

OFFICE OF THE  
FIRST SELECTMAN

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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, APRIL 6, 2009  
WILTON TOWN HALL, ROOM B**

**PRESENT:** First Selectman William Brennan, Second Selectman Susan Bruschi, Selectman Richard Creeth, Selectman Hal Clark, Selectman Ted Hoffstatter

**GUESTS:** Town Planner Bob Nerney, Police Chief Kulhawik, Lt. John Lynch, Michael Lindberg, Chris Weldon, CFO Joe Dolan (8:30), Milton Pohl

**OTHERS:** Justin Reynolds (Bulletin), A. J. O'Connell (Villager)

First Selectman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and advised that it would be necessary to enter executive session later in the meeting in order to discuss a legal matter.

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 – March 16, 2009

Tax Refunds

- Motor Vehicle Tax Refunds and Property Tax Refunds as outlined in Tax Collector's Memorandum dated March 23, 2009

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Consideration of proposed easements to Old Post Office Square property for customer parking and pedestrian access

Town Planner Bob Nerney advised that Old Post Office Square LLC is requesting an easement for the right to use a small area of town-owned land

for customer parking and offering an easement to permit public pedestrian access across property owned by Old Post Office Square, LLC. This proposal would be an opportunity to formalize pedestrian access between Wilton Center and areas north of Ridgefield Road, including Merwin Meadows and at some point, the Wilton Train Station. It would also rectify a long standing condition involving the encroachment of customer parking on town-owned property. The Board of Selectmen had approved this in 1986, but never finalized the easement document.

Ms. Bruschi moved to refer this proposal to the Planning & Zoning Commission as per CGS §8-24. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

2. Police Department – Chief Kulhawik brief on efforts to reduce speeding

Chief Ed Kulhawik was present along with Lt. John Lynch and Mr. Chris Weldon of the Police Commission. The Chief explained the plan to install a permanent “speed sign” in Wilton Village, near The Gap. There is a problem on this straight section of the road with excessive speed and there are no shoulders on the road for police officers to observe speed or stop cars. There may be other areas where this type of deterrent would be successful. He will be working with DPW and with the Town Planner. In addition, they have now delegated one patrol officer to each of three sections of the town so that officer can be the one source of information and can answer questions and concerns about that particular section of roads.

3. Emergency Generators – Completion of capital project

Mr. Brennan reported that the emergency generators have been tested at full load and will be tested on a regular schedule. This capital project is now complete and was accomplished with approximately \$25,000 less than budgeted.

4. Wilton Energy Commission

Mr. Michael Lindberg, Chairman of the WEC, reported that the Commission is now focused on the next phase for energy conservation which is preparing a long range formal plan around energy policy. They are meeting with the Planning & Zoning Commission to insure that their plans are in sync with the Plan of Conservation and Development. The Commission envisions a plan, to be revised annually, that looks at municipal, business and residential energy policy. They are also working with the Conservation Commission to provide education to the public via a bi-weekly newspaper article. There is a lot of work to be done and therefore, Mr. Lindberg has requested that the number of Commission members be increased.

Mr. Brennan moved to expand the membership of the Wilton Energy Commission from 9 members to 11 members. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

5. Raymond Ambler House – Appointment of Building Committee

The members of the Steering Committee have agreed to continue as the Building Committee for the work being planned for the white house. Ms. Bruschi suggested that the Committee include a member of the Energy Commission.

Mr. Brennan moved to appoint the nine members to the Raymond-Ambler White House Building Committee as recommended by Friends of Ambler Farm President Ann Bell, and include a member of the Wilton Energy Commission. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

6. Sale of 1992 Dump Truck

Mr. Clark moved to sell the 1992 International dump truck to Mr. William Boroskey for the amount of \$1,500, as per bid received. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

7. Appointment to Parks & Recreation Commission

Ms. Susan Bruschi moved to appoint Mr. Joseph Burke to the Parks & Recreation Commission to fill a vacancy that will expire on 12/1/09. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

8. Appointment to Wilton Energy Commission

Mr. Creeth moved to appoint Ms. Patrice Gillespie to the Wilton Energy Commission to fill a vacancy that will expire on 11/30/09. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

C. Public Comment – Mr. Milton Pohl, 417 Hurlbutt Street: The original agreement between the Betty Ambler Estate and the Town required that the original portion of the main house be restored, exclusive of the attached rear areas. He does not feel that it was intended for the building to be in its current condition for 10 years or longer. He also believes that the condition of this property falls under the Blight Ordinance. He read a list of capital projects that he feels are non-essential and that the funding for these projects should be used to restore the Ambler property. He also recommends tearing down the back portion which could cut the cost in half. Mr. Pohl was reminded by Selectmen members that the capital projects he refers to as “non-essential” were approved by the voters who clearly felt that they were essential. The agreement with the Ambler Estate did not include a timeline and work is being done in a fiscally responsible manner. Currently, renovation work has started on the White House and will become more intensive this spring.

## D. Reports

### 1. First Selectman

DEMHS Grant – Wilton has been approved for a \$8,267 grant for emergency management use by the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

Health District – The 4/20/09 Board of Selectmen meeting will include a presentation by Mark A. R. Cooper, Director of the Westport-Weston Health District.

Congressmen Himes – Congressman Himes is scheduled to meet with the First Selectman on 4/14/09. Ms. Bruschi and Mr. Clark are not available on that date. Mr. Hoffstatter will be able to attend and Mr. Creeth will try to be available. Mr. Brennan plans to present some of the issues the town is facing for the future, i.e. FAA airspace redesign plans, flood control, Federal under-funding for special education, etc.

CFO – Mr. Joe Dolan has announced that he will be retiring in six months. He is giving substantial notice to allow time to find a successor. During the 19 years he has served as Chief Financial Officer, he has provided invaluable assistance to the First Selectman, Board of Selectmen and other boards and commissions and has always worked with the best interests of the town in mind. The other Selectmen agreed.

### 2. Selectmen's Reports

Mr. Creeth – No report

Mr. Clark – thanked Mr. Dale Hollingsworth for providing a solar panel to the Library, along with a kiosk providing information on solar energy. This was a most generous gift.

Mr. Hoffstatter – the State now has a bill on the docket that would require that retailers charge customers 5¢ per bag at checkout. This will not be very effective. He is in touch with the Town of Westport who adopted an ordinance banning plastic bags that took effect on 3/19/09. He will also continue dialogue with the Chamber of Commerce and retailers.

Ms. Bruschi – thanked the 25 state representatives and senators who have taken a voluntary salary reduction which shows leadership and initiative.

Executive Session – Mr. Brennan moved to enter executive session to discuss a legal matter. Motions seconded and unanimously carried. Meeting entered executive

session at 8:50 p.m. and returned to open session at 9:30 p.m. at which time the meeting was adjourned.

Jan Andras, Recording Secretary