

OFFICE OF THE  
FIRST SELECTWOMAN

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BY: LK



Lynne A. Vanderslice  
*First Selectwoman*

Michael P. Kaelin  
*Second Selectman*

David K. Clune  
*Selectman*

Lori A. Bufano  
*Selectwoman*

Richard J. Dubow  
*Selectman*

TOWN HALL  
238 Danbury Road  
Wilton, CT 06897

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY NOVEMBER 20, 2017  
TOWN HALL – MEETING ROOM B**

**PRESENT:** First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, Lori Bufano, Richard Dubow and David Clune  
**ABSENT:** Michael Kaelin (Excused)

**GUESTS:** Peter Connolly, Lt. Gregg Phillipson, Steve Pierce, Deborah McFadden and various members of the public

**OTHERS:** Members of the Press and Members of the Public

**A. Call to Order**

Ms. Vanderslice called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

Ms. Vanderslice made a motion to remove Reappointments from the agenda and replace it with an Eversource update and to add First Selectwoman comments following the Consent agenda Motion moved by Ms. Bufano and seconded by Mr. Clune and unanimously carried

**B. Consent Agenda**

Motion made by Mr. Clune seconded by Ms Bufano and vote carried to approve the consent agenda Board of Selectmen Meeting – November 6, 2017, with Mr. Dubow abstaining

Motion made by Mr Clune seconded by Ms. Bufano and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Refunds

- As per Tax Collector's Memo Dated – November 15, 2017

Gifts

- Margaret Mazer Ogdon Foundation Inc – Social Services - \$3,000
- Lynne Vanderslice-Return of Salary Increase for 4 Months-\$1,418

**C. First Selectwoman Comment:** Ms. Vanderslice recognized Mr. Dubow for his 30 years of service to the community particularly thanking him for his service as a Board of Selectman member over the last two years, noting his through preparedness, his thoughtful input and his historical perspective at meetings. Mr. Dubow received the applause of those in attendance. Mr. Dubow shared he thoughts on his 30 years of service and his appreciation to the community and those with whom he has served

D. Public Comment

As there were a significant number of attendees, Ms. Vanderslice noted that public comment would be limited to two minutes. She asked that those who had previously emailed the Board, limit their public comments to new information

Deborah McFadden spoke to Mr. Dubow's service

Alison Mark spoke in support of pickle ball on the Comstock basketball courts

Johnathan Murphy spoke in support of single use WHS tennis courts

Leslie Gambee spoke in support of multi-use playing courts

Sandra Lee spoke in support of single tennis courts and suggested any decision otherwise should be made by Town meeting, not by a board or commission

Kim Becker provided a historical account of her requests related to pickleball

Lawrence Tucker expressed support for single use WHS courts

Seth Benjamin expressed concern about non-single use of the WHS courts and the Middlebrook courts

Steve Hudspeth, speaking on behalf of Wi-Act expressed support for recent and future community building efforts. Personally Mr. Hudspeth expressed appreciation for Mr. Dubow's service and for the proclamation read at the Veteran's Day observance.

E. Discussion and/or Action

1. Parks & Recreation Update

Peter Connolly, Chair Parks & Recreation Commission provided an update on P&R discussions, actions and decision making surrounding creating access for pickle ball play within Wilton. A summary had been provided to BOS members in advance of the meeting. Lines had been added to the Comstock gym as part of the renovation project. Lines were added to two Middlebrook courts earlier in year. Discussions are underway with the Dr. Smith to add lines to the front, upper parking area at Middlebrook.

The Commission had decided not to grant a request to add lines to the Comstock recently renovated basketball courts and the soon to be completed WHS tennis courts.

The Commission supported the idea of the construction of two single use pickle use courts on town owned land funded by fundraising. The cost for such including fencing was estimated at \$75,000 to \$90,000. Mr. Connolly noted that private fundraising was consistent with the Town's response to other requests for new or upgraded sports facilities.

Mr. Connolly requested that the BOS vote to support the latter and also express support for the decisions made by the Park & Rec Commission as presented.

Ms. Vanderslice noted that a resident had questioned whether the P&R Commission potential votes were properly noted on the P&R 11/8/17 agenda.

After conferring with Town Counsel, Ms. Vanderslice advised the Commission to re-vote their decisions and to amend their agendas to include all items under a heading titled "Discussion and or Action" as is used by the BOS for their agendas. Ms. Vanderslice indicated this did not impact the BOS's ability to consider and act on Mr. Connolly's request.

Questions were asked of Mr. Connolly, Mr. Pierce and Mr. Benjamin, a WHS Boys' JV Tennis team coach.

Motion made by Ms. Vanderslice to support the Park & Recreation Commission recommendation not to install pickle ball lines on the Comstock basketball court and the WHS tennis courts. Seconded by Mr. Clune and unanimously carried.

Ms. Vanderslice noted she opposed the Comstock basketball lines due to their proximity to the Cider Mill recess area and based on discussions held at the

Security Task Force relative to the safety of students while school was in session.

Motion made by Mr. Clune, seconded by Mr. Dubow, carried unanimously to encourage the P&R Commission to explore possible pickleball locations on town property and gauge interest in fundraising for such and to report back to the Board at the P&R budget session in early February.

Motion made by Mr. Clune, seconded by Mr. Dubow, carried unanimously to accept the recommendation of the P&R Commission, subject to approval by Dr. Smith, the BOE and funding, to add pickle ball lines to the upper level parking area at Middlebrook.

Ms. Vanderslice asked the Commission to provide the BOS with an account of the WHS JV tennis teams' experience with the pickle ball lines after next spring season is completed.

Mr. Pierce provided an update on the progress of the installation of the new WHS tennis courts, noting that darker lines will be added in the spring and that residents should not shovel the courts as it results in damage to the surface.

2. Police Department Click it or Ticket Grant

Lt. Gregg Phillipson reviewed the Police Department Click it or Ticket Grant, noting there was no incremental cost to the Town. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Dubow to approve the application for the grant. Motion seconded by Mr. Clune and unanimously carried.

3. Wilton Youth Services Grant

Ms. Vanderslice reviewed the grant application from Wilton Youth Services. She noted that the grant is in the amount of \$4,152 from themed-Fairfield Substance Abuse Coalition and is applied for yearly in partnership with the Wilton Youth Council. After review, a motion was made by Mr. Clune to approve the application for the grant. Motion seconded by Mr. Dubow and unanimously carried.

4. Crown Castle Lease Extension – Transfer Station Cell Tower

Ms. Vanderslice reviewed the proposed Crown Castle Lease Extension for the Cell Tower located at Mather Street by the Transfer Station. Ms. Vanderslice noted that the Lease Extension had been negotiated with and reviewed by Town Counsel. The ten year extension includes: 1-a signing bonus to be paid to the Town of \$125,000. 2-An first year lease payment to the Town of \$180,000, an \$80,000 increase over the current lease. 3-Annual prepayment versus monthly payments as per the current lease. 4-3% annual escalation of the lease payment, versus no escalation in the current lease 5-Mandatory annual inspection of the tower by a CT licensed engineer to be paid for by Crown Castle.

Ms. Vanderslice noted that the original lease provides the Town the option to assume ownership at the end of the lease term. Ms. Vanderslice reviewed the pros and cons of assuming ownership at this point versus the proposed lease extension. Ms. Vanderslice recognized the significant contribution made by Attorney Doug LoMonte of Berchem Moses. After review, motion was made by Mr. Clune to approve the Lease Extension with Crown Castle and authorize the First Selectwoman to sign. Motion seconded by Ms. Bufano and unanimously carried.

5. Public Act No. 17-65: An Act Concerning A Municipal Option Property Tax Exemption for Gold Star Parents and Spouses

Ms. Vanderslice reviewed the new law recently adopted by the state legislature and asked the Selectmen to consider adoption by the BOS at a later date.

6. First Selectwoman's Compensation – Request for Reduction in Salary Equal to Increase Awarded on 12/7/2015

Ms. Vanderslice reviewed a memo pertaining to her Request for Reduction in Salary Equal to Increase Awarded on 12/7/2015. Ms. Vanderslice noted as promised when she was awarded that raise, that she had returned the amount of the award over the last two years totaling \$6,807 and she intended to do so over the balance of her term. She noted that although she returned the amount, the Town was still required to pay \$511 in payroll taxes on the award and would be required to pay the same over the next two years. In addition the town was required to expend labor to process the refund. She recommended so as to avoid the additional \$511 in expense and the additional paperwork, that her compensation be reduced for the amount of the award. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Clune to approve the Request for Reduction in Salary Equal to the Increase Awarded on 12/7/2015. Motion was seconded by Ms. Bufano and unanimously carried, with Ms. Vanderslice abstaining.

7. Expansion of Audio and Video Recording of Board and Commission Meetings

Ms. Vanderslice shared Town Counsel's recommendation that all land use related boards and commissions should at a minimum be audio recorded. Land use boards include Inland Wetlands, ZBA, Conservation and WPCA. Some are not being audio recorded. Ms. Vanderslice also shared requests from residents to video record P&Z meetings and recommended such. Ms. Vanderslice also recommended other boards and commissions be videotaped on a rotating basis to allow residents to better understand the work of the boards. Mr. Dubow expressed concerns about the latter, particularly potential issues which could be raised about subjectivity and inconsistency. After discussion, include the approximate cost of \$10,000, motion made by Mr. Dubow to begin video recordings of Planning and Zoning Commission meetings and audio recording of remaining land use boards and P&R Commission subject to availability of video recording personnel. Seconded by Ms. Bufano, unanimously carried.

8. Eversource Update

Ms. Vanderslice provided an update of a meeting between the WestCog and representatives of Eversource regarding their unacceptable response to wind caused power outages.

F. Reports

1. First Selectwoman's Report

- Ms. Vanderslice read a poem, I Love Wilton written by and sent to her by 9 year old Rory Kepner, a Cider Mill 4<sup>th</sup> grader. Ms. Vanderslice expressed her delight and thanks to Rory.
- Ms. Vanderslice noted the attached memo prepared by the Tree Committee regarding tree health in Wilton.
- Ms. Vanderslice noted the annual visit to Town Hall by Miller Driscoll second graders. Students are typically curious about the two flags in her office. On student from Ms. P's called inquired about a Wilton flag. Ms. Vanderslice noted to her knowledge there was not such a thing and encourage the class

to design a flag to be hung on the wall with the two flags. To her surprise she received 43 flags and welcomed all to view them at her office.

- Ms. Vanderslice thanked the Wilton Football Boosters Association for the Community Bonfire
- Ms. Vanderslice thanked Wilton Police, Fire, DPW, WVAC and CERT for their response to the previous windstorm and last night's storm.
- Ms. Vanderslice noted a previously indicated a meeting of community leaders was held on November 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting. It was a very good start to efforts to increase human connections within the community. A second and expanded meeting to follow.

## 2. Selectmen's Reports

Mr. Clune expressed his gratitude to Mr. Dubow, noting he was the first town official he met when moving to Wilton as a child.

He expressed his congratulations to Ms. Bufano on her re-election and to Ms. McFadden on her election to the board.

Mr. Clune thanked the Wilton Football Boosters for the community bonfire. He noted that the event was a good example of how the Town worked with an organization to bring their idea to fruition, noting that the Boosters were not successful in organizing the event for Homecoming, but with the assistance of the Town the event was able to be held three weeks later.

Mr. Clune also spoke to the Veteran's Day Services he attended.

Ms. Bufano expressed her gratitude to Mr. Dubow. She also noted she had attended the bonfire and considered it a successful event. She attended the Miller Driscoll Open House sponsored by the BOE and the MDBC, noting that it was very well attended (300 attendees) and attendees responses were very positive.

Mr. Dubow thanked the membership for their kind words. He inquired about the status of the DPW Director search. Ms. Vanderslice responded that additional applications had been received since the last update. Interviews begin in early December.

## G. Public Comment

Ms. Becker, Alison Mark and Leslie Gambia provided additional comments about access to pickle ball courts. Ms. Vanderslice stated the BOS is committed to finding options for more courts. She also stated she would discuss the Comstock basketball court with the Security Task Force.

## H. Executive Session

Motion made by Mr. Clune to enter into Executive Session at 9:35PM for discussion of Lease Negotiations-Review of Financial Information Given in Confidence as per Sec1-210-(5)-B and to invite incoming Selectwoman Deborah McFadden. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bufano and unanimously carried.

Out of Executive Session at 9:55PM

I. Adjournment

Having no further business, Ms. Vanderslice asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Mr. Dubow to adjourn meeting at 9:56PM Motion was seconded by Mr. Clune and unanimously carried.

Next Meeting – December 4, 2017

Lynne Vanderslice  
Acting as Recording Secretary