

## ORDINANCE NO. 1327

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 1 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GIRARD, KANSAS BY AMENDING SECTION 212, AND PERTAINING TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT.

### SECTION 1. CODE OF CONDUCT

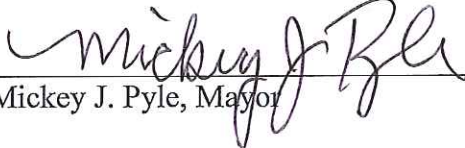
- a) Declaration of Policy - The proper operation of our government requires that public officials and employees be independent, impartial and responsible to the people; that governmental decisions and policy be made in the proper channels and that the public have confidence in the integrity of its government. In recognition of those goals, there is hereby established a Code of Conduct for all officials and employees, whether elected or appointed, paid or unpaid. The purpose of this code is to establish ethical standards by setting forth those acts or actions that are incompatible with the best interests of the city.
- b) Responsibilities of Public Office - Public officials and employees are agents of public purpose and hold office for the benefit of the public. They are bound to uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this State and to carry out impartially the laws of the nation, state, and city and thus to foster respect for all government. They are bound to observe in their official acts the highest standards of morality and to discharge faithfully the duties of their office regardless of personal considerations, recognizing that the long-term public interest must be their primary concern. They should be vigorously dedicated to the democratic ideal of honesty, openness and accountability in all public matters involving city government. Their conduct in both their official and private affairs should be above reproach.
- c) Dedicated Service - All officials and employees of the city should be responsive to the political objectives expressed by the electorate and the programs developed to attain those objectives. Appointive officials and employees should adhere to the rule of work and performance established as the standard for their positions by the appropriate authority. They should strive for excellence and continuous learning in personal development and in all operations of city government.

Officials and employees should not exceed their authority or breach the law or ask others to do so, and they should work in full cooperation with other public officials and employees unless prohibited from so doing by law or by officially recognized confidentiality of their work.

- d) Fair and Equal Treatment –
  - 1. Interest in Appointments. Canvassing of members of the city council, directly or indirectly, in order to obtain preferential consideration in connection with any appointment to the municipal service shall disqualify the candidate for appointment except with reference to positions filled by appointment by the city council.
  - 2. Use of Public Property - No official or employee shall request or permit the use of city-owned vehicles, equipment, materials or property for personal convenience or profit, except when such services are available to the public generally or are provided as city policy for the use of such official or employee in the conduct of official business.
  - 3. Obligations to Citizens - No official or employee shall grant any special consideration, treatment, or advantage to any citizen beyond that which is available to every other citizen. Elected and appointive city officials and employees should be a model of decorum, respect for others and civility in all public relationships.
- e) Conflict of Interest - Specific conflicts of interest are enumerated below for the guidance of officials and employees:

1. No elected or appointive city official or employee, shall, without proper legal authorization, disclose confidential information concerning the property, government or affairs of the city. Nor shall he or she use such information to advance the financial or other private interest of himself, herself or others.
  2. No elected or appointive city official or employee shall accept any valuable gift greater than \$100 in value, whether in the form of service, thing or promise, from any person, firm, or corporation which to his or her knowledge is interested directly or indirectly in any manner whatsoever in business dealings with the city; nor shall any such official or employee (a) accept any gift, favor or thing greater than \$100 value that may tend to influence him or her in the discharge of his or her duties or (b) grant in the discharge of his or her duties any improper favor, service, or thing of value. The prohibition against gifts or favors shall not apply to: (a) an occasional nonpecuniary gift, of only nominal value or (b) an award publicly presented in recognition of public service or (c) any gift which would have been offered or given to him or her if not an official employee.
  3. No elected or appointive city official or employee shall solicit gratuities, favors or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors or parties to subagreements.
  4. No elected or appointive city official or employee whose salary is paid in whole or in part by the city shall appear in behalf of private interest before any agency of this city. He or she shall not represent private interests in any action or proceeding against the interest of the city in any litigation to which the city is a party.
- f) 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.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH AND EFFECTIVE UPON PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER.

  
Mickey J. Pyle, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Karen Buck, CMC, CPM, City Clerk