

Council on Ethics  
Minutes of Meeting  
Town of Wilton, Connecticut  
Thursday, December 10, 2020

Chair Sayegh called the meeting to order through the Town of Wilton Zoom link at 7:04 p.m. in the presence of a quorum. Present were Council Members Edwards, Brown, Miller, Conway and Sayegh.

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

The Council determined to wait until the next meeting to approve the Minutes of the last meeting. The Minutes had been filed with the Town, but not reviewed by the Council members.

The Council then deliberated in public session on the materials and witness information previously received by the Council. Each member of the Council shared their initial opinions in turn, in reverse alphabetical order: Sayegh, Miller, Edwards, Conway and Brown.

Chair Sayegh described the issue she reviewed as: Is there an ethical conflict where a private business owner provides paid services for planting trees to the to Town of Wilton while serving the town as a Tree Warden at the same time?

After discussion, the members determined that there seemed to be differing scenarios under which the Tree Warden might be involved in tree/planting landscaping. The Council determined that it needed more detail about whether there are planting/landscaping projects that arise that are not connected to the Tree Committee to determine if offering services that do not relate to the Tree Committee or the Tree Warden's duties creates a conflict or the appearance of conflict.

The members agreed to request additional information, by submitting questions to Mike Conklin, Director of Environmental Affairs: Are there other planting/landscaping projects that do not originate from, and are not managed by, the Tree Committee? If so: 1) where do these projects come from; 2) What services do those projects require; 3) How do they get vendors for those projects?

The members agreed to meet again on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

There was a call for any other business of which there was none.

There was a call for public comment, but none had been received.

Member Miller moved to adjourn. Member Edwards seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Rhonda Brown  
Secretary  
Wilton Ethics Council