

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

September 18, 2006

MINUTES

Present: William F. Brennan, Marilyn C. Gould (7:36), Alice L. Ayers, Richard F. Creeth, Harold E. Clark

Others: Mike Lombardo, Police Captain; Bill Tanner, Police Sergeant; Sarah Taffel, Director, Human Resources, Labor Relations & Administrative Services; Joe Dolan, Chief Financial Officer

Guests: Mark Ketley, Matt Mason, Chris Weldon, Police Commission; Dick Dubow, Robert Kelso, Warren Serenbetz, Lenore Palmer Board of Finance; Brian Lilly, resident; Marissa Lilliedahl, Ann Billik, Marianne Wilson, Dawn Foster, Trackside; Jeremy Soulliere, Wilton Villager; Brian Shea, Wilton Bulletin

First Selectman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

A. Consent Agenda

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

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting – September 5, 2006*

* page 3, item 3, 3rd paragraph, 2nd sentence – replace “vacant” with “temporarily unfilled”

* page 6, under Selectmen's report, Wilton Common's – insert “Wilton Commons” before “campaign”

Tax Refunds

- Motor Vehicle tax refunds as outlined in the Tax Collector's memorandum dated September 15, 2006.

Gifts

- One hundred dollars (\$100.00) from Mr. and Mrs. Richard Parry in the memory of Robert Martin to the Fire Department Gift Fund.
- Twenty dollars (\$20.00) from an anonymous donor to the CERT program.

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Trackside

- Presentation and discussion from Trackside Teen Center

Mr. Brennan explained that this is an opportunity for Trackside to discuss their activities, goals and objectives.

Ms. Lilliedahl made a PowerPoint presentation (copies distributed at the meeting).

Mr. Clark expressed interest in reviewing Trackside's financial reports on a quarterly basis with variances to budget numbers indicated.

Ms. Gould asked about the Trackside hours, programs and staffing along with the age group using the facility.

Ms. Lilliedahl responded that Trackside is open on Tuesday and Wednesday's from 3:30 to 7:00 for 7 and 8th graders; Thursday's is for community programs; Friday hours are 3:30-11:00 for high school ages; Saturday's it is open from 7:00-11:00 for high school students. She explained that there are two full-time staff positions and additional per diem staff for special events. Ms. Lilliedahl explained that the 7th and 8th graders are using the facility more than expected and that it is difficult to get juniors and seniors to the events.

Ms. Field stated that Trackside is trying to create positive publicity and is implementing new programs to attract a wide range of students.

Mr. Brennan asked about the utilization of Trackside compared to surrounding towns. Ms. Lilliedahl explained that the directors of the surrounding teen centers meet on a monthly basis to share ideas. She commented that the usage is comparable with 20-30 students in the afternoons and 200-350 students on special event weekend nights. Ms. Lilliedahl stated that the students are getting to the facility by walking, taking a bus from the school or having their parents drop them off.

Ms. Wilson acknowledged the tremendous change and new focus Ms. Lilliedahl has brought to Trackside, along with her ability to improve and expand the programs offered to the teens.

Ms. Field stated that the Board is encouraging the rental of the facility by community organizations during the hours it is not open for teens.

2. Discussion of the Police Department's recommendation for filling the 44th officer position.

Mr. Brennan reminded the Board that this is an authorized position which was not filled two years ago because of the settlement pay for the former Police Chief. He commented that the lead time for a new officer to work independently is approximately nine months.

Mr. Brennan summarized the Board's opinion that it is important to get a recruit into training as soon as possible. Ms. Gould added that public safety is the most important service to the town.

Mr. Brennan proposed that the Selectmen advise the Police Department to hire an officer and ask that they fund it out of their current budget with the understanding that, if necessary, the Police Department can request a supplemental appropriation to cover over budgeted funds related to the 44th officer. Mr. Ketley stated that the Police Chief will do his best to cover the estimated \$24,500 but noted that the budget was already tight and that the funds available should be used for what they were originally budgeted for. Mr. Brennan replied that it is a recognized that this is a "stretch goal" and challenge for the police department. However, the Selectmen would consider a supplemental appropriation 90 days before the end of the fiscal year, if necessary.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Ms. Gould to start the recruitment process for hiring a new officer and that the position would be funded out of the current FY07 budget with the understanding that at least 90 days before the end of the fiscal year, the Police Department can request a supplemental appropriation if needed. Ms. Gould amended the MOTION to have the Police Department request a supplemental appropriation when deemed necessary. The amended MOTION passed unanimously.

3. Discussion on the proposed revised trust agreement for the Retirement Plan for Employees of the Town of Wilton.

Mr. Brennan reminded the Board that at the last Selectmen's meeting, three additional trustees were added.. Mr. Clark questioned if the members of the Board of Selectmen acting as Trustees would require the same posting requirements as the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Taffel responded that Trustee meetings would have to comply with FOIA rules. Mr. Dolan added that per State statute Trustee meetings would require proper publication.

Ms. Palmer recommended that Trustee meetings be scheduled six weeks after the end of the quarter in order to have the latest financial reports. Mr. Clark suggested that the first meeting of the trustees be scheduled prior to November 15. The Selectmen agreed with Mr. Clark and scheduled the initial meeting for October 5. Mr. Brennan stated that the current Retirement Board members, Phil Reinertsen and Bob Duke will also be invited to attend the October 5th meeting.

Ms. Taffel explained that section 5 of the Plan designates the Board of Selectmen as administrators of the plan. She stated that the Selectmen could delegate their authority as administrators to another body if they so choose. Ms. Taffel reported that current responsibility of the trustees is the inventory of the funds and that other duties have not been delegated by the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Kelso stated, and Mr. Clark

agreed, that the trustees should have all the responsibility delegated to them. Mr. Brennan asked Ms. Taffel to revise the document to delegate all the responsibilities of the plan to the trustees. Ms. Taffel cautioned that the Board may want to review the duties of the Selectmen under the plan to make sure that the Selectmen want to give all powers to the trustees. Mr. Brennan stated that the revised document will be added to the October 4th agenda to be voted on and then discussed at the October 5th trustee meeting.

4. Consideration of approving a resolution accepting ownership of LHS optical scan voting machines from the State of Connecticut.

Mr. Brennan announced that Wilton has been selected as one of the 25 municipalities in Connecticut to use the LHS optical scan voting machines and IVS voting systems in this November's election. He stated that there is no cost to the town for the machines and that the training is free.

Mr. Creeth asked to have the Registrar's demonstrate the machines and explain the how the machines will be controlled at an upcoming Selectmen's meeting.

Ms. Taffel commented that the Registrar's have used the machines for absentee ballots and that the equipment is currently being used in other New England states.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Ms. Ayers and unanimously carried to approve a resolution accepting ownership LHS optical scan voting machines from the State of Connecticut.

5. Consideration of approving a resolution accepting ownership of an IVS voting system from the State of Connecticut.

Mr. Brennan explained that the IVS voting system is a phone voting method for the blind and handicapped.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Ms. Ayers and unanimously carried to approve a resolution accepting ownership of an IVS voting system from the State of Connecticut.

6. Consideration of approving a resolution authorizing a lease purchase agreement for the principal amount of \$333,937.95 with Chase Equipment Leasing, Inc. for Board of Education computer equipment.

Mr. Brennan explained that under State Statute, the Board of Education is not authorized to incur debt. He commented that the resolution approves the method of financing, not the procurement.

Mr. Dolan stated that similar resolutions have been approved in the past and that in order for the purchase to be tax exempt, the legislative body must vote on it.

Ms. Gould asked if there was a benefit of paying interest on the purchase rather than buying the equipment outright. Mr. Dolan responded that \$88,000 has been budgeted and that the town will make more on the funds than the 4% interest charge.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Ms. Ayers and unanimously carried to waive the reading of the resolution (attached).

A MOTION was made by Mr. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Clark and unanimously carried to approve a resolution authorizing a lease purchase agreement for the principal amount of \$333,937.95 with Chase Equipment Leasing, Inc. for Board of Education computer equipment.

C. Public Comment

No public comment.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman's Report

Emergency Services Day

Residents are invited to Emergency Services Day on Sunday, September 24 from 11am-3pm at the Town Hall Complex.

Emergency Preparedness Guide

The Emergency Preparedness Guide was mailed to all residents last week. Residents are encouraged to read and take actions on the preparedness suggestions.

Schedule

A schedule outlining upcoming topics for Selectmen meetings was distributed.

State of the Town Address

In mid-November, a State of the Town address will be taped and aired on Channel 79.

Memorial Stadium

A letter to the community outlining the facts of the stadium project was published in last week's newspapers. A status report of the project will be on the website and will be updated periodically.

Route 7

A press release regarding the upcoming project and top priorities was sent to the newspapers. Ms. Lund will be sending out press releases on a regular basis.

2. Selectman's Report

Library Board Representative

Ms. Ayers distributed the resume of Daniel Mahony. Mr. Mahony is interested in filling the vacancy on the Library Board of Trustees. Ms. Ayers and Mr. Clark have already interviewed him. Ms. Lund agreed to set up interviews for Mr. Brennan, Ms. Gould and Mr. Creeth.

Wilton Commons

Mr. Creeth reported that the Wilton Commons Board has met with the Wilton Commons campaign committee. He suggested the Wilton Commons Board update the Selectmen on the progress of the project in the near future. It was agreed that Wilton Commons will be invited to the October 4th Selectmen's meeting.

E. Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Ms. Gould, seconded by Mr. Clark and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Lund
Recording Secretary