

# TOWN OF TREMPEALEAU

## Conflict of Interest Policy

### Standards of Conduct for Public Officials

1. **Use of office or position.** No public official or employee of the Town, whether paid or unpaid, may use or attempt to use his or her position or office to obtain financial gain or anything of value or any advantage, privilege or treatment for the private benefit of himself or herself or his or her immediate family, or for an organization or business with which he or she is associated. This paragraph does not prohibit a public official from using the title or prestige of his or her office to obtain campaign contributions that are permitted and reported as required by Chapter 11, Wisconsin Statutes.
2. **Disclosure of conflict of interest.** Every public official prior to assuming his/her duties is required to file a statement that the person knows of no personal or financial interest which might disqualify the person from holding and/or exercising the duties of the office. A public official who has a financial interest or personal interest in any proposed legislation or resolution before the Town Board or any board, commission, or committee upon which the public official is also a member or has any influence or input, shall disclose on the records of the Town Board, or the appropriate board, commission, or committee, the nature and extent of such interest.
3. **Limitations on actions.**
  - a. No public official may participate in debate or vote for adoption or defeat of any legislation or resolution with which he or she has a financial interest or personal interest.
  - b. No public official may take any official action affecting, directly or indirectly, a matter in which he or she, a member of his or her immediate family, or an organization or business with which he or she is associated, has a financial or personal interest.
  - c. No public official may use his or her office or position in a way that produces, or assists in the production of, a benefit, direct or indirect, for him or her, a member of his or her immediate family, either separately or together, or an organization or business with which the public official or his or her immediate family member is associated.
  - d. With regard to any matter before the Town Board, another board, or committee involving a member's personal interest with persons involved, the member shall not participate as a member of the official body in debate, discussion, or vote on the matter. However, a member who has recused his/herself and physically removed him/herself from the official body may participate in discussion as a member of the public or as a petitioner.