

OFFICE OF THE
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TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 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: Sandra Dennies, Sarah Taffel, Bob Nerney, Steve Pierce, Pat Sesto, Michael Lindberg, Bruce Hampson, Kevin O'Brien, Bruce Beebe, Jan Andras, five members of public

OTHERS: Joan Lounds (Bulletin), Kara O'Connor (Villager), Christian Camarota (Patch.com)

First Selectman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and read a press release regarding the renovation and re-opening of the Wilton Train Station (attached to these minutes).

ADD TO AGENDA: Ms. Bruschi moved to add an executive session to the agenda for discussion of strategy regarding collective bargaining. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

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, October 5, 2009

Tax Refunds

- Motor Vehicle Tax Refunds as per Tax Collector's memorandum dated October 15, 2009

B. Discussion and/or Action (The order of items on the agenda was scrambled.)

1. Post Field and Preserve Conservation Restriction

Mr. Bob Nerney was present, along with Mr. Bruce Beebe and (Susan) three members of the public. In June 2005, the Board of Selectmen had designated this small parcel of land as open space for active and passive recreation, under oversight of the Land Trust. Town Counsel has now prepared the legal documents and the next step requires an 8-24 mandatory referral to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Mr. Brennan moved to submit an §8-24 referral to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a conservation restriction on the Post Field and Preserve. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

2. Consideration of application for Municipal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

Mr. Michael Lindberg and Mr. Bruce Hampson were present on behalf of the Wilton Energy Commission, of which Selectmen Creeth and Clark are also members.

Mr. Lindberg advised that there is \$9.6 million in federal ARRA funding available to communities with a population of less than \$35,000, with \$76,295 being allotted to the Town of Wilton. A consultant hired to audit energy consumption in town buildings has recommended \$30,644 in projects that will fit the requirements for grant money. In addition, the Energy Commission would like to use \$25,000 to hire an on-going energy consultant for the next 12 months to oversee projects identified and to guide the town and schools in a formal energy management process.

Mr. Creeth moved that William F. Brennan, First Selectman, may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management any and all documents of which it deems to be necessary or appropriate in the procurement of funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009 – Municipal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program; and that William F. Brennan, as First Selectman and CEO of the Town of Wilton, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Wilton and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

Mr. Lindberg also advised that the Energy Commission has unanimously endorsed the appointment of Ms. Paula Byrdey. The Board of Selectmen will meet with Ms. Byrdey before making an appointment.

3. Tri-Board Meeting Follow-up

The Tri-Board working committee will consist of two members from each of the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Finance and the Board of Education.

It was decided that NESAC has potential for work that could lead to longer term savings. The working group will review Town purchasing procedures and prepare a scope of other possible activity.

4. Consideration of a Local Health Department Unintentional Injury Prevention Program Block Grant

Mr. Clark moved that William F. Brennan, First Selectman, and in his absence, Susan A. Bruschi, Second Selectwoman, have been empowered to sign contracts and any of its amendments hereto, on behalf of the Town of Wilton, between the Town of Wilton and the Department of Public Health or its successor agency. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

This grant, in the amount of \$2,281 will fund a comprehensive Medication Safety Program for older adults who may be at risk for falls due to adverse effects of medications.

5. Parks and Recreation Commission – New Operating Manual

Parks and Rec Director Steve Pierce and Parks and Rec Commission member Kevin O'Brien were present. Mr. Pierce stated that the Commission put a lot of time and effort into the preparation of the manual, using recommendations of staff. The maintenance management plan for the Grounds Department will be much more detailed and will be for internal use. Many of the suggestions in the manual have already been implemented. The manual will be posted on the town website and will be reviewed and updated annually.

C. Public Comment – None noted

D. Reports

1. First Selectman

Flu Clinics – Nursing and Home Care held a seasonal flu vaccination clinic on 10/12 where a total of 582 vaccinations were given. NHC has 200 doses of H1N1 vaccine and will be holding a clinic on 10/24 – by appointment only for those in the priority category.

Hazardous Waste – Hazardous Waste Collection will be held on 10/31, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Miller Driscoll School. Information is on the town website.

Police Chief's Challenge - The Wilton PD recently placed first in the state for police departments of similar size in the "Chief's Challenge". The competition was based on traffic enforcement/education, DUI enforcement and general traffic safety.

2. Selectmen's Reports

Mr. Creeth – No report

Mr. Clark – No report

Mr. Hofstatter – A few more troop boxes have been donated and sent. The teens at Trakside will be working on troop boxes as well.

Ms. Bruschi – No report

E. Executive Session

Mr. Clark moved to enter executive session to discuss strategy regarding upcoming collective bargaining and to invite Ms. Taffel and Ms. Dennies to attend. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

Meeting entered executive session at 8:45 p.m. and returned to open session at 9:35 p.m., at which time meeting was adjourned with no action being taken.

Jan Andras, Recording Secretary

Wilton Train Station to be Renovated and Reopened

On Friday, October 12, 2009, I was advised by Tom Harley, Chief Engineer, Connecticut Department of Transportation, that we are in agreement on a definitive plan to completely renovate the Wilton Train Station. After many discussions with DOT, we now have a renovation plan and time schedule that will enable the station to be opened for public use in the future.

Following a structural analysis of the station, the following improvements were identified that must be completed before the station can be opened for public use:

- Make structural repairs to the station's sills.
- Provide American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant toilet rooms (new fixtures and finishes).
- Provide sanitary hook up to the sewer line near the building.
- Replace building storm drainage.
- Provide ADA access at front door entrance.
- Replace fuel oil supply line.
- Upgrade water service.
- Paint station interior and exterior.

With contingencies, the refinished total cost of station renovations will be approximately \$190,000. The station renovation plan has been incorporated into the Departments' Rail Station Maintenance Repair and Improvement Program, which is supported by federal stimulus funding.

The following is the projected plan and time schedule: advertising for construction bids 2/10; bid opening 3/10; award 4/10; proceed with construction 6/10; and complete construction 10/10.

The station renovation plan has been incorporated into the Departments' Rail Station Maintenance Repair and Improvement Program, which is being funded by federal stimulus funding.

Initially, this building repair project was resisted by DOT officials, but a personal appeal to DOT Commissioner Joseph Marie resulted in an understanding to include the Wilton Train Station in the current program that has limited funding available for station repairs to the New Haven main line and branch line station facilities.

This project is one of many DOT repair projects. Having pursued the DOT for three years on this station matter, nothing is cast in stone. However, the positive news is that the Wilton Station is part of the project in a plan supported by funds!

We will continue to closely monitor this project and communicate periodically to the public on the status of projected renovation and repairs.

Bill Brennan, First Selectman, First Selectman