

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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William F. Brennan
First Selectman

Susan A. Bruschi
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Richard F. Creeth

Harold E. Clark

Ted W. Hoffstatter

TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
June 16, 2008**

MINUTES

Present: William Brennan, Susan Bruschi, Harold Clark, Richard Creeth, Ted Hoffstatter

Others: Joseph Dolan, Sarah Taffel, John Savarese, Steve Pierce, Cathy Pierce, Lauren Hughes, Elizabeth Doty

Guests: Malcolm Whyte, Judy Zucker, Gerald Holdridge, Phil Richards, Anne Richards, Carol Wilson, David Wilson, Bruce Hampson, Joan Rich, Milton Pohl, Eleanor Mihailidis, Judy Mabley, Frank Mabley, Inta Adams, Frank MacEachern, (Villager), Brian Shea (Bulletin)

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

A. Consent Agenda

A MOTION was made by Mr. Creeth, seconded and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes – June 2, 2008

Tax Refunds

- Real Estate and Motor Vehicle Taxes as outlined in Tax Collector's Memorandum dated June 2, 2008

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Comstock Community Center – Steering Committee Project Review

Co-Chairs Malcolm Whyte and Judy Zucker were present, along with other members of the Steering Committee. Mr. Whyte advised that the committee has previously submitted the statement of requirements. Now, they are presenting initial budget figures based on that, without drawings or concept designs. At some point, this design will come back with either a portion of

the building being demolished or the entire building coming down for new construction. This plan assumes that the parking lot on the east side of the building would be retained, as well as the parking lot on the north side, with both being resurfaced. The parking lot in the front of the building would be removed.

The plan also assumes that:

- 65% of the building would be at one level and 35% below that portion of the building.
- The Senior Center would be on the upper level as would most of the community Center. The lower level would be the gym, town offices and the fitness center.
- Pitched roofs.
- A significant quantity of skylights
- 50% of the building would be brick, 30% glass, 10% wood and 10% stone.
- Good mechanical equipment for longevity.
- Wiring for data.
- Each room individually controlled for air conditioning, lighting, and heat.
- Designed for LEED Silver level.
- Inflation projected at 5%.

The Steering Committee asks the Board of Selectmen to concur with this budget for the purpose of going ahead with the appointment of a building committee and to proceed with initial design. The building committee would then come back with a design and a new budget. Selectman Brennan asked if the steering committee has looked at operating and maintenance costs? Mr. Whyte stated that will be based on the design of the building and will come back to the Board of Selectmen. Parks & Recreation Director Steve Pierce and Senior Center Director Elizabeth Doty went over the number of new staff they would estimate. There was unanimous concern among the Board of Selectmen members with the needed operational costs of the new building. The Board requested a time-based staging of new employee hires as well as job descriptions. CFO Joe Dolan will estimate salaries and benefits.

Mr. Rob Sanders of the Council on Public Facilities advised that the council met last week to review the Comstock proposal and discussed issues such as size, etc. Overall, they felt satisfied with the proposal as far as costs estimated at this point. The Board of Selectmen members want to see what the operating costs will be and are concerned about the incremental head count.

The Town Meeting is expected to be held in May 2009, with demolition beginning late summer and a two year construction schedule. CFO Joe Dolan will put together figures for debt service. This will be discussed again at the Board of Selectmen meeting on July 7, 2008.

Mr. Gerald Holdridge had submitted a letter to the Board of Selectmen members outlining his concerns about having a separate computer room.

2. FAA Airspace Redesign – Status of Alliance’s Opposition Activity

Selectman Brennan reported that he attended an Alliance meeting on June 5. There are currently 13 communities involved. The GAO will insure their report on the FAA’s airspace re-design on 8/1/08. Selectman Brennan will brief the Board of Finance tomorrow night.

3. Plan of Conservation and Development Meeting with the Planning & Zoning Commission June 30, 2008 - BOS objectives, presentation and content.

Selectman Brennan asked for input from the other Selectmen so that he can put together all comments for the meeting on 6/30. There was a discussion and comments were noted from each of the members. Mr. Brennan will put these comments together and send them out to the other Selectmen before the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting.

4. Consideration of adopting an amendment to the Retirement Plan for employees of the Town of Wilton in order to maintain the plan’s compliance with applicable IRS regulations.

Sarah Taffel, Director of Human Resources and Labor Relations was present. She advised that the 2002 Retirement Plan had been submitted to the IRS to see if it met the qualifications and standards. The response was favorable. In order to maintain that status, we need to periodically adopt any amendments to the IRS Code. Selectman Creeth moved to adopt the Amendment to the Retirement Plan for Employees of the Town of Wilton as presented this date. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

5. Resolution to accept grant for purchase of a hybrid vehicle pursuant to the CT Clean Energy Program

Selectman Clark moved to accept a grant in an amount up to \$8,440 for the purchase of a hybrid vehicle pursuant to the Connecticut Clean Energy Program. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

6. Consideration of supplemental appropriation from the Board of Selectmen FY 08 Charter Authority to replace dysfunctional town vehicle fuel monitoring system

CFO Joe Dolan explained that it is now critical that we replace the town vehicle fuel monitoring system. IS Director John Savarese has surveyed several towns and came up with a system that he feels will work here and is available at the state contract discount. It will take at least 4 weeks to install the system. Selectman Bruschi moved to approve a supplemental

appropriation from the Board of Selectmen FY 08 Charter Authority to replace the dysfunctional town vehicle monitoring system in the amount of \$16,500.

7. ADD TO AGENDA: Sale of Town Truck

The DPW had posted a Surplus Vehicle for Sale. One bid in the amount of \$700 was received for the 1995 Ford 4x4 Pick-up Truck which is no longer used on the road. Selectman Clark moved to accept the \$700 bid from Finch & Company Tree Experts, Inc. for purchase of the 1995 Ford 4x4 Pick-up Truck. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

C. Public Comment

Milton Pohl thanked the First Selectman for putting an emphasis on operating expenses for the proposed Community Center. He feels that interest and amortization costs should be included as part of operating expenses. He was surprised that the \$10 million proposed cost is now \$26 million. With house values going up, we will have seniors leaving and being replaced by people with children. Shouldn't we revisit whether we need to keep Comstock for future schools? He also feels that people should be surveyed about whether they want a Community Center. Selectman Brennan thanked Mr. Pohl for his comments.

D. Reports

First Selectman's Report

OPM Grant for Plan of Conservation and Development

Selectman Brennan received word from the State Office of Policy and Management that we have been awarded \$20,000 for preparation of the Plan of Conservation and Development. P&Z Director Robert Nerney deserves a lot of credit for putting the application together. To meet a close deadline.

Department of Transportation Meeting

On Wednesday, 6/18, there will be a Public Information meeting at 6:00 pm in the Annex Building. DOT representatives and their consultant (VRS) will be presenting the status of the Danbury Branch Line studies.

Emergency Services Day

Emergency Services Day will be on Sunday, September 21, 2008.

Condolences

Selectman Brennan stated that over the past two weeks, there have been difficulties for several families in Wilton. On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, he would like to extend condolences to the families of Marilyn Hanna, wife of Paul Hannah; to the family of Richard Ford; and to the family of Nicholas Parisot.

Selectmen's Reports

Ted Hoffstatter – reported on the CT Land Use Leadership Alliance and distributed a resolution for the Board of Selectmen to endorse this program by Pace University. Mr. Clark moved to adopt the resolution to support the continuation and expansion of the Connecticut Land Use Leadership Alliance (LULA) Training Program. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

E. Adjournment

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Jan Andras
Recording Secretary