

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

August 21, 2006

MINUTES

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

Others: Ed Kulhawik, Police Chief; Bob Crosby, Police Captain, Sarah Taffel, Director, Human Resources, Labor Relations & Administrative Services; Joe Dolan, Chief Financial Officer

Guests: Matt Mason, Mark Ketley, Chris Weldon, Police Commission; Warren Serenbetz, Lee Wilson, Dick Dubow, Bob Kelso, Lenore Palmer, Andy Pforzheimer, Board of Finance; Jeremy Soulliere, Wilton Villager; Brian Shea, Wilton Bulletin

First Selectman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

A. Consent Agenda

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

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting – July 17, 2006
- Board of Selectmen's Special Meeting – August 3, 2006
- Board of Selectmen's Special Executive Meeting – August 3, 2006

Tax Refunds

- Real Estate and Motor Vehicle tax refunds as outlined in the Tax Collector's memoranda dated August 8, 2006 and August 17, 2006.

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Police Department

- Presentation and discussion by Chief Kulhawik and Police Commission members

Mr. Brennan explained that this past winter it was suggested that major departments make non-budgetary presentations to the Selectmen to outline their activities, goals, objectives, etc.

Mr. Mason thanked the Selectmen for the opportunity to review the Police Department's activities. Chief Kulhawik acknowledged Captain Crosby for his help in preparing the presentation.

Chief Kulhawik presented a PowerPoint presentation (Selectmen received a copy, one to be copy attached to submitted minutes with Town Clerk's office).

Mr. Brennan asked for a definition of criminal mischief. Chief Kulhawik responded acts such as vandalism, graffiti, etc. are considered criminal mischief.

Ms. Gould commented that the slide which outlined the number of officers not available to work on a given day was disturbing. Chief Kulhawik reminded the Board that the Police Department is a 365 day, 24 hour operation. Mr. Brennan indicated that the slide was an example of events on one day and not a steady state and that the availability of officers on many days is much higher. Ms. Gould indicated she was relieved and appreciated the clarification.

Mr. Clark asked if any lessons were learned during the CL&P powerline project. Chief Kulhawik responded that constant communication with the construction company and good documentation are key.

Mr. Clark asked Chief Kulhawik to respond to the impression that teenagers think that the Police are out to get them. Chief Kulhawik replied that some of that feeling is the nature of kids. He stressed that good communication can lessen that belief. Mr. Creeth added that parents have the responsibility to explain to their children the valuable role the police play in the community.

A discussion regarding filling the 44th officer position ensued. Mr. Weldon commented that they are not asking to add another position, rather to fill an already authorized position. Mr. Brennan suggested the Police Department make a recommendation to the Selectmen regarding the 44th officer. Ms. Gould stated that due to the training requirements, the Police Department cannot wait until the next budget season to make the recommendation. The Selectmen agreed.

Ms. Ayers acknowledged the STP unit's value on the behavior of drivers.

It was suggested that the presentation be available on the website.

2. Consideration of accepting Eric Norlund's bid of \$250 for the Parks and Recreation Department old Dial-A-Ride van.

Mr. Creeth stated that the town has a responsibility to understand the maximum value of its assets before they are disposed of.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Ayers, seconded by Ms. Gould and unanimously carried to accept Eric Norlund's bid of \$250 for the Parks and Recreation Department old Dial-A-Ride van.

3. Interview schedule for David Lattimer, nominee for an alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals and Sydney Gordon, nominee for the Inland Wetlands Commission.

Ms. Lund agreed to set up the interviews.

4. Discussion with the Board of Finance on governance of the pension plan – organization, committee membership, etc.

Mr. Brennan explained that per the agreement and declaration of trust of the retirement plan, the Selectmen must sign an acceptance of the position of trusteeship. He referred to a document that Mr. Bernhard prepared (attached). Each Selectman signed the acceptance of trusteeship document.

Mr. Brennan referred to the organizational structure of surrounding town's retirement plans. He commented that they are all different.

Mr. Brennan suggested that the trustee membership be expanded to seven members to include a representative from the Board of Education and a representative from the Board of Finance. Ms. Gould expressed her concern of the Retirement Board, rather than the Trustees. Mr. Creeth noted that the Trustees can delegate to the Retirement Board but, in the end, are responsible for the plan.

Mr. Kelso endorsed the broadening of the trustee membership and added that redefining the Retirement Board as a subordinate board to the Trustees will be an important future step.

Mr. Pforzheimer stated that a representative from Human Resources should be brought into the process at an earlier date than in the past.

Ms. Ayers questioned how the representatives from the Board of Education and Board of Finance would be designated. Mr. Brennan replied that the appropriate Board would nominate an appointee.

Mr. Kelso agreed to include the appointment a Board of Finance representative on the agenda for the next Board of Finance meeting in September.

Mr. Brennan explained that he will have legal counsel draft an amendment document to include the two new members as well as replacement procedures for trustees from the three boards. The Selectmen will review and plan to vote on the proposed amendment at their next meeting on September 5.

Mr. Dolan recommended that the Chief Financial Officer be added as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Trustees for administrative purposes.

Mr. Brennan suggested that the Retirement Board be renamed to the Wilton Employees' Pension Plan Investment Advisory Committee.

Ms. Gould stated that the Retirement Board's responsibilities should be clarified. Mr. Brennan proposed that the Trustees meet with the Retirement Board, including past members Phil Reinertsen and Bob Duke. Mr. Dubow added that a charge for the Retirement Board will need to be drafted and suggested that the trust agreement be reviewed.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Mr. Clark and unanimously carried to add the Chief Financial Officer as an ex-officio, non-voting trustee to the Wilton Employee Retirement Plan.

C. Public Comment

No public comment.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman's Report

Meeting Date Change

The Selectmen agreed to change the October 3rd meeting to October 4th.

September 11th Memorial Service

The Town will hold a memorial service on September 11th at 10:00 am at the Fire Department. All residents are invited to attend.

September – Wilton Emergency Preparedness Month

September has been named Wilton Emergency Preparedness Month. The goal is to increase awareness of emergency preparedness. A preparedness guide will be sent to all residents in mid September. Wilton's annual Emergency Services Day is scheduled for September 24 and will include activities for all ages.

Route 7

Town Officials have been in contact with DOT officials on a regular basis. Pre-construction meetings will be scheduled in the near future. Town residents Doug Jones and Irving Chann have agreed to be citizen advisors for this project.

2. Selectman's Report

No report.

E. Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Ayers and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Lund
Recording Secretary