OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

Telephone (203) 563-0100 Fax (203) 563-0299

Email to: Selectman@Wiltonct.org



William F. Brennan First Selectman

Susan A. Bruschi Second Selectman

Richard F. Creeth

Harold E. Clark

Ted W. Hoffstatter

TOWN HALL 238 Danbury Road Wilton, CT 06897

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, MAY 3, 2010 WILTON TOWN HALL, ROOM B

- **PRESENT:** First Selectman William Brennan, Second Selectman Susan Bruschi, Selectman Richard Creeth, Selectman Hal Clark, Selectman Ted Hoffstatter
- GUESTS: CFO Sandra Dennies, P&R Director Steve Pierce, P&R Commission members Christine Finkelstein, Jamie Van Acker, Kevin O'Brien, Y Director Bob McDowell, Trackside Director Bill Glass, Trackside Board President Peg Koellmer, Jan Andras, approximately 25 citizens
- **OTHERS:** Christian Camarota (Patch.com), Joan Lownds (Bulletin), Kara O'Connor (Villager)

First Selectmen Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM immediately following the close of the public hearing.

A. Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Mr. Clark, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

B. Discussion and/or Action

Ms. Bruschi moved to scramble the agenda in order to make Item #2 first since many citizens who were present at the preceding public hearing had remained for this item. Motion unanimously carried.

1. <u>Consideration of expanded Historic District #6 (Georgetown)</u>

Mr. Creeth moved to adopt the expansion of Historic District #6 Georgetown to include properties as recommended by the Wilton Historic District and Historic Properties Commission. Motion seconded and unanimously carried. Mr. Brennan thanked all of the residents for attending tonight's public hearing and Board of Selectmen meeting. 2. <u>Consideration of proposed amendment to Dog Ordinance</u>

On April 5, 2010, the Parks & Recreation Commission submitted a four part recommendation for amendments to the Dog Ordinance. The Selectmen all agreed that dogs should be prohibited from the Memorial Stadium Complex and the Kristine Lilly Field Complex. They also agreed that dogs should not be on tennis or basketball courts, although that has not been a problem to date. After discussion, it was agreed that further efforts to educate the public would be preferable to prohibiting dogs from playgrounds, Merwin Meadows and within 25' of athletic fields during games.

Mr. Clark moved to hold a public hearing on revisions to the Dog Ordinance as discussed tonight. Motion seconded and unanimously carried. The hearing will be scheduled in June after a draft of the revisions to the ordinance has been completed.

### 3. Teen Center – Long Range Goals

Mr. Bob McDowell, Wilton Family Y Director, advised that the Y, Trackside and Wilton Parks & Recreation have begun a non-competitive collaboration to provide programs, without duplication. The Y will handle registration and payments for all Trackside programs in exchange for 10% of the money received. Ms. Peg Koellmer advised that within the next month, they expect to have a written plan for Trackside's financial independence within five years.

### 4. <u>NESC proposal regarding Senior Residents Survey</u>

Mr. Brennan received a proposed project outline from NESC in response to the Board of Selectmen's interest in determining why seniors leave Wilton. This subject came up during the recent discussions of the Elderly and Disabled Tax Relief program. Mr. Alex Ruskewich presented copies of the results of a survey he conducted that received 135 responses to questions sent out with the Senior Newsletter. This will be discussed further. Mr. Brennan will speak to selectmen/mayors of surrounding towns to find out if there is any interest in a joint survey. Mr. Ruskewich offered his assistance.

### 5. Approval of CERT application for a grant

Ms. Bruschi moved to approve the CERT application for a non-matching grant to cover equipment expenses from the State Citizens Corps Funding program. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

# 6. Miscellaneous Other Business

Mr. Brennan advised that the Town has received \$75,000 from the owners of Crossways Plaza to cover a share of the cost associated with the required sidewalk installation in front of the Plaza. We need to

appropriate these funds to the Route 7 Sidewalk Account. These funds will then be paid over to the State of Connecticut as the local share of the cost of construction. Ms. Bruschi moved to appropriate \$75,000 to the Route 7 Sidewalk Account to be paid to the State of Connecticut. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

The President has approved a major disaster declaration for the State of Connecticut, which provides public assistance for the three counties affected. Unfortunately, the President has denied the Governor's request for individual assistance. She has directed the Dept. of Emergency Management and Homeland Security to prepare an appeal of the decision. Information for residents will be put on the town website.

- C. Public Comment Mr. Milton Pohl, 417 Hurlbutt Street, stated that he does not believe that 8,000 visits to Trackside in one calendar year, some of which are from outside of Wilton, warrants the cost to taxpayers. He feels that in this economic environment, financing a teen center does not make sense. Mr. Brennan thanked Mr. Pohl for his comment.
- D. Reports
  - 1. First Selectman Report

<u>Clean Up Day</u> – A successful clean up was performed on 4/24. Many people came out to help despite the fact that this was during the spring break for the public schools.

 $\underline{Go \ Green}$  – The Go Green Festival was very well organized and executed, and drew large crowds. A great job was done by the Wilton Energy Commission.

<u>Tree City USA</u> – The Town of Wilton was awarded the designation of Tree City USA on Arbor Day.

<u>Probate Court</u> – The Norwalk Probate Court name has been changed to the Norwalk-Wilton Probate Court.

State Deficit – Controller Nancy Wyman has indicated that after 20 months of decline, revenue growth for the first quarter produced an estimated \$105MM budget surplus for 2010. However, large deficits are expected in the next two fiscal years.

2. Selectmen Reports

Ms. Bruschi: No report

Mr. Hoffstatter: No report

<u>Mr. Clark</u>: Thanks to all of the volunteers for the Go Green Festival which was very impressive.

Mr. Creeth: No report

E. Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Jan Andras Recording Secretary