TOWN OF ST. JOHN, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA ORDINANCE NO. 1689

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TOWN CODE SECTION 2-203, ENTITLED "PROHIBITED CONDUCT", OF ARTICLE VI, ENTITLED "RULES OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS", OF CHAPTER 2, ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION" AND REPEALING ALL TOWN CODE SECTIONS, ARTICLES, AND ORDINANCES, OR PARTS THEREOF, IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana, on November 11, 2003, did adopt Town Code Section 2-203, which among other things established and adopted rules of conduct and ethics, specifically prohibited conduct as related to same, within the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana, has reviewed the provisions of Town Code Section 2-203 pertaining to the establishment and adoption of rules of conduct and ethics, specifically prohibited conduct as related to same, within the Town, for the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana, has determined that certain changes need to be made pertaining to the rules of conduct and ethics, specifically prohibited conduct as related to same, within the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana, as described more fully herein; and

WHEREAS, the Indiana "Home Rule" Statutes (I.C. §§ 36-1-3 et seq.) authorize a Municipality to adopt or amend an Ordinance prescribing a specific manner of its operation; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana, having reviewed the provisions of Town Code Section 2-203, now concurs that it is advisable, necessary, and in the best interests of the residents of the Town of St. John that an amendment of said of Town Code Section 2-203 is appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ST. JOHN, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION ONE: That Town Code Section 2-203, entitled: Prohibited Conduct, of Article VI, entitled: RULES OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS, of Section 2, entitled: ADMINISTRATION, of the St. John Town Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to change the following language of Sub-Section (h), namely:

Sec. 2-203. Prohibited Conduct

- "(h) Financial or personal interest conflicts. Regardless if a disclosure statement is completed, no official or employee shall engage in the following:
 - (1) No official or employee shall represent any individual petitioner other than the Town or himself/herself before the Town Council, any commission, any board, or any committee of the Town.
 - (2) No official or employee shall participate or represent another person or entity in the procurement of any contract or purchase by the Town if such contract or purchase involves the official or employee, a relative (as defined under I.C. § 36-1-21-3 and to include first cousins) of an elected official, or other entity in which the official or employee has a financial interest.
 - (3) No official or employee, either on that person's behalf or on behalf of any other person, shall have any financial or personal interest in any business or transaction with the Town Council, as well as any board, commission, committee or other town public body.
 - (4) No official, in his/her public capacity, shall vote on any issue/matter or participate in any discussion if the matter has a potential financial benefit to the official, his/her relative (as defined under I.C. § 36-1-21-3 and to include first cousins) or their business. In the event that an official is required to abstain from voting on a particular issue, the official or employee shall announce the abstention and the reason for the abstention. In the event that the abstention from voting would result in a lack of a quorum for the public body to officially act, then the matter shall be placed for consideration at a future meeting."

SECTION TWO: That all existing Town Code Sections, Articles, Chapters, and Ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby deemed null, void, and of no legal effect, and are specifically repealed.

SECTION THREE: If any section, clause, provision or portion of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect any other section, clause, provision or portion of this Ordinance.

SECTION FOUR: That this Ordinance shall take effect, and be in full force and effect, from and after its passage by the Town Council of the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana.

ALL OF WHICH IS PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ST. JOHN, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA, THIS 22^{nd} DAY OF AUGUST, 2019.

TOWN OF ST. JOHN, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA, TOWN COUNCIL

Mark Barenie, President

Gerald Swets, Vice-President

Michael S. Forbes, Member

Rose Vejl, Member

Libby Popovic, Member

ATTEST:

Beth Hernandez, Clerk-Treasurer