The Conflict-of-Interest Problem on Lakewood City Council
2015-2016

Between 2015 and today, many city council members had conflicts-of-interest associated with LHA board membership or their acceptance of political contributions from LHA board members during the 2015 election cycle.

Council Member	Potential Conflict Type	Potential Conflict Type	Potential Conflict Type	Potential Conflict Type
Madigan (5)	LHA Board Member (1)	(contributions unknown)	Proposed Charter 8(c)(3)	Proposed Charter 8(c)(1)
Bullock	LHA Board Member (1)	(contributions unknown)	Proposed Charter 8(c)(3)	Proposed Charter 8(c)(1)
O'Leary	(No conflict of this type}	Political Contribution (2)	(No conflict of this type)	Proposed Charter 8(c)(1)
Nowlin	Other LHA Board Conflict (3)	(contributions unknown)	(No conflict of this type)	Proposed Charter 8(c)(1)
Litten	LHA Board Member (4)	Political Contributions (4)	Proposed Charter 8(c)(3)	Proposed Charter 8(c)(1)

NOTES

(1) LHA *ex officio* board member serving without "formal instruction"; could not vote on Master Agreement or its implementation.
If "formal instructions" <u>do</u> exist, then these likely conflicts would clear. Mayor testified that he did not have "instructions."

(2) Council member received political donation(s) from LHA board member(s); could not vote on Master Agreement or its implementation.

(3) Council member had likely conflicts related with law firm that need to be more fully-evaluated to fully understand conflict.
(See, relevant Ohio Ethics Commission opinion letters, May 1, 2015 and May 8, 2015.)

(4) Council members was an LHA board member; received political donation(s) from LHA board member(s). Did not vote on Master Agreement.
Could not vote on the implementation of Master Agreement in 2016.

(5) No longer on council; but could not vote on Master Agreement or its implementation (see Note 1.)

Proposed Third Amended Charter (August 2014) also provided additional bases for absention or recusal for each council member listed, since the proposed charter restrictions would also be triggered by the underlying conflict shown here.

Lakewood Needs a Robust Ethics-in-Government Policy