

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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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

December 18, 2006

MINUTES

- Present: William F. Brennan, Marilyn C. Gould, Alice L. Ayers, Richard F. Creeth, Harold E. Clark
- Others: Sarah Taffel, Director, Human Resources, Labor Relations & Administrative Services; Steve Pierce, Director of Parks and Recreation
- Guests: Jamie VanAcker, Andy Mais, Malcolm Whyte, Jeff Lapnow, Athletic Complex Fields Committee; Wilfred Perez, Fields Project Manager; Mariann Bigelow, Dan Riley, Ann Bell, Carl Yoder, Bob Russell, Pamela Hovland, Dick Husta, Nancy Husta, Susan DiLoreto, Alicia Lindgren, Ambler Farm; Brian Lilly, Mr. Leganza, residents; Dick Dubow, Board of Finance; Brian Shea, The Bulletin; Jeremy Soulliere, Wilton Villager

First Selectman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:29 p.m.

A. Consent Agenda

A MOTION was made by Mr. Creeth, seconded by Ms. Ayers and carried 5-0 to approve the consent agenda as amended:

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting – December 4, 2006*
*page 6, Selectmen's Report, third paragraph should read "Kick for Nick".

Gifts

- One hundred dollars (\$100.00) from Mr. and Mrs. Peter Verilli to the Fire Department Gift Fund.
- One hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) from Mr. and Mrs. Zachary Sachs to the Fire Department Gift Fund.

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Report from the Athletic Complex Fields Committee.

Mr. Whyte gave a history of the project. He reported that there are currently two issues related to the project – budget and scheduling.

Mr. Whyte stated that the total cost of the project will exceed the amount bonded. He explained that the primary reason for the increase in cost is inflation. Mr. Whyte reported that the cost of the project was estimated in 2003 and has not been adjusted since then for inflation. He commented that the increase in cost is not due to a change in the project.

Mr. Whyte reported that a number of factors have contributed to the delay in the bleachers. He noted that the home side bleachers will be completed by mid January.

Mr. Mais stated that the Athletic Complex Fields Committee would like to request \$670,000 of additional capital funds to finish the project. He commented that the committee has tried to balance “will and wallet.”

Mr. Mais distributed an outline of the requested funds (attached). He asked that \$670,000 be included in the town’s capital budget.

Mr. Clark suggested that all future building projects be handled by the Council of Public Facilities. Ms. Gould agreed and added that the user group should not be in charge of a project.

Mr. Brennan asked for drawings for the team rooms and concession stands. Mr. Whyte agreed to submit the drawings early next year.

2. Discussion of Friends of Ambler Farm proposal dated December 12, 2006.

Ms. Bell gave a history of Ambler Farm and Friends of Ambler Farm. She reviewed the plans and vision outlined in proposal for the farm.

Ms. Bell asked that the Town move forward with the public private partnership and that it be executed within the next six weeks. She also requested that Ambler Farm be added as a line item to the budget.

Mr. Brennan reviewed the public private partnership process. He noted that Friends of Ambler Farm are in phase IV which includes a review by the Board of Finance, comments, if necessary, from other Boards/Commissions and public presentations and hearings.

Mr. Brennan commented that when developing a budget, there is a tendency to overestimate revenues and underestimate expenses. Mr. Clark noted that the proposal suggests the town incur four significant expenses (maintenance, utilities, insurance and reserve for capital improvement). He voiced his concern that there are other expenses that have not been identified.

Mr. Clark questioned if the Ambler Farm employees would be eligible to receive town benefits.

Ms. Ayers commended the various planned programs. She suggested a timeline be developed to implement the programs.

Ms. Bell reported that a request for capital funds will be submitted at a later date. Mr. Brennan explained that a lot of work needs to be done for Ambler Farm to make this year's budget schedule.

Ms. Gould stated that the business plan outlines a program that is much less self sustaining than hoped for. She requested a more detailed business plan which identifies sources of funds, rentals, etc.

3. Review of Trackside's financial statements and independent auditor's report.

Mr. Creeth reported that it is a clean audit report. He noted that the report shows that Trackside is very dependent on public support. Mr. Creeth suggested that Trackside management be invited to present their financials to the Selectmen. Ms. Ayers expressed interest in reviewing their September to December financials.

4. Consideration of accepting the resignation of Al Alper from the Zoning Board of Appeals effective December 4, 2006.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Clark and unanimously carried to accept the resignation of Al Alper from the Zoning Board of Appeals effective December 4, 2006.

5. Consideration of accepting the resignation of Nancy Faesy from the Deer Management Committee.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Clark and unanimously carried to accept the resignation of Nancy Faesy from the Deer Management Committee.

6. Consideration of reappointing the following individuals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Board/Commission</u>	<u>Term End</u>
Judy White	Wilton's Representative to the Board of Directors of the Southwestern Regional Tourism District	10/01/2009
Jill Alibrandi	Inland Wetlands Commission	12/01/2009
Albert Stauderman	Water Pollution Control Authority	07/01/2011
J. Casey Healy	Fire Commission	12/01/2008
Al Alper	SWRPA	12/01/2008
Jerry Coyne-Dawson	Historic District and Historic Properties Commission, Alternate	12/01/2009
Charles Lewis	Wilton Water Commission	07/01/2011

A MOTION was made by Ms. Ayers, seconded by Mr. Brennan and unanimously carried to reappoint the above named individuals.

7. Consideration of appointing the following individuals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Board/Commission</u>	<u>Term End</u>
Tierney O’Hearn	Historic District and Historic Properties Commission, Alternate	12/01/2009
John Comiskey	Zoning Board of Appeals	11/06/2007
Elizabeth Mason	Commission on Social Services	12/01/2008
Amy Jefferies	Commission on Social Services	12/01/2008

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Ms. Ayers and unanimously carried to appoint the above named individuals.

8. Interview schedule for Harriet Taylor, nominee for the Historic District and Historic Properties Commission, alternate.

Mr. Creeth and Mr. Clark expressed interest in interviewing Ms. Taylor over the phone.

C. Public Comment

Mr. Leganza voiced his position against a dog park at Allen’s Meadows due to a number of environmental sensitive issues. He offered to share his knowledge with the Selectmen.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman’s Report

Elderly Tax Relief

The Elderly Tax Relief Committee will be reconstituted early next year. The membership will be announced in January.

January 2nd Board of Selectmen’s Meeting

The agenda for the January 2nd will include a briefing on the Wilton center lighting project. The dog park will be discussed only if new information is received.

Mr. Brennan wished all members of the community a safe and healthy new year.

2. Selectman’s Report

Resignation

Ms. Gould distributed and read a letter expressing her desire to resign from the Board of Selectmen effective January 5 and be appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission effective January 8. (letter is attached)

Dog Park

Ms. Ayers reported that the Dog Park ad hoc committee and members of WOOF walked the Wolfpit Road site. She stated that a report is being finalized and requested that the report be presented at the January 2nd Board of Selectmen's meeting.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Creeth and unanimously carried to adjourn to executive session at 9:40 pm.

First Selectmen reconvened to open session at 10:32pm.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Creeth and carried 4-0 to approve the agreement resulting from the 12/18/06 mediation terms and conditions of employment for the Fire Marshal David Kohn.

E. Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Ms. Ayers and carried 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Lund
Recording Secretary