

OFFICE OF THE  
FIRST SELECTMAN

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

[Selectman@wiltonct.org](mailto: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

October 16, 2006

MINUTES

- Present: William F. Brennan, Marilyn C. Gould, Alice L. Ayers, Richard F. Creeth (Harold E. Clark notified intended absence)
- Others: Sarah Taffel, Director, Human Resources, Labor Relations & Administrative Services; Joe Dolan, Chief Financial Officer; Bob Crosby, Police Captain
- Guests: Barbara Quincy, Ned Greene, Peter Haskell, Louise Herot, Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Catharine Kempson, Susan Bruschi, Donna Conway, League of Women Voters; Dick Dubow, Board of Finance; Paul Burnham, John Mastro, Council on Ethics; Dick Ziegler, John Dempsey, Shelley Dempsey, Paul Hannah, residents; Jeremy Soulliere, Wilton Villager; Jeff Yates, Wilton Bulletin

First Selectman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

A. Consent Agenda

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Ms. Gould and carried 4-0 to approve the consent agenda:

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting – October 4, 2006

Tax Refunds

- Motor Vehicle tax refunds as outlined in the Tax Collector's memorandum both dated October 10, 2006.

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Consideration of approving the submission of a grant application with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation to support enforcement of driving under

the influence laws during the 2006 Thanksgiving/Christmas/New Year's holiday period. Said submission contingent on the Board of Finance's approval.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Mr. Creeth and carried 4-0 to approve the submission of a grant application with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation to support enforcement of driving under the influence laws during the 2006 Thanksgiving/Christmas/New Year's holiday period. Said submission contingent on the Board of Finance's approval

2. Consideration of reappointing Robert Napoleon as Animal Control Officer and Herbert Roome, Mary Ann Kleinschmitt and Kelli Baker as Assistant Animal Control Officers. Said terms to expire October 1, 2007.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Ms. Ayers and carried 4-0 to reappoint Robert Napoleon as Animal Control Officer and Herbert Roome, Mary Ann Kleinschmitt and Kelli Baker as Assistant Animal Control Officers. Said terms to expire October 1, 2007.

3. Discussion of the League of Women's report on the Town Government Study Committee.

Mr. Brennan welcomed the members of the League of Women Voters. He noted that the League conducted a nine-month Town Government study that concluded with a report submitted in May and sent to the Selectmen.

Ms. Herot stated that the committee studied the government structure of towns similar in size and demographics of Wilton. She explained that they also conducted a survey and held two public forums.

Ms. Herot reported that the outcome of the study indicated that there is little interest for a major change in the current structure. She commented that although the Town Meeting draws low attendance, residents are not willing to give up the Town Meeting.

Ms. Herot explained that some of the study recommendations would require a charter revision such as changing the terms of the Board of Selectmen. The study also suggested consideration be given to the appointment of a Town Manager/Chief Administrative Officer. She added that the study also recommended improving citizen involvement in town issues which could be achieved by improving communications through media, sending out newsletters and conducting focus groups for various projects.

Mr. Brennan thanked the League of Women Voters for their study. He commented that a narrow base of residents were involved in the study and responded to the survey and therefore questioned if the results would be supported by a broad range of citizens. Ms. Ayers replied that many of the individuals in the study were former members of various Boards and Commissions. She stated that the base may seem small but that the experience within the base speaks highly.

Ms. Bruschi stated that the results from the survey indicated a lack of communication from the Town. She explained suggestions to improve communications included holding quarterly coffee meetings with the Selectmen, creating an interactive website, televising more meetings, changing voting methods and increasing written communications from the Selectmen.

Ms. Herot added that the League suggests that the residents be consulted more on issues.

Mr. Brennan commented that presentations made at the budget public hearings and Town Meeting could be improved by developing a presentation standard, better visual aids, etc.

Ms. Herot summarized that the overall consensus is to retain the Town Meeting. She recommended that the report be used as a starting point for discussion. Mr. Brennan stated that the next step will be scheduling the report for discussion among the Selectmen at a future Board meeting.

4. Discussion with the Council on Ethics regarding Wilton's Code of Ethics.

Mr. Brennan reminded the Selectmen that the Council on Ethics was asked to submit suggestions on how to improve or revise the current Code of Ethics. He explained that an independent committee will be formed to review the Council on Ethics recommendations, the Board of Selectmen's recommendations and the Code on Ethics. The independent committee will then compile a proposal of recommended changes and a public hearing will be held. Mr. Brennan explained that the Selectmen will then vote on the proposal.

Mr. Mastro distributed the Council's report (attached). Mr. Burnham reviewed the recommendations.

Mr. Brennan announced that the Town of Stratford will be hosting a Fairfield County Municipal Workshop on Thursday, November 16 and invited the Selectmen and Council on Ethics members to attend.

5. Consideration of adopting a resolution to execute the revised Trust Agreement.

Mr. Brennan explained that the resolution is a result of the discussions from the October 5 Trustees meeting.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Ayers, seconded by Mr. Creeth and carried 4-0 to adopt the resolution to execute the revised Trust Agreement. (resolution is attached).

6. Consideration of voting to adopt new actuarial assumption concerning the Plan's investment rate of return.

Mr. Brennan explained the change in actuarial assumption was discussed at the October 5 Trustee meeting and that it was the consensus at the meeting to change the assumption from 8.1 to 7.8% per year.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Creeth and carried 4-0 that, with reference to the retirement plan for employees of the Town of Wilton, the current actuarial assumption of an 8.1% per year rate of return be lowered to a 7.8% per year rate of return.

7. Consideration of adopting a resolution delegating certain Board of Selectmen's retirement plan responsibilities to the Trustees.

Mr. Brennan read the resolution (attached).

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Ms. Gould and carried 4-0 to adopt a resolution delegating certain Board of Selectmen's retirement plan responsibilities to the Trustees.

8. Consideration of adopting a resolution creating a Retirement Plan Investment Committee.

Mr. Brennan read the resolution.

Ms. Gould asked if the committee members could be reappointed for additional terms. Mr. Dolan responded yes but noted that term limits outlined in the charter must be adhered to.

Ms. Gould and Ms. Ayers voiced concern that the term limits will expire at the same time and suggested that the terms limits be staggered. It was agreed that the initial terms for two of the committee members will be for one year, thus staggering the terms. Mr. Dolan amended the resolution.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Ms. Gould and carried 4-0 to adopt a resolution creating a Retirement Plan Investment Committee. (resolution attached)

9. Consideration of approving the 2007 Town Hall employees paid holiday schedule.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Ms. Ayers and carried 4-0 to approve the 2007 Town Hall employees paid holiday schedule.

10. Consideration of approving the 2007 Board of Selectmen meeting schedule.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Ms. Ayers and carried 4-0 to approve the 2007 Board of Selectmen meeting schedule.

C. Public Comment

No public comment.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman's Report

Resignation from Council on Public Facilities

Elizabeth Rudolph has submitted a letter of resignation from the Council on Public Facilities. Formal acceptance of the resignation will be included on the next Board of Selectmen's meeting agenda.

2. Selectman's Report

No report

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded Ms. Ayers and carried 4-0 to adjourn to executive session at 9:40 pm.

First Selectman Brennan reconvened to open session at 10:24 pm.

E. Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Ms. Ayers, seconded by Mr. Creeth and carried 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Lund  
Recording Secretary