

ORDINANCE NO. 1460

**AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, KANSAS,
ESTABLISHING A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND APPOINTED
OFFICIALS.**

WHEREAS, The opportunity to serve the public, as an elected or appointed official is a high honor and such opportunity confers a sacred trust to the office holder. Stewardship of the public trust not only requires allegiance to the law, but also obligates an elected or appointed official to act in ways consistent with the highest standards of ethical conduct; and,

The City Council adopts this Code of Conduct for elected officials and appointed officials as a means of promoting the vitality of the democratic process in city government. The following principles are offered to encourage elected and appointed officials to engage in ethical reflection in advance of decision making. Ultimately, the ethical course of action for an elected or appointed official must be discerned by the dictates of individual conscience, commitment to the public interest and statutory compliance.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS,
KANSAS, THAT THE FOLLOWING CODE OF CONDUCT BE ADOPTED.

SECTION 1: The City Council adopts this Code of Conduct for elected officials and appointed officials as a means of promoting the vitality of the democratic process in city government. The following principles are offered to encourage elected and appointed officials to engage in ethical reflection in advance of decision making. Ultimately, the ethical course of action for an elected or appointed official must be discerned by the dictates of individual conscience, commitment to the public interest and statutory compliance.

SECTION 2: An elected or appointed official should be vigorously dedicated to the democratic ideal of honesty, openness and accountability in all public matters involving city government.

SECTION 3: An elected or appointed official should be a model of decorum, respect for others and civility in all public relationships.

SECTION 4: An elected or appointed official should actively practice stewardship of the city's human, fiscal and physical resources.

SECTION 5: An elected or appointed official should strive for excellence and continuous learning in personal development and in all operations of city government.

SECTION 6: An elected or appointed official should perform the duties of public office with fairness and impartiality so as to enhance public confidence in city government.

SECTION 7: No elected official, appointed official, officer or agent of the City shall participate in selection or in the award or administration of a contract issued by the City if a conflict of interest, real or apparent, would be involved.

SECTION 8: The City elected officials, appointed officials; officers, employees or agents shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors or parties to sub-agreements.

SECTION 9: Violations of this Code of Conduct by the City's elected officials, appointed officials, officers, employees or agents of the City shall be prosecuted to the fullest extent permitted according to Local, State, and Federal law or regulations.

SECTION 10: This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after passage and publication in the official city newspaper.

SECTION 11: All ordinances, resolutions or policies or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed insofar as they conflict herewith.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Governing Body of Columbus, Kansas, this 18th day of February, 2020.



Grant Spieth, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cherri Chancellor, City Clerk

