

### Policy regarding Gifts

Just a reminder that city officials cannot accept gifts (Minn. Stat. 471.895). According to the League Handbook, many cities (including New Hope) interpret the gift law to apply to all city employees. There are some exceptions, such as:

- Political contributions
- Services to assist an official in the performance of official duties
- A plaque or similar memento recognizing individual services in a field or specialty or to a charitable cause.
- **A trinket or memento costing \$5 or less.**
- Informational material of unexceptional value.
- Food or beverage given at a reception, meal, or meeting away from recipient's place of work (for principal speakers)
- Gifts given for membership in a group, a majority of whose members are not local officials, if an equivalent gift is offered to or given to the other members of the group.

**Rebates or office supply rewards** - Items of modest value may be accepted on behalf of the city and turned over to the city for city use – if the item cannot be reasonably used by the city, it may be awarded to an individual as part of a drawing for employee recognition or wellness programs. **Gifts such as a basket of fruit or box of candy** may be accepted for the city and placed in locations available to all employees.