

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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William F. Brennan
First Selectman

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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, SEPTEMBER 6, 2011
MEETING ROOM B, WILTON TOWN HALL**

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

GUESTS: Sandy Dennies, Chief Michael Lombardo, Chief Paul Milositz, Tom Thurkettle, Sarah Taffel, Gail Lavielle, Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Tina Gardner, three members of public, Jan Andras

OTHERS: Matt Coyne (Villager), Craig Donofrio (Patch), Ken Zimmerman (Daily Wilton)

First Selectman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

A. Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Mr. Creeth, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting of 8/1/11
- Board of Selectmen Special Meeting of 8/29/11

Gifts

- Donations to Senior Center as follows:

Elderhouse, Inc.	\$150.00
Arbor Medical Group	\$250.00
Norwalk Hospital Assoc.	\$500.00
Stay at Home in Wilton	\$200.00
Jeffrey Turner (Coldwell)	\$100.00
Paul Wear (Coldwell)	\$100.00
Eldercare Counsel Joan Blumenfeld	\$200.00

Wilton Internal Medicine	\$500.00
Visiting Nurse & Hospice	\$500.00
Ridgefield VNA	\$500.00
Neon, Inc.	\$200.00
Richard & Nancy Husta	\$ 50.00
Wilton Kiwanis	\$200.00
The Medicine Center/Hope St. LLC	\$500.00
Fairfield County Bank	\$250.00
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church	Defibrillator

Special recognition and appreciation was extended for the generous donations to the Senior Center.

Tax Refunds

- Real Estate Tax Refunds as per Tax Collector's memo dated 8/17/11
- Real Estate, Motor Vehicle and Personal Property as per memo of 9/1/11

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Hurricane Irene Storm Report

Mr. Brennan distributed pictures taken of all of the downed trees, wires and impassable roads due to the storm. These were taken to use as documentation for an application to FEMA. Chief Lombardo, Chief Milositz, Tom Therkettle and other Town officials worked round the clock at the Emergency Operations Center until all roads were cleared and power restored.

Mr. Gary Girard, Musket Ridge, asked how the removal of trees was coordinated with CL&P? He was informed that roads blocked by trees are surveyed by police vehicles and CL&P patrols to get an immediate assessment. Town emergency personnel, at CL&P's request, then provided the top 15 prioritized roads to be cleared for critical public safety objectives. CL&P is responsible for power restoration and the Town is not involved in this activity, which is completed and influenced by many operational factors.

2. Scenic Road Application, Wampum Hill Road

As per the Scenic Road Ordinance, the required departments, boards and commissions have all submitted their comments regarding the proposal for this road. Mr. Hoffstatter moved to hold a public hearing on September 19 at 7:30 p.m. Motion seconded and unanimously carried. *(NOTE: After the meeting, it was discovered that the meeting had to be held on a later date due to required legal notice posting requirements. The hearing was delayed until October 3, 2011).* Notices of the hearing will also be

sent to all residents with property fronting on the road and notification signage will be placed at the road site.

3. Ballot Question – “Shall the sale of alcoholic liquor under Grocery Store Beer Permits be permitted in Wilton?”

Petitions for allowing beer to be sold in grocery stores in Wilton were received and more than the required number of names were verified.

Mr. Hoffstatter moved to include the question “Shall the sale of alcoholic liquor under Grocery Store Beer Permits be permitted in Wilton?” on the ballot in November 2011. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

4. Registrars Presentation on Emergency Elections Procedures

As a result of voting problems that occurred in Bridgeport, the Legislature is requiring that Registrars in each municipality develop procedures for any emergencies that might occur on election day. Registrars Carole Young-Kleinfeld and Tina Gardner worked, along with Town Clerk Bettye Ragognetti, to prepare the document that was presented to the Board of Selectmen for the Wilton polls.

Ms. Bruschi moved to approve the Emergency Elections Procedures as prepared and presented by the Wilton Registrars. Motion seconded and unanimously carried. This document will now be submitted to the Secretary of State’s office.

5. Resolution for Dial-a-Ride

Ms. Bruschi moved the following – Resolved that William F. Brennan, Wilton First Selectman, is authorized to sign and execute Agreements and Contracts, along with necessary Agreement/Contract documents, on behalf of the Town of Wilton with the Department of Transportation of the State of Connecticut. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

6. Appointment to Parks & Recreation Commission

Mr. Brennan moved to appoint Mr. Mark Ketley as a member of the Wilton Parks & Recreation Commission. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

7. Reappointment to Wilton Water Commission

Mr. Brennan moved to re-appoint Mr. Douglas Walker as a member of the Wilton Water Commission. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

8. Miscellaneous Other Business

Metro North – Gail Lavielle, State Representative, gave a summary of a July 22 incident on the New Haven line where commuters were stranded for hours, in the heat, on a stalled train, while Metro North was unable to explain to First Responders in Westport where the train was located.

Economic Development – A special meeting of the BOS will be arranged for the week of 9/25 to begin discussions.

Senior Survey – A special meeting of the BOS will be arranged sometime in October to discuss any appropriate senior study recommendations and actions that can be taken.

- C. Public Comment: Mr. Gary Girard, Musket Ridge, asked about road repair schedule for his road. Mr. Brennan will check with DPW to see if Musket Ridge will be attended to before the winter.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman's Report :

Storm – This Friday, there will be a meeting with Mr. Brennan, Mr. Thurkettle, Chief Lombardo and Chief Milositz to go over operational issues that occurred during the power outage. Toni Boucher and Gail Lavielle will also be attending.

Teachers Contract – A draft of information from the BOE counsel and the Town's counsel regarding the Board of Selectmen's role in the teachers contract process will be sent out.

2. Selectmen Reports

Mr. Creeth: Citizen feedback after the power outage shows that people were tolerant and they should be thanked. CL&P needs to do more prevention work with regard to trees and power lines. He would like to have a serious response from the power company as to whether they have seriously looked at the cost of underground lines.

Mr. Hoffstatter: The re-usable bag initiative has shown that use has increased from 8-10% to 20%. Goal is 50%. Tracksides stepped up to help during the storm/power outage.

Ms. Bruschi – The Family Y also did a great job during the storm, as did the Library.

Deborah McFadden asked to speak at this time since she was unable to arrive during the public comment portion of the meeting. She had a lot of tree damage and asked for a burn permit, but was told that you can only burn material up to 2" in diameter. She asked if this could be waived for possibly a 90 day period to allow residents to get rid of trees that fell on their property. Mr. Brennan promised to look into it.

- E. Adjournment: Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Jan Andras, Recording Secretary

attachments