

**Trumbull Ethics Commission Meeting
Conducted Via Public Zoom Call
June 11, 2020**

MINUTES

The June 11, 2020 Trumbull Ethics Commission meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

Attendees

Members present:

Attorney Thomas E. Lee, Chairman
Attorney John Walkley
Reverend Lawrence Fullerton
Attorney Andrew Lubin
Charles Slack

Also present:

Attorney James Nugent, Counsel to Commission
William Chin, Director of Information Technology, Town of Trumbull

Not present:

Attorney Martin McCann, Alternate Member

Minutes of 3/03/20 Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Lubin, and seconded by Commissioner Walkley, to approve the Minutes of the 3/03/20 meeting of the Commission. Reading of the Minutes was dispensed with. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved. The Minutes were approved as written and originally submitted.

Executive Session

A motion was made by the Chair, Commissioner T. Lee, in accord with Section 1-82a of the Connecticut General Statutes, and/or the Code of Ethics of the Town of

Trumbull, that the Commission adjourn into executive session, and/or confidential session, to determine the jurisdiction of a complaint or to accept or dismiss a complaint and/or to discuss a matter concerning the performance of a public officer/public official, particularly those issues as raised by Complaint #1-2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Walkley and unanimously carried. There was no discussion.

The Commission went into executive session at 4:06 p.m.

Attorney James Nugent, Counsel to Commission, was present in Executive Session.

William Chin, Director of Information Technology, Town of Trumbull, entered Executive Session at 4:15 p.m., and left Executive Session at 4:26 p.m.

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 5:05 p.m.

Statement on Complaint #1-2020

The Chair, Commissioner T. Lee, stated that the Commission has reached, in Executive Session, a finding of probable cause with respect to complaint #1-2020.

Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon motion by the Commissioner Walkley, and seconded by Commissioner Lubin, the meeting of the Trumbull Ethics Commission adjourned by unanimous consent of the Commissioners present at 5:07 p.m.

Recorded and submitted,
Commissioner Charles Slack, Secretary
Dated: June 16, 2020

Chairman of the Ethics Commission
c/o Trumbull Town Clerk
Trumbull Town Hall
5866 Main Street
Trumbull, CT 06611

I am submitting an Ethics Complaint against Mr. Tony Scinto for defamatory comments that he made about me during the Saturday, May 9, 2020 public meeting of the 2020 Trumbull Redistricting Committee.

Mr. Scinto has made similar comments at prior public meetings; however, this is the first time that his comments were either captured on community television, recorded in the official minutes, or written about in the local news.

I request that Mr. Scinto's comments be removed from official video and minutes. I also request that Mr. Scinto retract his comments and offer me a public apology before either the Trumbull Town Council or the 2020 Trumbull Redistricting Committee.

Under **Section 2-523, Applicability** of the Trumbull Code of Ethics, Mr. Scinto is an elected Town official of the Trumbull Town Council and an appointed Town official of the 2020 Trumbull Redistricting Committee. He represents District 2 on the Town Council and is the Republican appointee to the Redistricting Committee.

Under **Section 2-524, Standards of service** of the Trumbull Code of Ethics, Mr. Scinto violated sub-section (a) by failing to discharge his duties conscientiously, impartially and to the best of his ability, placing the good of the Town above any personal or partisan considerations.

He also violated sub-section (d) by failing to conduct himself with propriety, discharge his duties impartially and fairly, or make any effort toward attaining and maintaining the highest standards of performance.

Under **Section 2-526, Treatment of public** of the Trumbull Code of Ethics, Mr. Scinto violated sub-section (a) by failing to treat me in a courteous manner and sub-section (c) by failing to treat me with either tact or courtesy during his comments.

Furthermore, under **Section 11, Standards of Conduct for Members of the Council** of the Trumbull Town Council Rules of Procedure, Mr. Scinto violated paragraph 2 by failing to follow the Code of Ethics of the Town of Trumbull and by failing to treat me in a fair manner.

Please refer to the Trumbull Community Television recording:
<https://vod.trumbullps.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/3748>

Starting at approximately minute 21 and continuing for a few minutes, Mr. Scinto begins to talk about my skill as a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) professional and claims to have been waiting for "payback". He continues to claim that I am both a "hack" and "no good for the town".

Mr. Scinto also claims that I published a map on the internet showing false data and that this map somehow caused his insurance agent to contact him concerned that there is a river next to his house.

All of Mr. Scinto's comments and claims about me, my work, and the volunteer work that I have done for the Town of Trumbull are false and without merit.

As a GIS professional with over 27 years of experience, my reputation and standing within my profession are exemplary. I have worked at all levels of spatial data creation, analysis, and presentation within a variety of industries and across multiple domains. One common thread throughout my career has been my work with hydrologic and flood datasets.

As a volunteer for the Town of Trumbull, I was appointed to the original GIS Study Group by First Selectman Ray Baldwin and am currently a member of the Trumbull Land Acquisition Committee. I have created spatial analysis and cartographic presentations for many boards and commissions over the years, including Planning and Zoning, Conservation Commission, and the Nature and Arts Center. I have helped install and configure desktop mapping software and various mapping services for town employees. I have also helped neighborhood organizations with a very technical analysis of the proposed Cell Tower on Edison Avenue and demographic neighborhood study of the Fuel Cell in Nichols.

As an advocate for the Town of Trumbull's new Geographic Information System, I created a series of teaching materials and explained mapping and spatial analysis to multiple elementary and middle school classrooms. I have also created map and compass, geocaching, and letterboxing courses at the Nature Center and Old Mine Park and have worked with multiple Boy Scout and Girl Scout units.

I created the map that Mr. Scinto presents during the 2020 Trumbull Redistricting Committee Meeting. If I recall correctly, it was an early draft and one of a series of maps that I created for Planning and Zoning and the Conservation Commission showing flood and related hydrologic layers in the town's new GIS system at that time. The map depicts Flood Hazard Areas and related features in one of the more flood prone areas of Trumbull within the lower Pequannock River watershed. The legend shows a mixture of Regulatory Floodway, 1.0% Annual Flood Risk, 0.2% Annual Flood Risk, and related data from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other sources.

While I acquired the data being presented, chose the cartographic presentation, and created the map, I did not create or edit the underlying data that is being displayed.

I have attached two sample maps for your review:

- The first sample shows a map captured from the Town of Trumbull GIS website which is hosted by the Greater Bridgeport Regional Council (GBRC), CT Metro COG.
<https://metroco.mapxpress.net/Trumbull>
- The second sample shows a map captured from the FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) Viewer.
<https://hazards-fema.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=8b0adb51996444d4879338b5529aa9cd&extent=-73.23449725143466,41.22688204317486,-73.20484274856523,41.24301849078363>

While the cartographic presentation differs in all three maps, each map is showing the same underlying data that was used to create the map that Mr. Scinto is referencing.

I have tried to follow the process under **Section 2-550, Case procedure** of the Trumbull Code of Ethics to the best of my ability. Please feel to reach out to me directly with any questions or clarification.

Respectfully submitted, 5/28/2020:



Richard W. White
169 Church Hill Road
Trumbull, CT 06611
203-561-6045 (m)
rww@waldengeographic.com

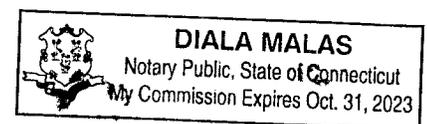
State of Connecticut
County of Fairfield ss. Trumbull (Town/City)

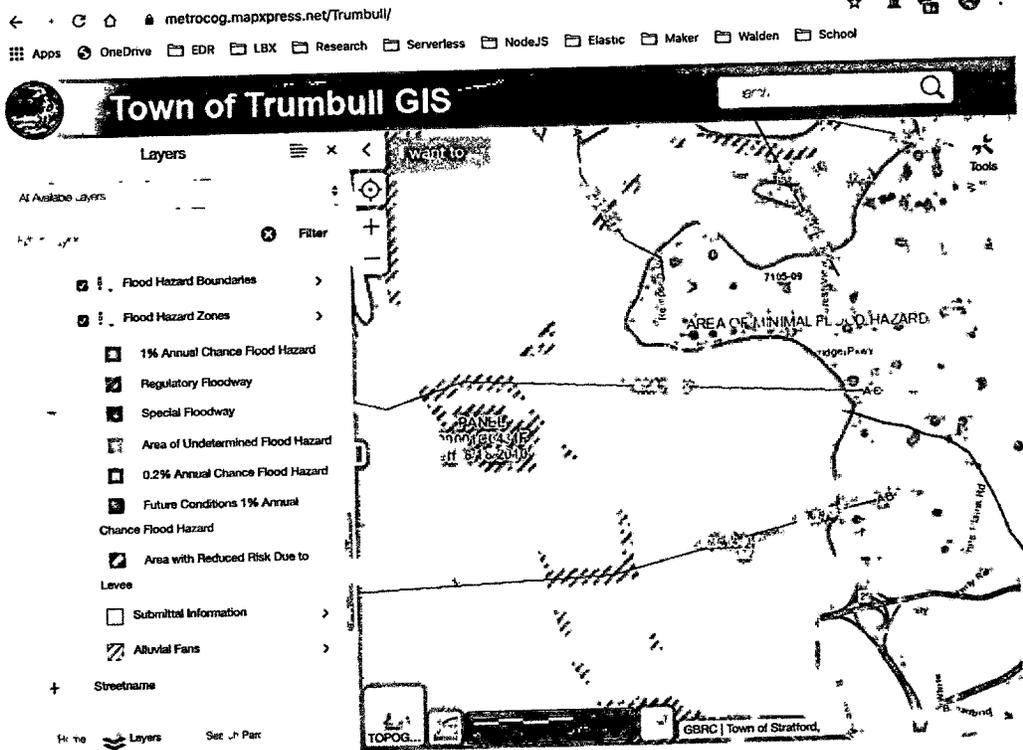
Subscribed and sworn before me this 28th day of May, 2020.

 Signature of Notary Public

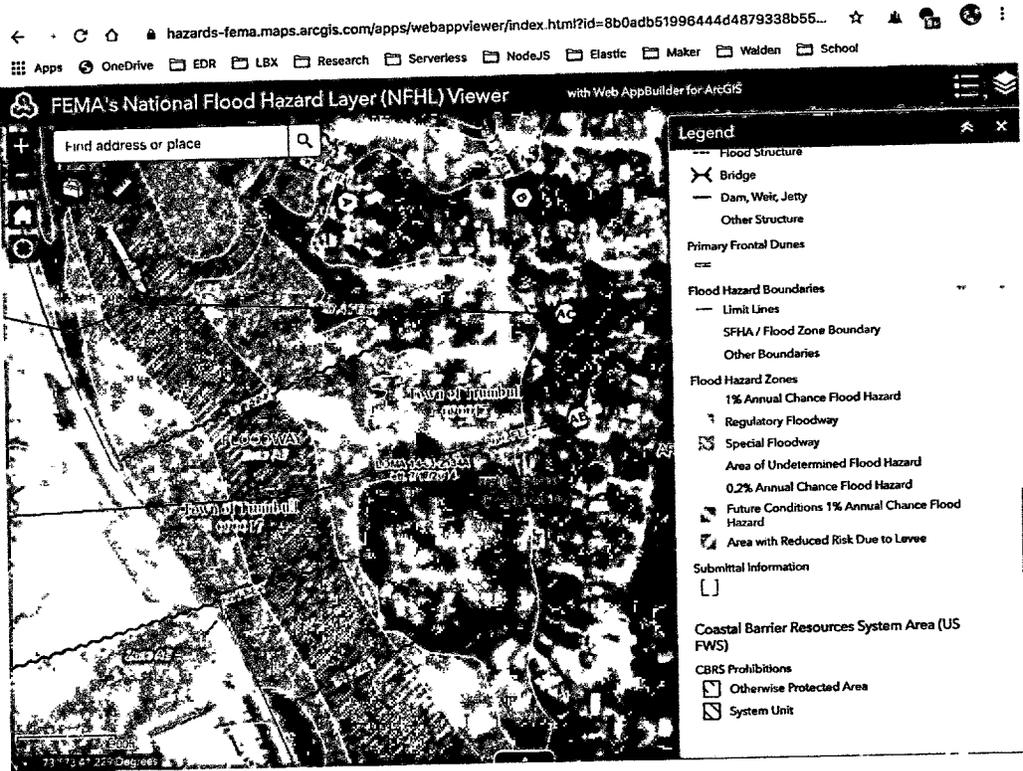
My Commission Expires: 10/31/2023

Diala Malas Printed name of Notary Public





Sample 1 Town of Trumbull GIS



Sample 2 FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer