

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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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
TUESDAY JULY 5, 2011
WILTON TOWN HALL, ROOM B**

PRESENT: First Selectman William Brennan, Second Selectman Susan Bruschi, Selectman Ted Hoffstatter
ABSENT: Selectman Hal Clark, Selectman Richard Creeth,

GUESTS: Sandy Dennies

OTHERS: Joan Lownds (Bulletin), Tom Evans (Villager), Craig Donofrio (Patch.com), Kevin Zimmerman (The Daily Wilton)

First Selectmen Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

A. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Bruschi, seconded by Mr. Hoffstatter and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. **Status – Strategic initiative to accelerate utility investments to provide additional fuel supply options**

Mr. Brennan said he wanted to let everyone know how things were advancing with Yankee Gas and he added that a lot of progress has been made and at this time they are discussing and negotiating an agreement. Once they have an agreement, Mr. Brennan said that if necessary he will hold a Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. They are targeting mid-July to break ground. Mr. Brennan said he would keep the Board posted regarding progress with Yankee Gas.

2. **Economic Development – Status of current selectmen research activity with other communities**

Mr. Brennan started off saying that he was researching Ridgefield and he had spoken to the Chairman of their Economic Development Commission, Bob Knight. He said that Mr. Knight was very gracious and offered to meet with Mr. Brennan and if requested, attend one of the Board of Selectmen meetings to discuss what Ridgefield had done. He also suggested getting the support of the environmental coalition in town involved and Mr. Brennan felt this was a good idea.

Mr. Brennan said that the Town has an excellent Plan of Conservation and Development, but that economic development is site specific. He said that eventually the Board of Selectmen will consider creating an economic development commission as other towns have done, but we have to have a clear understanding of our objectives.

Mr. Hoffstatter said that he spoke to Mayor Adam Salina of Berlin and had sent him the questions, but he had not as yet received a response. Ms. Bruschi said that she had a similar experience with the Town of Trumbull and they all agreed that it was probably due to the holiday weekend. They would probably be receiving a response to their questions shortly and if not would follow-up.

3. Appointment of Dr. Joseph Hufnagel as Medical Advisor – Town of Wilton

Mr. Brennan made a motion to appoint Dr. Joseph Hufnagel as the new Medical Advisor. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hoffstatter and carried.

4. Miscellaneous Other Business

Appointment of Malcolm Whyte to the Library Trustee Board.

Mr. Brennan said that they need to appoint a member to the Library Trustee Board to replace David Waters who resigned. Malcolm Whyte indicated that he was interested in the position and Mr. Brennan said he felt that Mr. Whyte would be a great asset to the Board because of his interest in and previous involvement with the Library.

Mr. Brennan made a motion to appoint Malcolm Whyte as a Selectmen's Trustee to the Wilton Library. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hoffstatter and carried.

Draft to "Charge" to the Council on Public Facilities

A new "charge" to the Council on Public Facilities was drafted to replace the old one from 1989, which was out of sync with the Town of Wilton's bonded capital projects process. Mr. Brennan said that while he thinks the draft is very well done he has a few suggestions, which he will make when the full BOS is together. It will be on the Agenda for July 18th and he will send out copies of the draft so that the other Selectmen can review it prior to the next regular meeting.

Wilton's 100th Eagle Scout

Mr. Brennan said that the Town of Wilton is very close to having the 100th Eagle Scout in the Town and he would like to have a ceremony or program at the Town Hall to recognize the Eagle Scouts in Wilton. He said that he had spoken to one of the Troop Leaders recently and he will be meeting with him to plan something that would be appropriate. Suggestions were made to perhaps invite past Eagle Scouts and Scout Masters to attend.

There was no other business.

C. Public Comment – there was no public comment

D. Reports

1. First Selectman – The Fourth of July Fireworks in Wilton were wonderful and there were no injuries or incidents despite the big crowd. Everyone behaved very well and a great job was done by the Town departments CERT, Police, Fire, EMS and Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Brennan has written an Op Ed Piece for the newspapers advising the community of construction that will be taking place on River Road and the Village center as a result of a \$200,000 STEAP grant from the State that the Town was awarded for curbing. Curbing is a major safety improvement for roads. It also provides better surface water drainage control, along with snow plowing benefits and it enhances the appearance of the Town. This project will take several months and Mr. Brennan has asked that the community be patient during this time.

There will be no further municipal cuts to the Town of Wilton by the State. The impact on Wilton would have been \$83,000.

2. Ms. Bruschi – Nothing to Report.
3. Mr. Hoffstatter – Update on the “Go Green” initiative: over 2,000 bags were given away in May from local stores and they were gone within a week. Sometime in July there will be the results of audits being done by Stop and Shop and the Village Market on how reusables are being used.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mariana Corrado