

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 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: Harry Carey, Michael Lombardi, James Barrett (AT&T reps), Pat Sesto, Robert Nerney, Tom Thirkettle, Carol Young-Kleinfeld, Joseph Dolan, Sarah Taffel, Jan Andras

OTHERS: Brian Shea (Bulletin), Lauren Mylo (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 Special Meeting – October 6, 2008

Tax Refunds

- Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicle Tax Refunds as outlined in Tax Collector's memorandum dated October 7, 2008

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Appointment of members to the Tree Committee

Director of Environmental Affairs Pat Sesto presented six names to be considered as members of the Tree Committee.

Mr. Brennan moved to appoint the following volunteers to the Wilton Tree Committee:

Jessica Kaplan – Wilton Garden Club

Paula Byrde – Wilton Garden Club

Junius Brown – Wilton Kiwanis Club

Kate Throckmorton – Conservation Commission and landscape architect

Nick Lee – licensed arborist, Lee Horticultural Services

William Meehan – Chamber of Commerce; Slutsky, McMorris & Meehan, LLP

Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

2. Discussions with AT&T representatives regarding VRAD boxes

Mr. Harry Carey, AT&T External Affairs Director, stated that AT&T is now in the video business and will be competing with the other cable companies. Their method of transmission is U-Verse, delivered into neighborhoods through VRAD cabinets. They have met with officials of numerous towns about their plans for the town and how the town would like to be involved. They send certified letters to property owners regarding the installation of cabinets adjoining their properties. Mr. James Barrett, attorney for AT&T advised that, under the DPCU orders, letters are sent to town officials and to adjoining property owners with a 30 day period allowed for response. If the property owner does not act within 30 days, AT&T can move forward. The DPUC makes the final decision if there is a conflict. The DPUC has studied these cabinets for two years. AT&T turned over all accident reports concerning vehicles hitting a pole with a VRAD box. The VRAD was not determined to be the cause of any accidents and in none of the cases was the driver injured by the VRAD. Mr. Brennan advised that we would like to encourage moving the cabinets out of the r.o.w. onto a concrete pad and screening them with shrubs. The AT&T representatives agreed that this was possible and acceptable when requested. It was decided that there will be one contact person from AT&T who will work with Mr. Nerney, Director of Planning & Zoning. Mr. Carey was also asked to provide as much information to town officials as possible so that they can answer questions when residents contact them.

ADD TO AGENDA: Mr. Brennan moved to add two appointments to the agenda. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

3. Appointments

Ms. Bruschi moved to appoint Ms. Christine Finkelstein to the Comstock Building Committee. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

There was some discussion about making an appointment to the Library Board. There have been several people expressing an interest. This matter will be on a future agenda.

C. Public Comment

Mr. Milton Pohl had several concerns. The high school project has grown to 8 times the rate of inflation. We need to find out why. We should spend time getting value for our dollars. He does not agree with building a fitness center and senior center when there are several fitness centers in the area and many senior housing units are being built with

recreational facilities, pools, etc. He feels we should form a cost reduction committee to examine costs.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman

Three Board Meeting – Mr. Brennan is arranging a meeting with the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and Board of Education to discuss budgets. This will be held on Wednesday, 10/29, 7:30 p.m. at Comstock, 2A and 2B.

Vandalism – Mr. Brennan read an op-ed piece he has written regarding vandalism of political signs and personal property. All members agreed that this was important to address and the letter will be sent to the newspapers.

2. Selectmen's Reports

Ms. Bruschi – no report

Mr. Hoffstatter – The Troop Box project is moving along with 19 boxes to date. Each week, he is receiving boxes and checks which are deposited to a bank account set up for this project.

Mr. Clark – Along with DPW Director Tom Thurkettle and two members of the Conservation Commission, Mr. Clark visited the New Canaan transfer station and looked at various ways to reconfigure Wilton's transfer station for recycling. They do not have costs at this time.

Mr. Creeth – The new director of the teen center will be present at the next meeting to give a report. Also, when Wilton Commons first came up, it was proposed to use tax credits for funds. CHAFA has looked at the project and there is a possibility that they can provide a different funding source.

E. Executive Session

Mr. Clark moved to enter executive session to discuss a pension agreement and to invite Ms. Taffel and Mr. Dolan to attend. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

Meeting entered executive session at 9:00 p.m. and returned to open session at 9:45 p.m. at which time the meeting was adjourned.

Jan Andras, Recording Secretary