

OFFICE OF THE
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TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 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: Kevin O'Brien, Anne Richards, Jamie Van Acker, David Wallace, Steve Hudspeth, John Wilson, Steve Pierce (P&R), Tom Thurkettle (DPW), Sarah Taffel (HR), Jan Andras

OTHERS: Brian Shea (Bulletin), Lauren Mylo (Villager)

Chairman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:35 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 – November 17, 2008

Tax Refunds

- Motor Vehicle Tax Refunds as outlined in Tax Collector's memorandum dated November 25, 2008

ADD TO AGENDA: Consideration to re-appoint John Ingersoll to the Council on Ethics.

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Parks & Recreation Presentation - Allen's Meadow and Other

Board of Selectmen members received a copy of the Parks & Recreation Commission Report, dated 12/1/08. Mr. Acker stated that on November 17,

the commission had requested \$7,200 for a landscape architect to develop their proposal to increase passive recreational opportunities throughout the Allen's Meadow property. The bids came in at \$5,800, priced and phased in order to proceed.

Mr. Brennan is reluctant to fund the preparation of plans when there are no funds for the project. Mr. Acker pointed out that the \$7,200 is in the capital fund and they are not looking to spend any further funds at this time. They feel that with this outside guidance, they can proceed with town labor and volunteers. Mr. Brennan advised that that we are presently understaffed by two positions and there is a freeze on hiring replacements.

Mr. O'Brien then discussed the fields. The Parks & Grounds Department has a new Director (Doug Katz) and is short a fields manager. Rental fees for fields have increased and many improvements have been made to the fields.

Parks & Rec Director Steve Pierce then discussed the Comstock Building and programming. Concerns were expressed about field lights and concession stand lights being on at times when no one is present. Mr. Pierce advised that they are trying to address this with the individual groups using the fields. If a group finishes early or cancels a game, they need to call Mr. Pierce so that he can make a call to have the lights turned off before the preset time. The lights are programmed to come on and turn off as per the game schedules.

Mr. Pierce and the commission members were thanked and requested to schedule these presentations twice each year.

2. City Carting, Inc. Agreement- Municipal Solid Waste

Mr. Brennan distributed a written comparison of the current CRRRA Agreement, the CRRRA Proposal and the City Carting Agreement. After lengthy negotiations between the Town and City Carting, he is recommending that the Board authorize him to sign the City Carting Agreement, which has been reviewed by the town attorney. This agreement will save the town a minimum of \$200,000 per year and \$1 million over the next five years of the contract.

Mr. Clark moved to authorize First Selectman Bill Brennan to sign the Agreement between Town of Wilton, Connecticut and City Carting, Inc. for the Hauling and Disposing of Municipal Waste. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

3. Contingency Planning

Town departments, including the Library, Teen Center and Nursing and Home Care, have been instructed to prepare contingency plans for fiscal year 2010. These will be combined into one comprehensive report before being presented to this Board for discussion. Regarding the high school project, Mr. Brennan

advised that he will write a letter to the building committee requesting details on what is critically essential, what that cost will be and what the design costs would be if we had to scale the project back? The decision will be to determine the most cost effective course of action.

4. Appointment to Council on Ethics

Ms. Bruschi moved to appoint Ms. Julianne Higgins to the Council on Ethics for a term to expire on December 1, 2009. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

Ms. Higgin will be filling the unexpired term of Mr. Freedman.

5. Appointment to Wilton Water Commission

Mr. Brennan moved to appoint Mr. Donald Drummond to the Wilton Water Commission for a term to expire on July 1, 2011. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

6. Re-appointment to Water Pollution Control Authority

Mr. Clark moved to re-appoint Mr. Richard Tomasetti to the Wilton Water Pollution Control Authority for a term to expire on July 1, 2013. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

7. Re-appointment to Council on Ethics

Mr. Clark moved to re-appoint Mr. John Ingersoll to the Wilton Council on Ethics for a term to expire on December 1, 2011.

C. Public Comment

Mr. Stephen Hudspeth feels that there needs to be a crosswalk at the intersection of River Road and Horseshoe Road. Mr. Brennan advised that the suggestion has already been forwarded to the Police Commission.

Mr. John Wilson reported that the Planning & Zoning Commission has commissioned a professional survey. Selected households will be called for input that will be considered in the preparation of the Plan of Conservation and Development.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman

State Deficit – Mr. Brennan received an e-mail from State Controller Nancy Wyman advising that the estimated state deficit is \$338 million, tripling in the past month. The Governor must now submit a new mitigation plan to the Legislature.

Ambler Farm Historical Designation – We are waiting for a report from the town attorney on the Ambler property. On December 19, the Ambler Trustees will meet and submit their report.

Cannondale Historical Designation – A proposal was received from Ms. Carol Russell of the Historic Commission to designate the Cannondale area as a historic district.

Leash Law – The police are issuing summons to violators of the leash law in the areas covered by ordinance. Chief Kulhawik suggests amending the ordinance to include Allen's Meadow.

2. Selectmen's Reports

Ms. Bruschi – attended a forum on Property Tax Relief for the Elderly and Disabled. She had one hard copy of the report which she gave to Mr. Brennan. Anyone wishing to see the report can access it at www.cga.ct.gov/coa.

Mr. Hoffstatter – received five more troop boxes with the help of the Wilton Brownies.

Mr. Clark – at the last meeting, he was asked to prepare a list of unfunded mandates. He has written to John Hetherington, Judy Freedman and Toni Boucher. He will also be talking to Ms. Taffel about union contracts.

Mr. Creeth – at the last Trackside board meeting, he relayed the message to prepare the three budget scenarios and forward them to Mr. Dolan

E. Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Jan Andras, Recording Secretary