

## *Town of Mount Washington – Board and Appointee Code of Conduct*

- The citizens and taxpayers of Mount Washington are entitled to fair, ethical, and accountable local government that has earned the public's full confidence for integrity. The Town of Mount Washington's strong desire to fulfill this mission requires that:
- Public officials, both elected and appointed, comply with both the letter and spirit of the laws and policies affecting the operations of government.
- Public officials be independent, impartial, and fair in their judgment and actions.
- Public office be used for the public good and not for personal gain.
- Public deliberations and processes be conducted in compliance with the Open Meeting Law; and
- Public deliberations be conducted in an atmosphere of respect and civility.

### **Board, Committee, and Member Responsibilities**

A member of any Board or Committee shall:

- Realize that the member's basic function is to make policy and provide advice on making policy, and not to administer policy unless expressly provided by bylaw.
- Realize that the member is one of a team and should abide by, and assist in carrying out, all decisions of the Board or Committee once a decision is made.
- Remain well-informed concerning the duties and responsibilities the Board or Committee may have on the state and local level, as well as a member's individual duties and responsibilities.
- Remember that the member represents the entire community at all times.
- Accept the appointment as a means of unselfish service, and not for the purpose of personal or political benefit.
- Make all decisions relative to individual appointments based only upon merit, experience, and qualifications, and avoid engaging in political patronage; and
- Avoid voting on any matter in which the individual member has a conflict of interest, as defined under the Massachusetts Conflict of Interest Law, MGL c. 268A.
- Must successfully complete online Conflict of Interest Law training annually and submit the completed certificate to the Town Clerk.