

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, JUNE 15, 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:** Chief Ed Kulhawik, Ann Bell, Terry Scarborough, Dan Riley, Mike Cuddy, Judy Zucker, Joe Dolan, Sarah Taffel, Ken Dartley, David Carmichael, Steven Vaum and Nick Pykosz (Boy Scouts)

**OTHERS:** Brian Shea (Bulletin), Tom Evans (Villager)

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

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 Meeting – June 1, 2009 Regular Meeting

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Presentation by Friends of Ambler Farm

Ms. Ann Bell, Chairman of the Ambler Farm Building Committee and President of the Friends of Ambler Farm was present, along with Terry Scarborough, Dan Riley and Mike Cuddy. Ms. Bell distributed copies of a written presentation outlining the current programs at Ambler Farm as well as their finances and future goals. This is the first year that Ambler Farm has been self sufficient in its operations. By the end of this year, they would like

to complete the process to form a Public Private Partnership with the Town of Wilton.

Ms. Bell was thanked for preparing a very inclusive presentation. The Selectmen all agree that the Town is indebted to the group of volunteers serving at Ambler Farm for the steady progress that is being made.

2. Consideration of authorization to execute termination of lease for Marvin Tavern

First Selectman Brennan advised that the lessee of this property has died and the family is having difficulties with the deferred maintenance and management. There has been no answer to letters sent by the town attorney requesting that all necessary repairs be made. Legal action was taken for termination of the lease and the court has agreed. It would require another lawsuit to request funds to make the repairs, but there are no assets in the trust. If the lease is terminated, the town would be entitled to the rental income from two of the units, which would help to offset required maintenance. Most important, the house is a historical property and needs delayed maintenance.

Mr. Clark moved to terminate the lease for Marvin Tavern between the Town and Mr. Karnoff. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

3. Consideration of acceptance of JAG Grant

Chief Kulhawik reminded that the Police Department applies for the Federal Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) each year, usually in the amounts of \$3,500 to \$5,000. This year, due to stimulus funds, the Town can apply for a \$30,000 Grant.

Ms. Bruschi moved to approve the application for a \$30,000 Federal Justice Assistance Grant. Motion seconded and unanimously carried. This application must also be approved by the Board of Finance.

4. Authorization for sale of Police Department surplus tires and rims

Chief Kulhawik advised that there is a surplus of 16" tires and rims that no longer fit any of the police vehicles. They would like to sell these to free up storage space and to put funds back into the tire account.

Ms. Bruschi moved to approve the sale of surplus tires and rims that no longer fit Wilton's police vehicles. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

5. Elderly Tax Relief Review Committee- Candidates and next steps

There are ten volunteers to serve on the committee which has four open positions. Two of these volunteers were interviewed this evening. Interviews are being arranged for the rest of the group.

Mr. Clark stressed that it is important not to reduce the benefits that people are currently receiving and are counting on. Mr. Dartley suggested that part of the discussions of the committee should be to try to keep seniors from moving out of town. Ms. Zucker asked how that relates to a need-based program? There was a lengthy discussion of the draft charge, which will be amended as agreed by the Selectmen and approved at the next meeting.

6. Consideration of approval of City Carting, Inc. Recycling Agreement

The Town now delivers all recyclables to Bridgeport and pays for their disposal. As of July 1, 2009, all recyclables will be delivered to Stamford and Wilton will receive payment for the materials.

Mr. Clark moved to approve the City Carting, Inc. Recycling Agreement for the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2014. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

7. Discussion on possible formation of an Economic Development Committee

Should there be a committee to look at economic development or strategic planning? Mr. Clark feels that we are facing a great opportunity since the State has the right to sell land set aside for Super 7. Wilton needs to be ready with a plan. In addition to qualified volunteers, it was suggested that a committee include a member of the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Finance, the P&Z Commission and the Energy Commission in order to keep focused and in line with the Plan of Conservation and Development. Mr. Brennan will gather more information and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

C. Public Comment

Mr. David Carmichael, 18 Turner Ridge, attended a session today at the Wilton Library with House Speaker Chris Donovan. When asked, Senator Donovan stated that he will not favor any wage or salary freezes in the state budget. What is the Town position right now in union negotiations? Mr. Brennan advised that the Police and AFSCME unions are coming up for negotiation in 2010.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman

Charter Commission Timetable – The Selectmen will be receiving the draft of the Charter Commission's recommendations by June 19. In order to have sufficient time to review and make recommendations back to the Charter Commission, it will be necessary to hold special meetings to discuss the Charter proposal and to possibly schedule a meeting with the Charter

commission prior to the public hearing on July 20<sup>th</sup>. After the hearing the Selectmen have ten days to make final recommendations.

Road Sweeping – By July 1, all road sweeping should be finished. Next winter, we will be testing new materials that can be used on winter roads without sand, which would cut the expense of sweeping and keep sand from filling up catch basins.

H1N1 Influenza – Fire Chief Milositz, with assistance from Nursing & Home Care, the schools and the Westport/Weston Health District, has prepared an op ed article for this week's newspapers, to give residents an update on the H1N1 flu.

Transfer Station Brochure – The informational brochure for recycling and use of the transfer station is complete and will be mailed to all residents soon.

Op Ed Articles – In July, Social Services Director Cathy Pierce will prepare an op ed article describing the services that her department provides to the town. Each month, another department will be asked to do the same.

FAA – The first round of legal action against the FAA was lost. However, the Attorney General is committed to taking this matter to the Supreme Court. First, there will be a re-hearing in Washington.

## 2. Selectmen's Reports

Ms. Bruschi – No report

Mr. Hoffstatter – No report

Mr. Clark – No report

Mr. Creeth – No report

## D. Adjournment

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

Jan Andras, Recording Secretary