

Amir
Humphrey
Bowman
Greenberg

Carol Moore

From: Pamela Wright
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 10:40 AM
To: Carol Moore
Subject: Fw: Code of Conduct/ethics docket item
Attachments: Code of Conduct.Ethics Memo.pdf; text 1.2023-11-21 .pdf; text 2. 2023-11-21 .pdf

please add me

From: Brenda Noel <bnoel@newtonma.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 9:00 AM
To: City Council <citycouncil@newtonma.gov>
Cc: Carol Moore <cmoore@newtonma.gov>
Subject: Code of Conduct/ethics docket item

Karen
Lipin
Lucas
Wright

Colleagues,
Please consider signing on to the following docket item:

xx-23 Discussion and possible amendment to the City Council Rules to add an Ethics Commission or Committee

COUNCILORS NOEL requesting a discussion and possible amendment to the City Council Rules to add an Ethics Commission or Committee for the purpose of creating and enforcing a City Council Code of Ethics.

I have attached back-up materials illustrating the need for this discussion.

Best,
Brenda

Brenda Noel
Ward 6 City Councilor
1025 Walnut Street
617-620-2721

Please note, the Massachusetts Secretary of State has determined that most email is public record and therefore cannot be kept confidential.

City Council

2022-2023

City of Newton



November 30, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

During the City Council meeting on Monday November 20th, I received the attached text messages from a City Council colleague. This exchange was inappropriate, unwanted, and unwelcome.

The next day I spoke with Ms. Michelle Pizzi O'Brien, Director of Human Resources for the City of Newton, regarding the text messages. She informed me, after consulting Newton's Law Department, that Human Resources and Law have no oversight in regard to City Council conduct.

I reached out to Carol Moore, the City Clerk, and she expressed that there was no mechanism in our rules, or any sort of ethics commission to address unwanted or unwelcome behavior, or behavior that is unbecoming of a City Councilor. I then met with the Council President, and she stated that while there is no current mechanism to investigate and escalate conduct issues, she agreed the Council should have such a process.

I recognize my time on this council is short. It is my intention by docketing this discussion item that we can begin the conversation to establish a set of standards by which we conduct business that is more in line with what you might expect in professional settings, so no one on the council must ever be the recipient of such an inappropriate exchange. And, if one finds themselves the recipient of any inappropriate, unwelcome, or unwanted conduct from a sitting City Councilor, there is a clear process through which the conduct can be investigated and individual(s) can be held accountable, at a bare minimum. I look forward to discussing it further.

Regards,

Brenda Noel
Ward 6 City Councilor



Add and share your name and photo

Set Up X

Yesterday 8:01 PM

Do you know how much I love you. You know how much I'm gonna miss you. Please don't be mad at me, but I have to say that we have nothing to gain to piss on the other side like they have pissed on us tonight and the night before. We wanna get mbta done, and we can vote for a Auburndale. Let's leave it high and classy. It has a snow good to getting all the jabs. We rightfully deserve to jab, but in the end, it's not gonna be a good luck. In the words of the anchorman: keep it classy, San Diego!

You can tell me to go F myself, but I just felt like saying that and you're not the only one I've sent it to

I'm not sure what you are trying to say

Don't let anybody push your buttons tonight

Ok?

You really are an odd duck

Sorry

Nevermind

I always think it's funny you lecture me when I'm really the least of your problems

Please don't dwell on this. You are my assignment tonight. There were several. Now I know why I got the assignment.

I really like you and I always want to give it a shot but I understand I sound preachy and you're taking it negatively. I love your passion I love that you let it fly and I was just gaming tonight and wanted to say sometimes we keep our passion inside to get through something and I piss people off. That's all. I'm sorry if you took it badly. Now I feel bad.



Add and share your name and photo

Set Up



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You should feel bad- I was your assignment- like what the actual fuck?

Delivered

I knew you would love that

I owe you a drink. A dinner. A foot massage. I need to figure this out.

OK the foot massage sounds creepy but it's always with my wife wants

Can I blame this whole discussion on Covid fog please



iMessage

