

October 16, 2006

Bedford Township
C/O Walt Wilburn, Supervisor
PO Box H
Temperance, Michigan
48182

Copy

RE: Code of Conduct and Ethics Requirement

Dear Walt,

I believe your organization needs to adopt a code of conduct and ethics in how your appointed officials act and what they say. The day after Dale Hinkelman said what he did to the TAC, my employees and I received many calls concerning his comments.

As you know, these comments generated enough interest from the media that both newspapers and two TV stations called me on this. Yet, the discussions between us are private and the lawyers remind us at the beginning and end of the meetings none of the discussions can leave the room. So, how does your planning official say anything about discussions that remain confidential?

This is not the first time totally inappropriate things have been said by a planning commission member you appoint. Mike Minges said many about me and Steve Lennex at a township board meeting calling us "greedy" and just wanting to harm the community. Both their comments are acceptable behavior since there is no code of conduct and ethics against it that wronged parties can point to in their defense.

A few months ago, you cancelled the cable committee and attacked its members for supposedly going public with a position you did not like. They were publically criticized at your board meeting for saying things to the media, even though the cable meetings were public and involved public money. Now, despite the totally confidential nature of our meetings, Hinkelman's comments will not bring any criticism by you. Other communities have adopted a code of conduct and ethics to stop things that should not be. You should also.

Sincerely,

Jon Whitman

CC: Bedford Township board