

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, JULY 21, 2008
WILTON TOWN HALL, ROOM B**

- PRESENT:** First Selectman William Brennan, Second Selectman Susan Bruschi, Selectman Hal Clark, Selectman Richard Creeth, Selectman Ted Hoffstatter
- GUESTS:** Police Chief Ed Kulhawik, Pat Sesto (Conservation), Steve Pierce (P&R Director), Lauren Hughes (Social Services), Malcolm Whyte, Judy Zucker, Bruce Hampson, Judy Mabley, Fred Greene, Carol Wilson, Dave Wilson, Milton Pohl, Paula Byrddy, Jan MacEwen, Inta Adams, Kevin O'Brien, Jan Andras
- OTHERS:** Brian Shea (Bulletin), Brandon Evans (Villager)

Chairman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

A. Consent Agenda

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

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting – July 7, 2008

Tax Refunds

- Motor Vehicle, Personal Property and Real Estate Tax as outlined in Tax Collector's Memorandum dated July 16, 2008

Gifts

- Acceptance of a gift of \$1,500 from the United Way to the Department of Social Services
- Acceptance of a gift of \$1,000 from the Rotary Club to CERT

First Selectman Brennan thanked the United Way and the Rotary Club for their generous gifts.

Ms. Bruschi moved to shuffle the agenda by discussing Item #3 after Item #7. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

Mr. Brennan advised that he had asked Police Chief Kulhawik to come tonight to speak about Route 7 and the two recent regrettable fatalities in the area. Chief Kulhawik stated that both of these accidents involved commercial vehicles. He plans to step up the commercial truck inspection program and has asked the state police to increase their inspections from twice to four times per year. The strategic patrol unit will also be performing limited inspections. Officers are being asked to step up enforcement of the lower speed limits due to construction, although both accidents occurred outside of the construction area.

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Comstock Community Center

Mr. Brennan distributed an outline of the capital process. Funds in the amount of \$300,000 were appropriated for the schematics and engineering for this project. The Board of Selectmen had recently unanimously agreed that the elevated track should be eliminated and there was discussion about possibly putting the track around the outside perimeter of the gym. There was discussion about operating costs and looking into how fees will help offset these incremental costs.

Mr. Clark moved to send the Comstock Community Center project forward to the approval phase. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

Mr. Brennan moved to dissolve the Comstock Community Center Steering Committee. Motion seconded and unanimously carried. The Steering Committee was thanked for their hard work.

Mr. Brennan moved to appoint a Building Committee for the Comstock Community Center, as outlined in the attached document. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

Mr. Milton Pohl had requested earlier if he could speak at this time. He stated that we have a Library, a teen center, the Ambler Farm barn, the Gilbert and Bennett school property, the Historical Society, church properties and a YMCA. He feels that the concept of a community center all in one building is antiquated.

2. Petition to call a Special Town Meeting

Mr. Brennan advised that a petition was received by the Town Clerk on 7/17/08 to call a Special Town Meeting. On 7/18, more than 50 names were certified by the town Clerk thereby validating the petition. The petition calls for an "Amendment of Section 8-8 of the Code of the Town of Wilton to Allow the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages by Establishments Operating Under a Package Store Permit and to Specify the Hours Allowed for Such Sales". A petition regarding an ordinance can only be amended by another ordinance and only after a public hearing is held within 60 days of validation

of the petition (7/18/08). The public hearing will be held to consider what was requested by the petition. Mr. Brennan moved to hold the public hearing on Wednesday, 9/10/08 at 7:30 pm in the Middlebrook School auditorium. Motion seconded and unanimously carried. If substantive changes to the petition request are then made by the Board of Selectmen, another public hearing must be held and then a Town Meeting with an adjourned Saturday vote.

4. Consider the Establishment of a Tree Committee

Ms. Pat Sesto reminded that a Tree Plan was approved by the Board of Selectmen. She has now prepared a draft for the formation of an ad hoc Tree Committee. This committee would be part of the overall plan to improve Wilton Center now that the Village District Plan is in place. The Conservation Commission would oversee the Tree Committee. Mr. Brennan stated that he would like to have the DPW be involved with decisions that would involve anything underground. Ms. Sesto will provide names to serve on this committee.

Ms. Bruschi moved to establish a Tree Committee as outlined by Ms. Pat Sesto this date. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

5. Consider authorizing the First Selectman to sign a State Matching Grant Application for Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation for State Fiscal Year 2009

Mr. Creeth moved the following – BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Wilton Board of Selectmen authorizes William F. Brennan, First Selectman, on behalf of the Town of Wilton, to enter into and execute a State Matching Grant Program for Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation for State Fiscal Year 2009 in the amount of \$25,256. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

6. Consider Appointment of Mr. James Sorrentino to fill a vacancy on Council of Public Facilities

Selectman Brennan advised that Council on Public Facilities sometimes does not have the full number of eight members present for meetings. Mr. Sorrentino would like to be considered to fill the current vacancy. Mr. Sorrentino will be invited for an interview with Board of Selectmen members.

7. Consider appointment of Mr. Trevor Huffard to fill a new position on Council of Public Facilities.

Mr. Huffard will be invited for an interview with Board of Selectmen members.

3. Consider Increasing the Council on Public Facilities from 8 members to 9 members

Mr. Brennan moved to increase the number of members on the Council of Public Facilities from 8 members to 9 members. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

8. Consider Re-appointment to Southwest CT Emergency Medical Services Council

Mr. Clark moved to re-appoint Mr. Boyd Malkin to serve as the Town of Wilton's representative to the Southwest CT Emergency Medical Services Council for a term to end on September 30, 2010 or until such time as a successor is appointed or qualified. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

C. Public Comment – None noted at this time.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman's Report

Mr. Brennan reported that the town is acting to develop "stretch goals" to reduce the FY09 expenditures. All department heads have agreed and have been preparing recommendations. At the recent Operating Committee meeting, two decisions were made – Emergency Services Day on 9/21/08 will be cancelled saving \$10,000 to \$12,000; and the Annual Report, which is normally printed in August and mailed out in September, will be published on the town website, saving \$12,000 to \$13,000 in printing and mailing costs.

The 8/4/08 Board of Selectmen will be cancelled. At the 8/18/08 meeting, there will be discussion about the High School project, as well as a presentation by the Library Board of Trustees.

2. Selectmen's Reports

Ms. Bruschi – no report

Mr. Hoffstatter – would like to handle the preparation of a "troop box" to send to military personnel and encourage people to drop off donations, possibly at the Town Hall. He will put together a timetable and information regarding acceptable items to eventually be communicated to the public.

Mr. Clark – recently spent some time in a "green" building in Maine. He will prepare a report and share it with the Board of Selectmen, the Energy Commission and the Building committee.

Mr. Creeth – no report

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Jan Andras, Recording Secretary

Approved on 8/18/08