

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'S REGULAR MEETING
March 3, 2008

MINUTES

Present: William F. Brennan, Susan Bruschi, Harold E. Clark, Ted Hoffstatter
Absent: Richard Creeth

Others: Stephen Hudspeth, Chairman, Council on Ethics

Guests: Brian Shea, The Bulletin; Brian MacEachern, The Villager

First Selectman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:24 p.m.

A. Consent Agenda

Mr. Clark stated that the minutes of the February 25, 2008 Special Meeting minutes should reflect in Article IV that "First Selectman Brennan thinks that the objective of the Charter Review Committee should be to simplify the language in this article to make it more comprehensible". He also stated that on page 2 of these minutes, the second paragraph from the bottom should read that "Mr. Creeth and Mr. Clark would like to discuss the overall IT strategy with Mr. Savarese once the budget process is completed".

Ms. Bruschi feels that the minutes do not need to reflect all of the details regarding these Charter discussions since the person in charge of each section presenting their assigned articles for review should be the one to update the document according to the same format started by the First Selectman and that person should then disseminate the document to the rest of the Board.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Bruschi, seconded by Mr. Clark and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda as amended:

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting – February 4, 2008
 - Board of Selectmen's Special Meeting – February 25, 2008*
- *Revisions above

Tax Refunds

- Motor Vehicle tax refunds as outlined in the Tax Collector’s memorandum dated February 12, 2008
- Motor Vehicle and Personal Property tax refunds as outlined in the Tax Collector’s memorandum dated February 21, 2008
- Motor Vehicle and Personal Property tax refunds as outlined in the Tax Collector’s memorandum dated February 21, 2008

Gifts

- Two thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$2,250) from Wilton Bank for the Social Services Newsletter

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Amendment to Code of Ethics

Mr. Clark moved to add to tonight’s agenda “Amendment to Code of Ethics”. Motion seconded by Mr. Hoffstatter and unanimously carried. A public hearing was held prior to this meeting and no members of public were present to comment.

First Selectman Brennan moved to waive the reading of the entire resolution. Motion seconded by Ms. Bruschi and unanimously carried.

First Selectman Brennan read the amendment as follows: NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF WILTON THAT: The definition of “Employee” found in Section B-1 of the Town Code of Ethics be, and it hereby is, amended effective this date to read in full as follows: “Employee – any person employed full or part-time by the Town or by any Board, excluding any person who is a member of a union having a collective bargaining agreement with the Town or any of its Boards and who is covered by a Board’s code of conduct or a Town departmental code of conduct that (1) contains provisions equivalent to, or stricter than, those contained in this Section B and (2) includes provision for the making of citizen complaints and for an adjudicative process for review and resolution of them.” Motion seconded by Mr. Clark and unanimously carried.

2. Town of Wilton Charter – Review of Articles V and VI – Harold Clark

Mr. Clark went over Articles V and VI and suggestions for changes. He had also received written comments from Mr. Creeth. Mr. Clark will incorporate the changes discussed into the document. Mr. Creeth will present Article VII at the next meeting.

3. Resolution for a Charter Review Committee

First Selectman Brennan read the draft resolution, as follows: Given that the Charter of the Town of Wilton was last reviewed in 1992, or approximately 16 years ago, the Board of Selectmen have unanimously agreed that it is timely to form a Charter Review Commission. In accordance with provisions in the Connecticut General

Statutes, it is therefore resolved to appoint a Charter Review Commission to review the existing Charter of the Town of Wilton, plus the recommendations of the Board of Selectmen and then to proceed to draft amendments, as required to be submitted in a written report to the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Bruschi moved the Resolution, seconded by Mr. Clark and unanimously carried.

At the March 17 meeting, the Board will discuss members for the Charter Review Commission.

4. Proposed Blight Ordinance – Discussion and Agreement to set Public Hearing

First Selectman Brennan advised that he has reviewed the draft ordinance with the Town Attorney, who is making some final changes. It was agreed to hold a public hearing on April 21, 2008 at 7:00 pm.

5. Discussion of Wilton Code – Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance

First Selectman Brennan stated a petition is being circulated requesting that the retail sale of alcoholic beverages be brought to a town vote. If the petition is received, with the proper amount of approved signatures, it would require drafting of an ordinance amendment, a public hearing and then a Town Meeting.

C. Public Comment – None present

D. Reports

1. First Selectman's Report

Regarding the FAA, Mr. Brennan reported that he went to Hartford on 2/25/08 to testify before the Transportation Committee in opposition to the FAA's airspace redesign plan. Other members of the Alliance also testified and requested the state to assist by contributing funds to the alliance. He believes it went very well. There is also an active grassroots campaign seeking cooperation and public support from various organizations. Members of the community were asked to participate in this important project.

On 3/5, there is a Plan of Community Development meeting behind held by Planimetrics to get input from the community. They are developing a guide for the town's future development.

Regarding Route 7 widening, Mr. Brennan reported that he has been in touch with DOT. There will be another public informational meeting probably the last week in March or early April to outline this year's construction activity and program to date.

Wednesday evening, at 7:30 will be a budget workshop and this Board will be voting on the budget. On March 12, the Board of Finance will be meeting and department heads will be present to answer questions.

The Grand List has been completed with about a 31% increase over FY '08, primarily due to new assessed valuations.

2. Selectmen Reports

Susan Bruschi: Ms. Bruschi reported that she will be attending a land use seminar in Bridgeport. Also, she is liaison to the Senior Advisory Council and has gone on a tour of the various community centers and senior centers. This evening, she attended the steering committee meeting on the Comstock project. They have made a lot of progress and are drafting the final statement of requirements for the Board of Selectmen to approve. They would like to attend the BOS Regular meeting on April 7, 2008 and therefore be added to the agenda. If approved, the Board of Selectmen will then appoint a Building committee to guide the project through the next phases.

Ted Hoffstatter: Mr. Hoffstatter advised that he visited the Westport Senior Center and met with David Stern. Also, he will be attending the land use seminar here in Wilton. First Selectman Brennan stated that he is very impressed volunteers are taking the time to attend seminars in order to be more well informed.

Hal Clark: Mr. Clark reported that progress is expected to be made at the transfer station within the next few weeks.

E. Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Jan Andras
Recording Secretary