



City of Lexington

Based on information obtained from former city administrator Joe Aull during the initial steps of his performance review process it became evident to the City that Mr. Aull had been in violation of ethics laws, specifically Missouri Revised Statutes Sec. 115.646, related to the February 2018 water bond election.

After seeking the advice and opinions of multiple attorneys on this issue it was determined by the City Council that the best course of action would be to self-report these violations to the Missouri Ethics Commission. In addition to striving for transparency on this issue, the City Council hopes that by self-reporting the City will avoid the possibility of a legal challenge to the vote on the water bond election based on the ethics violations, as such a challenge could empower a judge to overturn the will of voters and force a new election.

In executive session at a special City Council meeting on March 15th, 2019, the City Council voted unanimously (8-0) to publicly disclose the ethics violations and self-report to the Missouri Ethics Commission by submitting a complaint detailing all known ethics violations related to the water bond election. The City intends to fully cooperate with any investigation that may be initiated by the Missouri Ethics Commission and will voluntarily comply with any ruling, order, or decision that it makes.