

Council on Ethics  
Minutes of Meeting  
Town of Wilton, Connecticut  
Wednesday, September 23, 2020

Chair Sayegh called the meeting to order through the Town of Wilton Zoom link at 7:00 p.m. in the presence of a quorum. Present were Council Members Edwards, Brown, Miller & Sayegh.

On motion by member Edwards and second by member Miller, the adoption of the Agenda as filed was accepted unanimously.

On motion by member Edwards and second by member Miller, the Minutes of the regular meeting on May 20, 2020 were approved without change.

Nick Lee, who had requested an advisory opinion from the Council about a possible conflict of interest, joined the meeting via Zoom shortly after 7 p.m. and made a statement about the issue on which he sought an opinion. The issue involves whether his ability to bid for and/or receive paying work planting trees for the Town while serving as Deputy Tree Warden and a member of the Inland Wetlands Committee constitutes a conflict of interest. The members each asked Lee questions in response to his statement.

At the conclusion of Mr. Lee's statement and the question period, Mr. Lee left the meeting.

The members determined that they need more information in order to provide an opinion. Specifically, the members want to obtain information from Mike Conklin, Director of Environmental Affairs, information on, among other things, how he understands and/or manages the bidding process for tree planting in the town and how the Tree Committee determines what trees will be planted and who will be asked to perform that work.

It was decided by the members that the Council would invite Mike Conklin and the Chair of the Tree Committee to attend at a meeting in the second week of October to provide the additional information that the Council needs.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m. on a motion by member Edwards and seconded by member Miller.

Dated: September 23, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Brown  
Secretary