

LOCAL LAW 4-2020
A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND CHAPTER 12 OF THE
VILLAGE CODE IN RELATION TO A CODE OF ETHICS

WHEREAS, this Board recently enacted a new Code of Ethics for officers and employees of the Village of Garden City; and

WHEREAS, in doing so, this Board inadvertently failed to make provision for the Village Justice to serve on the Board of Ethics, a function which has been performed by that office for some years;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Garden City hereby amends Section 12-18 of its recently enacted code of ethics to read as follows:

Section 1: Section 12-18 of Chapter 12 of the Village Code of Garden City is hereby amended to read as follows:

12-18. Board of Ethics.

(a) The Village has established a Board of Ethics for the Village. The Board of Ethics shall consist of three members, none of whom shall be Officers or Employees of the Village, **provided, however, that one member of the Board of Ethics may also be a Garden City Village Justice.** The members of the Board of Ethics shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to approval by a majority of the Board of Trustees, to serve at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees for a term of three years, and shall receive no salary or compensation for their service. In the event that one or more vacancies occur, and the Mayor fails to nominate one or more persons to fill such vacancies within 90 days of any such vacancy, then the Board of Trustees, acting by majority, may appoint one or more persons to fill such vacancies. For the avoidance of doubt, members of the Board of Ethics may be removed solely upon the vote of a majority of the Board of Trustees.

(b) The Board of Ethics shall render advisory opinions to the Officers and Employees of the Village with respect to Article 18 of the New York General Municipal Law and this Code. Such advisory opinions must be rendered pursuant to the written request of any such Officer or Employee or the Village Board of Trustees under such rules and regulations as the Board of Ethics may prescribe. The Board of Ethics shall have the ability to obtain advice of legal counsel which, in the discretion of the Board of Ethics may include Village Counsel, at the cost of the Village. In addition, the Board of Ethics may make recommendations with respect to the amendment of this Code upon the request of the Mayor and/or Board of Trustees.

(c) The Board of Ethics shall also be deemed an appropriate party to receive whistleblower complaints on behalf of the Village.

Section 2: Effective date.

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon its filing with the Secretary of State.