

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

Telephone (203) 563-0100
Fax (203) 563-0299

Selectman@wiltonct.org



William F. Brennan
First Selectman

Marilyn C. Gould
Second Selectman

Alice L. Ayers

Richard F. Creeth

Harold E. Clark

TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING

April 17, 2006

MINUTES

Present: William F. Brennan, Marilyn C. Gould, Alice L. Ayers, Richard F. Creeth, Harold E. Clark

Others: Ed Kulhawik, Police Chief

Guests: Brian Lilly, Milton Pohl, Don Klotz, Ann Klotz, residents; Brian Shea, The Bulletin; Anna Gustafson, The Villager

First Selectman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

A. Consent Agenda

A MOTION was made by Ms. Ayers, seconded by Mr. Clark and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda:

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting – April 3, 2006

Gifts

- Windscreens for the high school tennis courts from the Wilton High School Tennis Boosters.

Mr. Brennan acknowledged the Tennis Booster's generous gift.

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Discussion on comments from the public hearing and consideration of approving the Peddling and Soliciting ordinance.

Mr. Brennan and Mr. Creeth commented on the community support for the ordinance.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Mr. Creeth and unanimously carried to approve the Peddling and Soliciting ordinance effective April 17, 2006.

2. Report from Selectmen Representatives on the Library Board of Trustees.

The report has been postponed to the May 1 Board of Selectmen meeting.

3. Consideration of approving the Snow and Ice Removal From Sidewalks ordinance.

Mr. Brennan stated that this ordinance has been discussed in the past at numerous Selectmen meetings and that a public hearing has already been held.

Mr. Clark pointed out that section D, items a and b should read "First Selectman" rather than "First Selectmen". Ms. Lund agreed to make the changes.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Ayers and unanimously carried to approve the Snow and Ice Removal From Sidewalks ordinance.

4. Consideration of approving the Call of the Annual Town Meeting.

Mr. Clark pointed out that the first resolution in the call should read "Bonds Of The Town...".

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Mr. Brennan and unanimously carried to legally notice that the annual town meeting will be held on May 2 as outlined in the Call.

5. Consideration of appointing Mary Bozzuti Higgins to the Wilton Water Commission to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Douglas Wetzel. Said term to expire July 1, 2009.

Ms. Ayers commented that Ms. Higgins explained that serving on the commission would be a good way to get more involved in the town.

Mr. Brennan added that Ms. Higgins will be a great addition to the Commission.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Ayers and unanimously carried to appoint Mary Bozzuti Higgins to the Wilton Water Commission to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Douglas Wetzel. Said term to expire July 1, 2009.

C. Public Comment

Mr. Pohl voiced his displeasure that absentee ballots for the budget are not available until after the town meeting. He acknowledged that the reason behind the unavailability is that budget could be changed at the meeting. Mr. Pohl stated that since the bonding items cannot be changed, a separate absentee ballot should be available for bonding items only.

Mr. Pohl reiterated his opinion that the proposed conservation easement purchase on the Offinger property is too costly given what the town gets in return. Mr. Pohl suggested that the contract be re-negotiated to include a clause for right of first refusal in the event the property is sold, so that the town could then use it as a park. Mr. Brennan stated that it is not possible to withdraw the offer and that the purpose of the purchase is to save the rural character of the town. Mr. Lilly commented that a right of first refusal could be added to future easement purchases. Ms. Gould replied that it wouldn't give the town any advantage since the land would be sold to the highest bidder. She added that the conservation easement has very strict uses of the land and that any future owner of the land would have to abide by the easement.

Mr. Pohl referred to the \$250,000 bonding item for further study of the renovations at the Comstock facility. He questioned why the town would spend \$250,000 if a strategic assessment of town facilities has begun which, in the end, may change the Comstock project. Mr. Brennan outlined the decision path required (Will Nursing and Home Care want to move back into the facility? If not, will the schools need the space? etc.) and stated that designs will be needed after the decisions have been made.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman's Report

Electronic Recycling Day

The Electronic Recycling Day is scheduled for April 29 from 9am-1pm at the High School. This will give residents the opportunity to properly dispose of electronic hardware.

Cell Phone Enforcement

Starting April 17 and for the next 7 days, the police department will be conducting comprehensive enforcement efforts on cell phone violators.

Commercial Road Signs

It is suggested that contractors remove illegal road signs before they are confiscated by the Town. (Post meeting – Ms. Ayers clarified that contractor's are allowed to put signs on private property when doing a job on that site).

May 1st Meeting

The following items will be discussed at the next Selectman's meeting:

- Proposed Underage Drinking ordinance
- Dog related proposed ordinances
- Library representatives quarterly report
- Executive Session on lease negotiations

April 25th Joint Meeting

There will be a joint Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen executive meeting on April 25 in room 24 at Comstock. The executive meeting will begin immediately following the close of the Board of Finance's regular meeting.

2. Selectman's Report

No report.

F. Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Mr. Creeth and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Lund
Recording Secretary