

FOLKS meet your City of Geneva Ethics Committee

1) Victor Nelson, Chairman, Democrat, 2) Geoffrey Geiger, Democrat, 3) Michael Salotto, Democrat,
4) Colleen Lombardi, Republican, 5) Mollie Dapolito, Democrat

“I would like to make 5 points of information the Ethics committee did not consider at all”

My name is David D’Amico, and I am a member of the City of Geneva Planning Board. Also, I am a registered conservative Republican. I have been a member for several years in a voluntary position, approved by City Council, to help review any project that may be located within the City of Geneva. For those of you who do not know, I am President of a local Plumbing & Heating Company — D’Amico Mechanical LLC, located at 68 Middle St. here in Geneva. In November of 2023 (yes folks, 2023!) I voted yes to a YMCA site plan as a Planning Board member for their proposed project.

1) The above listed Ethics Committee received an anonymous complaint from a Geneva resident (which is cowardly in my view; if you believe in yourself, state your NAME!) saying they believed I had a “commercial interest in the aforementioned project” at the time of my vote and should have recused myself from any discussion or any participation whatsoever regarding the aforementioned project. Bottom line is I had no idea, discussion or any other communication with the YMCA or Massa Construction regarding this new project EVER prior to this November Planning Board meeting. Cited in the Ethics Committee report is the LIE that I contracted with Massa regarding the site work on this project. To be transparent, 1 1/2 years later (late 2024) I was contacted by Massa and asked to provide a price on the mechanical work, which I did and was awarded the work. In no way, shape or form was I pre-selected. Believe me I do not know any Construction Manager or General Contractor that pre-selects anyone until they receive pricing. That is the way construction works. But again, at the time of my vote there was no relationship or conversation among D’Amico, the YMCA, or Massa. In addition to this complaint, I was also cited for having advertising yard signs placed at the job site. REALLY? 90% of yard signs are advertising for the company working at or on someone’s property.

2) At the conclusion of the November 2023 Planning Board meeting that the accuser referenced in their complaint, and the Ethics Committee members used for their determination of my violation of 3 tenets, it can be confirmed by several city officials that I myself — not prompted by anyone — asked if there would be a problem if down the road my company could get involved in this project. All present responded with a resounding NO! If that were the case then any project presented to the Planning Board for approval where there may be communication down the road to bid work, I would have to recuse myself from any involvement. Problem is I do not have a crystal ball like the Ethics Committee to know whether on any proposed future project in Geneva, D’Amico Mechanical would be asked for pricing. Again, the problem is the Ethics Committee would not be aware of any of the aforementioned because they NEVER ever contacted me, the accused, to ask any questions about this fake incident.

3) The City of Geneva Ethics Committee was not thorough in any way, shape or form regarding a resident of Geneva’s complaint. This does not bode well for potential future ethics complaints presented in front of this committee. The complaint is baseless, stands with no merit, facts, or evidence and is totally false. Yet the City of Geneva Ethics Committee ran with the complaint without investigating the accused. Is politics entering into this committee’s functioning? You have to ask yourself if, in a small city like Geneva, politics can be used in any Ethics Committee determination? Hmmmmmm, I think so. Being essentially a life-long resident of Geneva & a taxpayer, it is sad that I was lambasted in our local newspaper for something that NEVER happened!

4) To be clear I never received a phone call, text message, email, bongos, or smoke signals from ANYONE regarding ANY communication with respect to this accusing resident’s complaint. Nope, they just went with a resident’s accusation, and assumed it was real, truthful & factual without ever communicating with the accused. That would be me, David D’Amico. Oh, by the way, I listed all the members’ political party registrations for all to see. Just saying. I have provided you the FACTS, you decide.

5) So in the end folks, I was found to be in violation of the Geneva City Code of Ethics by the members listed at the top of this paid advertisement. You all need to know that even our City of Geneva Ethics Committee, which is supposed to be dedicated to monitoring ethics regarding all city committees and boards, needs to be investigated for its own ethical dysfunction. This committee, in my view, needs to be totally removed if they do not base their decisions upon facts but rather on total hearsay. Thanks for your time you all!