Code of Ethics For Town of Southern Shores Council Members
And Members Of Town Appointed Boards

The proper operation of democratic government in the Town of Southern Shores requires that Public Officials and employees: a) be independent, impartial and responsible to the people, b) make decisions and policy in public, c) not use public office for personal gain and d) conduct all duties and direct all actions to maintain public confidence in the integrity of Southern Shores Government.

In recognition of these requirements a Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct is hereby adopted.

As an elected official or appointed board member in the Town of Southern Shores:

1. I will always obey the law and will not try in any way to influence application of the law by any of the town's authorities.
2. I will always uphold the integrity and independence of my office.
3. I will always avoid any impropriety or the appearance of impropriety in all of my activities.
4. I will manage and spend the town's funds as if they were my own and will have the best interests of all Southern Shores taxpayers in mind in the expenditure of these funds.
5. I will always minimize the risk of conflict of my private life dealings with my official duties. This particularly applies to any private employment or service for private interests when incompatible with the proper discharge of my official duties.
6. I will never use my elected or appointed position to harass or adversely influence any of the Town's employees.
7. I will always respond promptly to any concern brought to me by any employee or Town resident. In this regard I will grant no special consideration, treatment or advantage to any citizen beyond that which is available to any other citizen.
8. I will not engage in any contractual dealing with the Town or try to influence any such dealing on the behalf of any constituent.
9. I will accept no gift or other gratuity, including meals, from any one that could do business with the Town or that is presently conducting business with the Town. This will also apply to any gift that a reasonable person believed was intended to influence a council member or board member in the performance of official duties.

Exempted from the provision concerning gifts are advertising items or souvenirs of nominal value or meals furnished at banquets. Gifts between officials and their friends and relatives are also exempted. Legitimate political contributions shall also not be considered as gifts.

Date: 11/24/15

This will acknowledge I received, read and understand the Town policy on Code of Ethics.

Gary McDonald
Council Signature

Gary McDonald
Print Name