

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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William F. Brennan
First Selectman

Harold E. Clark
Second Selectman

Alice L. Ayers

Richard F. Creeth

Susan A. Bruschi

TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING

February 5, 2007

MINUTES

Present: William F. Brennan, Alice L. Ayers, Richard F. Creeth, Harold E. Clark, Susan Bruschi

Others: Joe Dolan, Chief Financial Officer; Sarah Taffel, Director, Human Resources, Labor Relations & Administrative Services; Steve Pierce, Director of Parks and Recreation; Cathy Pierce, Director of Social Services

Guests: Jim Saxe, Louise Herot, Carol Becker, Mike Kaelin, Kathy Leeds, Cathy Welling, Library; Judy Zucker, Commission on Social Services; Milton Pohl, resident; Brian Shea, The Bulletin; Jim Nash, Wilton Villager

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

A. Consent Agenda

A MOTION was made by Ms. Ayers, seconded by Mr. Clark and carried 4-0-1 (Mr. Creeth abstained) to approve the consent agenda as amended:

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting* – January 16, 2007
- Board of Selectmen's Special Meeting – January 22, 2007
- Board of Selectmen's Special Meeting – January 24, 2007
- Board of Selectmen's Special Meeting** – January 29, 2007

*page 1 - include Susan Bruschi as a guest in attendance

*page 3, 5th paragraph, last sentence, replace "no" with "any"

**page 1 – Mr. Clark was not in attendance at that meeting

Tax Refunds

- Real Estate and motor vehicle tax refunds as outlined in the Tax Collector's memorandum dated January 23, 2007.

Gifts

- Two thousand two hundred and fifty dollars (\$2,250) from Wilton Bank to Social Services Department for *Corridors*.

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Consideration of appointing a Second Selectman.

Mr. Creeth made a MOTION to nominate Ms. Ayers. He explained that the job of Second Selectmen requires stepping in for the First Selectman and that Ms. Ayers has the most experience as a Selectman.

Ms. Bruschi commented that, in the past, the Selectman with the most votes at the last election was named Second Selectman. Ms. Bruschi made a MOTION to nominate Mr. Clark.

Ms. Ayers explained that she has had a wealth of experience in town government. She reported that she has served on three elected boards (Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and Planning and Zoning Commission), various committees and sub committees and is the longest tenured Selectman on the present Board. Ms. Ayers stated that party affiliations should not be considered but that the most qualified Selectman should hold the position.

Mr. Brennan agreed with Ms. Bruschi that the Second Selectman has traditionally been the Selectman with the highest votes. He noted that Mr. Clark relinquished the position last year in respect to Ms. Gould's numerous years on the Board. Mr. Brennan seconded Ms. Bruschi's motion.

Mr. Brennan called the motions:

All in favor for Ms. Ayers – Mr. Creeth and Ms. Ayers
All in favor for Mr. Clark – Mr. Brennan, Ms. Bruschi, Mr. Clark

Mr. Brennan announced that Mr. Clark is the Second Selectman.

2. Report from Selectmen's representatives on the Library Board of Trustees.

Mr. Saxe reported on the following items:

- Friends appeal has been very successful so far this year.
- Human Resource Committee determined that employee salaries are about 10% less than surrounding towns and the number of hours the library is open is 8 less than the median.
- The roof on the old building is in need of replacement.
- The financial audit has been completed.

Ms. Herot distributed the auditors report to each Selectman.

Ms. Herot referred to the financials and commented that the building maintenance/costs continue to be monitored closely. Mr. Creeth noted that the variances are within acceptable ranges.

Mr. Creeth suggested that the Library review ways to make the building environmentally friendly.

Mr. Brennan asked about the FLAG (Fairfield Library Administration Group) report and requested a copy. Ms. Leeds stated that the staffing survey prepared by FLAG reviewed items such as employee compensation, benefits and library hours. She explained that it is a confidential report but would be willing to show it to the Selectmen.

Mr. Brennan asked if the Library Board unanimously approved the proposed extra hours and salary remediation. Ms. Welling replied yes.

3. Report from Richard Creeth on Wilton Commons.

Mr. Creeth explained that at the last Board meeting, Mr. Pohl made comments about Wilton Commons which he would like to respond to. Mr. Creeth distributed and read a written response (attached).

Mr. Clark and Ms. Ayers thanked Mr. Creeth for preparing the statement.

Mr. Brennan stated that he has reviewed the source documents and that the Selectmen approved a lease of the land, leaving Wilton Commons, Inc. to comply with all land requirements, codes, permits, etc.

4. Consideration of approving a \$6,000 supplemental appropriation from the Board of Selectmen's Charter Authority for the Social Services Department to cover the projected costs for the Town to Town transportation program.

Ms. Pierce commented that it is difficult to predict the use of the program from year to year. She reported that as of the end of December, the program has cost \$6,900 versus a total year budget of \$6,000. Ms. Pierce requested an additional \$6,000.

Mr. Clark asked if the additional costs were driven by a few number of individuals using the services. Ms. Pierce responded that it is a combination of a rate increase and high utilization.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Ayers and unanimously carried to approve a \$6,000 supplemental appropriation from the Board of Selectmen's Charter Authority for the Social Services Department to cover the projected costs for the Town to Town transportation program.

5. Consideration of approving a submission of a grant to the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation for capital assistance for transportation services for the elderly and persons with disabilities.

Mr. Pierce stated that the grant is for a new Dial-A-Ride van and that the town meets the criteria outlined for submitting a request. He mentioned that it is an 80/20 grant and that it needs to be filed quickly.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Bruschi, seconded by Ms. Ayers and unanimously carried to approve the submission of a grant to the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation for capital assistance for transportation services for the elderly and persons with disabilities.

6. Consideration of appointing Judy Mabley to the Commission on Social Services for a two year term that will expire on December 1, 2008.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Creeth and carried 4-0-1 (Ms. Bruschi abstained) to appoint Judy Mabley to the Commission on Social Services for a two year term that will expire on December 1, 2008.

7. Interview schedule for Betty Jo Corridon, nominee for the Commission on Social Services.

Mr. Brennan, Mr. Clark, Ms. Ayers and Ms. Bruschi stated that they know the candidate and did not need to interview Ms. Corridon.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Clark and unanimously carried to appoint Betty Jo Corridon to the Commission on Social Services to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Nanette Rich. Said term to expire December 1, 2007.

8. Consideration of scheduling the Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, May 1, 2007 at 7:30 pm at the Middlebrook School Auditorium with an adjourned vote on Saturday, May 5, 2007 from 9:00am to 6:00pm in the Middlebrook School old gym.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Bruschi and unanimously carried to schedule the Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, May 1, 2007 at 7:30 pm at the Middlebrook School Auditorium with an adjourned vote on Saturday, May 5, 2007 from 9:00am to 6:00pm in the Middlebrook School old gym.

C. Public Comment

No public comment.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman's Report

Upcoming Meetings

Pension Trustee meeting on Tuesday, February 6 at 7:30 pm. Ambler Farm budget review and budget work session on Wednesday, February 7 at 7:30pm.

Super 7 Bill

Town Officials have prepared testimony in opposition of Senator Duff's proposed bill to develop a timeline for Super 7. Town Officials support the Governor's program to improve mass transit including the Danbury rail line.

Meet the Leaders

A recent taping of Meet the Leaders featuring Mr. Brennan will be aired on channel 84 on Monday at 6:00 pm and 11:00pm, Tuesday at 9:00pm, Wednesday at 8:00pm, Thursday at 7:00pm and Friday at 6:00pm and 11:00pm.

2. Selectman's Report

Police Fund

Mr. Clark reported that an action was taken this week for the Police Fund.

Dog Park

Ms. Ayers reported that binders have been prepared for the Planning and Zoning Commission and the proposed area has been staked out.

Ms. Zucker suggested that the Comstock architect look at the proposed site prior to the Selectmen voting on the issue.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Ayers and unanimously carried to adjourn to executive session at 8:43pm.

Mr. Brennan reconvened to open session at 9:15pm.

E. Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Clark and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Lund
Recording Secretary