

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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

Email to: Bill.Brennan@Wiltonct.org



William F. Brennan
First Selectman

Harold E. Clark
Second Selectman

Ted W. Hoffstatter

Richard J. Dubow

James A. Saxe

TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2012
MEETING ROOM B, WILTON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: First Selectman Bill Brennan, Hal Clark, Richard Dubow, James Saxe, Ted Hoffstatter

GUESTS: Sandy Dennies, Rep. Gail Lavielle, Michael Lindberg, Chief Paul Milositz, Deputy Police Chief Bob Crosby, Tom Thirkettle, Jan Andras

OTHERS: Joan Lownds (Bulletin), Matt Kiernan (Villager)

Mr. Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

A. Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Mr. Clark, the consent agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes – October 22, 2012

Tax Refunds

- Motor Vehicle and Property Tax Refunds as per Tax Collector's Memo of 10/31/12

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Norwalk River Valley Trail Update

Mr. Clark stated that some citizens have raised legitimate concerns and questions. A draft of answers was prepared which Mr. Lindberg then presented (attached).

2. Capital Improvement Projects – Status Report

Mr. Brennan reported that Hoffman Architects has completed the report for the Middlebrook School and Comstock roofs. This will be distributed as soon as it is available. Hoffman and Turner Construction will both produce cost estimates.

Of the five firms submitting a response to the RFP, the two finalists were interviewed this morning. We are now waiting to see if these firms have any amendments or changes to offer. The steering committee will make a decision on 11/29.

The Miller Driscoll Forensic Evaluation report is complete and was forwarded to the Board of Selectmen, to review before discussing at the 12/3/12 regular meeting. The steering committee recommends the appointment of a building committee early enough to be involved in selection of the architect.

3. Hurricane Sandy and Nor'easter Storm Report

Mr. Brennan has prepared an Op Ed piece for the newspapers (attached). Fire Chief Paul Milositz then gave a presentation on the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), which was opened before the storm began and was manned by the heads of DPW, Police, Fire, EMS, Parks & Grounds, Finance, Social Services and CERT. Both Mr. Brennan and Chief Milositz stressed that there is still a problem with CL&P not providing the Town or their customers with enough information during outages. This will be addressed in follow-up meetings with CL&P managers. Residents are also urged to visit the Town website to sign up for Code Red messages via home phone, cell phone and/or text message address. Emergency messages are also sent out on Facebook and Twitter.

4. 2012/2013 Comprehensive DUI Grant

Deputy Chief Bob Crosby explained the Comprehensive DUI Grant, which the town receives each year (attached). Mr. Brennan moved to approve the application for the 2013 Comprehensive DUI Grant. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

Deputy Chief Crosby explained that as of 1/1/14, local police departments must install video recording devices in their interrogation rooms. Wilton is eligible to apply for \$18,327.70 in grant funds to purchase video recording equipment, with no cost obligation to the Town. Mr. Dubow moved to approve the application for the OPM PVET Grant in the amount of \$18,327.70. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

5. 2013 BOS Meetings Schedule

Mr. Brennan moved to approve the 2013 Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule (attached). Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

6. FY 14 Budget Meeting Schedule

The proposed budget meeting schedule was received by the Selectmen.

7. Miscellaneous Other Business

Wolfpit Road Sewer Extension – Mr. Thurkettle reported that the project is about 40% completed and expected to be completed on time, even though there was a two week period during the storm when work was halted.

Yankee Gas – Mr. Brennan, Mr. Thurkettle, Mr. Nerney and Mr. Bernhard will be attending a meeting tomorrow in Berlin to discuss the proposed gas line extension.

D. Reports

1. First Selectman's Report:

Mr. Brennan reminded that any member of this board, when commenting on any town business, should preface their remarks with "Speaking personally and not for the Board of Selectmen".

2. Selectmen Reports –

Mr. Saxe – The Town-Wide Network Committee voted to approve the report from Blum Shapiro and to recommend that the Town move forward with the fiber-optic project.

Mr. Hoffstatter – Thank you to the Chamber of Commerce for the recent dinner held with Governor Malloy as guest speaker. Mr. Hampson and Ms. Bertkau of Go Green will be meeting with the Chamber and local markets to get ideas for how to increase the usage of re-usable shopping bags.

Mr. Clark – No report

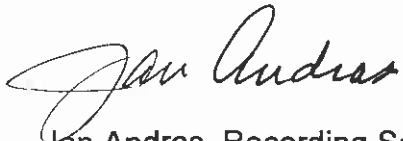
Mr. Dubow – No report

E. Executive Session

Mr. Clark moved to enter executive session to discuss the First Selectman's performance and compensation and to invite Sarah Taffel to attend. Motion seconded and unanimously carried. Mr. Brennan left the meeting at this time.

Meeting entered executive session at 9:15 pm and returned to open session at 9:45 pm. Mr. Clark moved to increase the First Selectman salary by 2.5% effective 12/1/12. Motion seconded and carried: 3 YES – 1 NO (Hoffstatter)

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jan Andras". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jan" and last name "Andras" clearly distinguishable.

Jan Andras, Recording Secretary

Attachments:

Norwalk River Valley Trail
Comprehensive DUI Grant
2013 BOS meeting Schedule

Draft Response to Residents Concerning NRV T Questions - 11/19/12

1. Liability: According to guidance from our representative at HD Segur, it is likely that DOT will require the town will carry an Owner's Contractor Policy as it does on other land of others under its control, i.e. Allen's Meadows fields. According to HD Segur, this could cost approximately \$2,000 a year.

In areas where the trail traverses private land, the underlying instrument facilitating that allowance, such as an easement, will dictate additional insurance needs. If the town is able to purchase the land for the trail, as opposed to purchasing an easement, then our existing insurance policies would be utilized.

2. Real Estate Disclosure: As discussed with Wilton's town counsel, planning documents, such as the NRV T Routing Study do not compel disclosure in association with house listings. The trail is still in a conceptual stage, lacking a true definition. In the end, it would be up to the homeowner and listing agent's professional judgment whether or not to disclose this potential.
3. Maintenance: A public-private partnership has been the vision of the trails operation and the relationship and responsibilities are likely to be dynamic. The maintenance responsibilities will be determined as each section is defined and will be subject to change as time moves forward. For instance, the potential exists to have limited maintenance early on, i.e. no snow removal or, if this service was being provided it may be cut if fiscal constraints warrant. The role of the Friends of the NRV T is likely to evolve as the trail gains strength enabling a stronger private role in management. This role will consist of fundraising, repairs, work party organization, etc.
4. Depiction of trail: The consultant was charged with the task of evaluating various trail alignments based on broad-scale, objective criteria. The criteria included, among others, links to destinations, visibility and access, economic development, property acquisition, permitting requirements, ease of construction, and cost. The various alternatives were scored and ranked in order to make a recommendation. Given that this is a study not a design plan, at the time of design the recommendation will be assessed and potentially reworked pending assessment of community-specific considerations that could not be evaluated previously and/or objectively by the consultant.

In the case of the section through Thunder Lake, subjective criteria, such as neighborhood concern was made known prior to the publication of the report. Consequently, the linkage between Weir Farm and DOT land is shown as a boxed area with no alignment on the large scale map used for displays and dashed on the small scale map in the report and on the website. Both have the notation that the alignment has yet to be determined. No individual property or properties are identified to bridge this gap.

5. Funding: The intent is to fund the trail with public and private grants. None of the municipalities are envisioned as a primary source of funds given the current economic climate. If in the future funds are sought from the town, such a request would be fully evaluated as is standard operating procedure in the budget request process.

6. Communication with area property owners: The individual municipalities and the implementation committee will continue vigorous community-wide communications. Additionally, as the efforts to move from concept to design on any given section, neighborhood meetings will be convened to inform and respond to residents.
7. Safety: The leading resource for statistics associated with trails similar to the NRVT is the Rails-to Trails Conservancy. A 1998 report states that only 3% of all trails had any record of major crime, i.e. mugging, assault, and 25% of trails had minor crimes, i.e. graffiti, sign damage. Law enforcement respondents confirmed that trails do not increase crime, with many stating crime is lower on well used trails. Other studies, such as in Florida and Seattle, confirmed that trails do not uniquely attract crime, they are no more unsafe than other public spaces, and their crime rate reflects that of the surrounding area.

Wilton Police Department



240 Danbury Road
Wilton, Connecticut 06897
Tel: (203) 834-6260
Fax: (203) 834 6258

Summary Explanation
For
2013 Comprehensive DUI Grant



On October 17, 2012, the 2013 Comprehensive DUI Grant was submitted for signature which reflected a total funds of \$51,800.00, of which the Town of Wilton would be responsible for 25%, \$13,000.00 and Federal Government, 75% at \$ 38,800.00. The grant consisted of 2 Sobriety Checkpoints (November 21, 2012 and September 6, 2012), Thanksgiving Holiday, Super Bowl Weekend, St. Patrick's Day, Memorial Day, July Fourth and Labor Day Weekends. This grant was to be presented to CT DOT 15 days prior to the target date listed on the grant which began November 15, 2012.

Due to Hurricane Sandy and the postponement of the Selectman's Monthly Meeting, it was not possible to obtain the required authorization for the grant to be forwarded to the Department of Transportation for approval for a start date of November 15, 2012. Therefore, the dates to the current grant have been modified from that in the packet sent to the Board of Selectman and Finance. The current grant packet eliminates the Sobriety Checkpoint on November 21, 2012 and Thanksgiving Holiday patrols. The grant does reflect an addition to the December schedule including the weekend of December 13-15, 2012.

The 2013 Comprehensive DUI Grant now reflects the total funds of \$39,900.00, of which the Town of Wilton is responsible for 25%, \$10,000.00 and Federal Government, 75% at \$29,900.00. The savings to the Town of Wilton is \$3,000.00.

Report Submitted By:

Lieutenant Stephen Brennan

OPM PVET Grant

(Interrogation Video Recorder)

B

By January 1, 2014, local police departments must install video recording technology in their interrogation rooms. (Public Act 11-174 *An Act Concerning the Electronic Recording of Interrogations*). The **State Office of Policy and Management** is providing grant funds to assist towns with implementing PA 11-174.

The **Town of Wilton** is eligible to apply for **\$18,327.70** in grant funds to purchase video recording equipment for the police department. This is a "**one-time**" funding opportunity. There will be no additional funds in the future to assist towns in complying with PA 11-174. Towns must have the video recording technology as specified within the Public Act or risk the loss of the interrogation in court.

There is no cost obligation to the Town of Wilton.

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TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
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November 5, 2012

TO: Board of Selectmen

FROM: Jan Andras

RE: 2013 Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule

Below is the proposed 2013 Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule for your review and approval. Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. in Town Hall Meeting Room B:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY OF WEEK</u>	<u>REASON</u>
January 7	Monday	
January 22	Tuesday	Town offices closed Mon., 1/21 (MLK Day)
February 4	Monday	
February 19	Tuesday	Town offices closed Mon., 2/18 (Presidents)
March 4	Monday	
March 18	Monday	
April 1	Monday	
April 15	Monday	
May 6	Monday	
May 20	Monday	
June 3	Monday	
June 17	Monday	
July 1	Monday	
July 15	Monday	
August 5	Monday	
August 19	Monday	
September 3	Tuesday	Town offices closed Mon., 9/2 (Labor Day)
September 16	Monday	
October 7	Monday	
October 21	Monday	
November 4	Monday	
November 18	Monday	
December 2	Monday	
December 16	Monday	