



ORDINANCE 2020-2

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE SECTION 2.10 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCE FOR THE VILLAGE OF NORTH BAY, RACINE COUNTY, WISCONSIN, RELATING TO ETHICAL STANDARDS

The Village Board, for the Village of North Bay, Racine County, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

1. That Section 2.10 of the Code of Ordinances for the Village of North Bay be, and hereby is, created to read as follows:

“2.10 ETHICAL STANDARDS.

(1) Definitions.

(a) **Public Officer.** Any person serving in an elected or appointed office provided for in Wisconsin Statutes, and also any person who is appointed to a Village board, committee, or commission, whether paid or unpaid.

(b) **Public Employee.** Any person excluded from the definition of a public officer who is employed by the Village.

(2) Declaration of Policy. It is declared that high ethical standards among Village public officers and public employees are essential to the conduct of good representative government and that a code of ethics for the guidance of public officers and public employees will help them avoid conflicts with improved standards of public service and will promote and strengthen the confidence of the residents of the Village in their public officers and public employees. The purpose of this Section is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all the Village’s public officers and public employees by setting forth specific acts or actions that are incompatible with the public interest and which compromise, or appear to compromise, public trust in the fairness, independence, and integrity of public officers and public employees and their official actions.

(3) Statutory Standards of Conduct. Without limitation by enumeration, the provisions of the following sections of the Wisconsin Statutes, as from time to time amended, are made a part of this Section and shall apply to all public officers and public employees whenever applicable:

- (a) Sec. 946.10 Bribery of Public Officers and Employees.

- (b) Sec. 946.11 Special Privileges from Public Utilities.
- (c) Sec. 946.12 Misconduct in Public Office.
- (d) Sec. 946.13 Private Interest in Public Contract Prohibited.

(4) Specific Conflicts of Interests.

(a) Use of Public Property. No public officer or public employee shall use or permit the use of Village vehicles, equipment, materials or property for personal convenience or profit, except when such services are available to the public generally or are provided as Village policy for the use of such public officer or public employee in the conduct of official business, as authorized by the Village Board or the authorized board, commission, or committee.

(b) Conflicts of Interest; Disclosure of Interest. Except as provided herein, no public officer or public employee shall engage in any business transaction with the Village, or have a financial or other personal interest, direct or indirect, which is incompatible with the proper discharge of his or her official duties or will tend to impair his or her independence or judgment or action in the performance of his or her official duties. Any public officer or public employee who has a substantial financial interest, including employment, in any business entity entering into, proposing to enter into or moving on any transaction with the Village, or as part of his or her official duties will be making an official decision or recommendation significantly affecting a business competitor, client or regular customer, shall disclose such interest to the membership of the Village Board (or committee, board or commission thereof, as appropriate) to be recorded in the minutes of that body. Upon such disclosure, it is advised that the public officer or public employee abstain from voting on the matter and from participating in the discussion of the matter.

(c) Representing Private Interests Before the Village Board or Village bodies. No public officer or public employee, including persons or firms engaged to provide professional services to the Village, shall represent, for compensation, private interests before the Village Board or any Village board, commission, or committee without disclosure of the private business relationship and explicit consent of the Village Board.

(d) Disclosure of Confidential Information. No public officer or public employee shall, without proper authorization of the Village Board, disclose confidential information concerning the property,

government or affairs of the Village, nor shall he or she use such information to advance the financial or other private interest of himself or herself or others.

(e) Gifts and Favors. No public officer or public employee shall accept anything of value whether in the form of a gift, service loan or promise from any person, who, to his or her knowledge, has a direct financial interest in any transaction or official business with the Village, which may tend to impair his or her independence of judgment or action in the performance of his or her official duties. However, it is not a conflict of interest for any public officer or public employee to receive a gift of gratuity that is an unsolicited item of nominal intrinsic value, such as a meal up to Ten Dollars (\$10.00) in value.

(f) Outside Employment. No full-time public officer or public employee of the Village shall engage in any other remunerative employment within or without the Village, provided, however, that the Village Board may approve such outside employment or activity if it finds that it does not interfere or conflict with such ability of the public officer or public employee to perform his or her duties in an efficient and unbiased manner.

(g) Advisory Opinion. Any questions as to the interpretation of any provisions of this Ethical Standards Chapter shall be referred to the Village Attorney for an advisory opinion.”

2. That this ordinance shall become effective upon adoption and publication as provided by law.

Adopted by the Village Board of the Village of North Bay, Racine County, Wisconsin, this 26th day of October, 2020.

VILLAGE OF NORTH BAY

By: *Roger Mellem*
Roger Mellem, Village President

Attest: *Dori A. Panthofer*
Dori A. Panthofer, Village Clerk