Other sample ethics code provisions are available under the “ethics codes” tab of the Institute’s website at www.ca-ilg.org/trust.

Remember that the law sets only the floor for ethical behavior, not the ceiling. There are many situations that the law, in all its complexity, cannot specifically address. As keepers of the public's trust, public officials' actions must set the standard for integrity, forthrightness, public-mindedness and fair dealing in their communities.

What to Do?

The bottom line is, as an ethical matter, you should keep personal business issues completely separate from your public service. Your public service may indeed create a financial hardship for your family and you may need to evaluate whether you can continue your public service as a result. But the solution is not to mix your business activities with your public service.

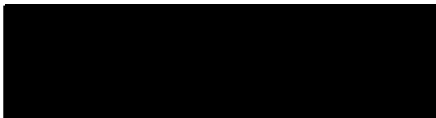
This piece originally ran in *Western City Magazine* and is a service of the Institute for Local Government (ILG) Ethics Project, which offers resources on public service ethics for local officials. For more information, visit www.ca-ilg.org/trust.

Dear Mr. Barr,

Upon multiple occasions when I was a member of the Human Relations Commission I observed Beth Bashert, Mayor of Ypsilanti use her position as Mayor to assist in the sale of vehicles at Dunning Toyota. Ms. Bashert has previously has openly advertised and her employer has openly advertised her position as Mayor of Ypsilanti as a method of gaining customer trust for the sale of new/used automobiles.

On February 15, 2019, Ms. Bashert or Ms. Bashert's employer with Ms. Bashert's knowledge sent a commercial email to customers and members of the public advertising a President's Day Sale at Ms. Bashert's place of business. The email included contact for Ms. Bashert along with a bolded and underlined mention of her position as Mayor of Ypsilanti. I have overheard Ms. Bashert discuss work business while at meetings specific to her position as Mayor including at least one instance where she was meeting with myself about Human Relations Commission business and she began discussing her car business with another individual and a situation at Cultivate in which she was doing official office hours.

I submit this as an ethics complaint pursuant to Sec. 46-39 of the City Code of Ordinances noting that I believe Ms Bashert has breached her ethical obligations as outlined in Sec. 46-79 of the City Code of Ordinance by engaging in behavior that: 1. uses her public position with the City of Ypsilanti as a method of gaining consumer trust for personal financial gain and 2. Uses her public position with the City of Ypsilanti as a method of gaining consumer trust for the purpose of associated business interest, namely Dunning Toyota's gain.\



I, Sammy L. Jones-Darling, do hereby swear that the details above are by my own personal account, and that I have personally witnessed each event that I describe.

10/8/2019

Gmail - Dunning Toyota's Presidents' Day Sale Ends Feb 19!



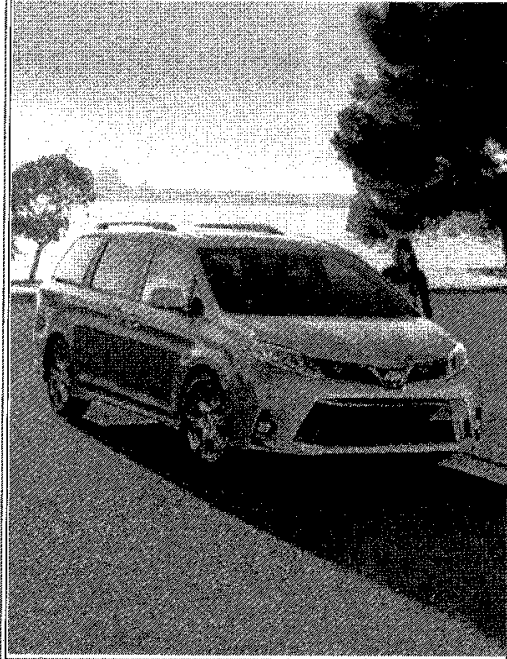
Dunning Toyota's Presidents' Day Sale Ends Feb 19!

1 message



Fri, Feb 15, 2019 at 11:01 PM

DUNNING TOYOTA 3745 Jackson Road - Ann Arbor, MI 48103 Sales: (855) 580-5791 Service: (855) 217-2720	
New Cars Used Cars Finance Parts Service About	
 PRESIDENTS' DAY SALE	
DUNNING BONUS CASH	
Just-Announced Dunning Toyota's \$500* Bonus Cash	
On 2019 Toyota Models Above All Current Offers <small>(Excludes TRD Pro)</small>	



*Plus tax, title, lic, and doc/filing fee, doc fee \$220. May exclude some Hybrids. Excludes TRD Pro. \$500 Total Cash Back directly from Dunning Toyota. Example shown: 2019 Sienna LE Model 5338 MSRP: \$35,219 - \$500 Bonus Cash = \$34,719. Dealer participation may affect consumer cost. Must take retail delivery from new 2019 dealer stock between 02/14/19 - 02/19/19. Subject to availability. Individual dealer prices may vary. See dealer for details. Vehicle image is for display purposes only. Some restrictions may apply. Must qualify for rebate. Promotion Ends February 19, 2019

**Finance a New
2019 Tacoma**
SR 4x4 Double Cab Model 7594

**Lease a New
2019 Highlander**
LE GAS Model 6945

\$229 p/mos. For **36** months
w/ **\$2999** due

\$249 p/mos. For **36** months
w/ **\$2999** due

Includes \$500 Bonus Cash Applied to Lease Deal

Includes \$500 Bonus Cash Applied to Lease Deal

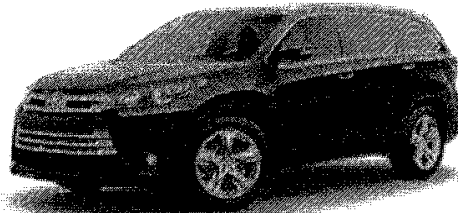
2019 TACOMA

Play harder.



2019 HIGHLANDER

Turn every outing into an adventure.



SEARCH
INVENTORY

TOYOTACARE
PROGRAM

ToyotaCare
3 Year/50,000 Miles

SEARCH
INVENTORY

TOYOTACARE
PROGRAM

ToyotaCare
3 Year/50,000 Miles

10/8/2019

Gmail - Dunning Toyota's Presidents' Day Sale Ends Feb 19!

*Plus tax, title, lic, and doc/filing fee. doc fee \$220. **With approved Tier 1 Plus Credit - Does not include military or college rebates - Truth in Lending Act Disclosure: [Click for full details] Promotion Ends February 19, 2019

\$500 OFF ANY NEW TOYOTA

For Military Personnel & Their Families

Qualified Military Personnel Includes

★ Now Includes Retired Military ★

(Regardless of Time Since Retirement)

★ Active-Duty & Inactive Reserve Military Personnel ★

**★ Honorably Discharged Veterans ★
Within 2 Years of Service**

OVER & ABOVE ALL OTHER INCENTIVES!



Qualified military personnel and household members of eligible qualifying military personnel are eligible for rebates in addition to all other incentives, depending on model, through Toyota Motor Sales USA, Inc., when leased or financed through Toyota Financial Services. Must take retail delivery from select new dealer stock. See participating dealer or visit toyotafinancial.com/military for complete details and program end date.

Promotion ends Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Call us at 734-997-7600 to schedule a test drive or come in today!

Beth Bashert



Toyota Sales and Leasing Consultant and Mayor of Ypsilanti

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Email: beth@dunningtoyota.com | Web: www.dunningtoyota.com

Get Prequalified: <http://tinyurl.com/Bethapplynow>

My Site: <http://bashert.us/> | **Meet Me:** <http://bit.ly/MeetBethB>

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