

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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William F. Brennan
First Selectman

Susan A. Bruschi
Second Selectman

Richard F. Creeth

Harold E. Clark

Ted W. Hoffstatter

TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2011
MEETING ROOM B, WILTON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: First Selectman Bill Brennan, Selectman Susan Bruschi, Selectman Richard Creeth, Selectman Hal Clark, Selectman Ted Hoffstatter

GUESTS: Sandy Dennies, Sarah Taffel, Dick Dubow, approximately 12 residents, Jan Andras

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

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SCENIC ROAD DESIGNATION
Wampum Hill Road**

First Selectman Brennan called the public hearing to order at 7:30 p.m. by welcoming those in attendance. He advised that after receiving the application for scenic road designation, the Board of Selectmen had requested input from the Conservation Commission, Planning & Zoning, Fire Department, Police Department, DPW and Ambulance, as per Charter requirement. After receiving all of the responses, the Board of Selectmen set the date for this public hearing and provided the required legal notices. This hearing is to hear public input before making a final decision. That action is included on the agenda for the regular meeting to be held following this hearing.

Mr. Robert Belknap, 11 Wampum Hill Road stated that the road is in a corner of Wilton that has retained part of its 19th century charm. He believes the town should do whatever possible to preserve what is there now.

Mr. Christopher Plummer, Wampum Hill Road, stated that he bought his house in 1981 at the end of the road, next to the land trust property. There were only 4-5 houses at that time but there has been more built. He is looking for anything to preserve the rural aspect of this road.

Ms. Louise Belknap Carter, Wampum Hill Road, would like to see the road kept as it is today.

Ms. Barbara Piazza, 37 Wampum Hill Road stated that this is not a straight road. It has curves and goes into a single lane towards the end. It fits the description of "scenic".

Ms. Barbara Belknap, has lived on the road for 78 years. There is a lot of wildlife in the area that might disappear if the road becomes a highway at some point in the future.

Mr. David Carter agrees that the wildlife there today requires the conditions as they exist now.

Hearing no further comment, the public hearing was closed at 7:45 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

The regular meeting was then called to order.

A. Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Mr. Clark, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

Minutes

- Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes – September 19, 2011

Tax Refunds

- Motor Vehicle Tax Refunds (overpayments) as per Tax Collector's Memo dated September 27, 2011

Gifts

- Donation of \$501 by the Georgetown Lions Club to the Parks & Recreation Department
- Donation of \$2,000 by the SW CT Agency on Aging to Wilton Social Services (one time allocation from Board of Directors' Community Investment Fund)
- Donation of \$800 by Wilton Meadows to the Senior Center Newsletter
- Donations to Senior Center - \$150 Wilton PBA Association; \$250 Mercy Home Care of CT; \$250 Realty Seven, Inc.; \$150 Cathy Howard FMCH Inc.; \$250 Fairfield Healthcare Services; \$250 Assisted Living Assoc.; \$150 Karen Rasmussen

Everyone recognized here was thanked for their generous gifts. The gifts to the Senior Center are especially appreciated.

B. Discussion and/or Action

1. Interpretation of CT General Statute §10-153d – Teachers Contract
Mr. Brennan distributed written copies of the final legal opinion. The Board of Ed counsel, the Town's labor counsel and Town Attorney Ken Bernhard have all reached a consensus on this opinion. Selectmen members will review this and discuss further at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.
2. Report on grants obtained by Town
Ms. Dennies distributed a list of Grants obtained by the Town of Wilton (attached).
3. Application for Scenic Road Designation – Wampum Hill Road
The comments and opinions have been received from all department, boards and commissions, and from the public hearing held prior to this meeting, as per the Scenic Road Ordinance.

After discussion, the Selectmen members felt that the road is a beautiful scenic road worthy of preserving, and has the support of almost all town departments, boards and commissions. However, it should be pointed out that it does not quite meet the ½ mile requirement. The Selectmen feel that is not a substantive reason to deny the application, as all other requirements have been met and residents in the area are highly supportive. The road is currently in a safe and passable condition and meets the following designation criteria: bordered by many mature trees, historic houses and stone walls. It offers scenic views and blends naturally into the surrounding terrain. Mr. Brennan moved to approve Scenic Road designation for Wampum Hill Road. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

4. Wilton Commons – Contingency Planning
Mr. Brennan advised that progress meetings are now being held every two weeks with town officials and Wilton Commons representatives. HMA feels confident that it will be closing with CHFA in the middle of November. However, we should be prepared in the event that something unforeseen occurs that requires a later closing date, making it necessary to extend the current Option-Lease expiration date of December 6, 2011. He read a statement outlining Contingency Plans (attached).
5. Contract between Town of Wilton and The Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Fairfield County
Ms. Bruschi moved to authorize First Selectman William F. Brennan to sign the Contract between the town of Wilton and The Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Fairfield County. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

6. Miscellaneous Other business

Hurricane Irene – At a debriefing meeting with the Police, Fire and Department of Public Works, a list was prepared outlining what was done well and what could have been done better during the storm aftermath. A public information meeting was then held on 9/26 with CL&P representatives in attendance to answer questions. This meeting was also televised. Legislative hearings will be continuing. This week, another operations committee meeting will be held to discuss implementation of some of the suggestions received.

C. Public Comment: None noted

D. Reports

1. First Selectman's Report :

Household Hazardous Waste – Residents can bring household hazardous waste to the Miller-Driscoll School on 10/29/11.

Special Meetings – The Board of Selectmen will hold a special meeting on 10/20/11 to discuss Senior Tax Relief and on 11/2/11 to discuss Economic Development.

Merwins Meadow Pond – The necessary permits have been obtained to dredge the pond in mid-October. We have applied for FEMA funding, which if approved, would cover 80% of the cost.

Soles 4 Souls – Letter from Town Attorney Ken Bernhard attached.

2. Selectmen Reports

Ms. Bruschi: No report.

Mr. Hoffstatter: Received the monthly Trackside report and will send it to the other Selectmen.

Mr. Clark: The Selectmen had discussed setting an example for residents by having an energy audit at their homes as a part of the Neighbor-to-Neighbor initiative of the Wilton Energy Commission. This would be the time to begin the process.

Mr. Creeth: No report

E. Adjournment: Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Jan Andras, Recording Secretary

attachments



October 3, 2011

To: Bill Brennan, First Selectman

From: Sandra L. Dennies, CFO

Re: Grants Obtained by the Town of Wilton

The Town of Wilton competes on a Federal and State basis for grants to assist Wilton in project implementation. Competitive Grants (those grants for which a grant submission is required to obtain the funds) were sought in 2010 and audited. In 2011 funds were sought and are currently being audited. , Federal Grants the Town received through a competitive application were the following:

Alcohol Traffic Safety	\$ 5,128
Safety Planning and Construction	2,124
Alcohol Open Container Requirements	4,920
Highway Planning and Construction	112
Emergency Management Performance	2,963
Citizen Corps	400
Bioterrorism	62,475
Preventive Health Services Block Grant	2,281
Public Health Emergency Prep	18,239
Public Health Emergency Response	21,509
ARRA-Justice Assistance Grant	22,500

FY 10 Total Competitive Federal Grants Awarded to the Town: \$142,651

From the total, the State Grants awarded the Town through an application process were as follows:

Youth Services Bureau	\$ 14,000
Youth Services Bureau Enhancement	6,250
Property Tax Relief for Manufacturing Machinery and Equipment	249,136
Property Tax Relief for Elderly and Totally Disabled Homeowners	44,600
Property Tax Relief for Veterans	2,741
LoCIP	111,703
Property Tax Relief	

Historic Documents Preservation	5,000
Recreational Trails	1,200
School Security Competitive Grant	17,096
Law Enforcement & Terrorism Prevention Grant	40,000

FY 10 Total Competitive State Grants Awarded the Town: \$491,961

Grand Total Federal and State Awards the Town Received FY 2010: \$634,612 out of \$4,998,060 total grant funds to the Town of Wilton or 12.7% of our funds are from competitive grants awards.

FY 2011 competitive awards (unaudited):

Homeland Security Grant	\$55,000	
Lead Poisoning	5,002	
Homeland Security Grant	60,000	
Homeland Security Grant	60,000	
ARRA Municipal Energy Grant	76,295	
LHD Unintentional Injury Prevention program	1,141	
Public Health Preparedness	36,478	
JAG Local Pass Through project	30,000	
Norwalk River Valley Trail	180,000	⌞
Dept of Health Block Grant	2,282	
Ambler Farm STEAP Grant	250,000	
Bald Hill Bridge	654,160	
Lyme Disease	25,638	
Firefighter Training programs	158,384	
Police DUI Enforcement	15,673	
Police Ballistic Vest	4,760	
FEMA	30,105	
FEMA	30,211	
Dial A Ride	25,368	
LoCIP	111,998	
Youth Services	14,000	
Prop Tax Relief MFG&Equip	247,801	
Elderly & Disabled	56,524	
Veterans	2,822	
Historic documents	3,500	
	2,137,141	

Total Federal and State awards made through the grant application process were \$2,137,141 unaudited

WILTON COMMONS
CONTINGENCY PLANS

October 3, 2010

In the event that an unforeseen issue occurs that could require a later closing date with CHFA, I believe it is necessary that the Town of Wilton have a contingency plan to seek an extension of the current Option-to-Lease expiration date of December 6, 2011.

A Special Town Meeting would be required to vote on a referendum to extend the current expiration date.

If such an issue developed, I would advise the Board of Selectmen, at the regular scheduled meeting of November 7, 2011. Representatives from Wilton Commons and Mutual Housing Association would attend this meeting and review all the administrative approvals obtained to date. The issue(s) that are causing a delayed closing would also be presented, including the expected dates of final resolution for each issue.

A motion to call a Special Town Meeting (STM) would then be made to hold the STM on Thursday, December 1, 2011 to extend the Option-to-Lease six months to June 1, 2012 to allow adequate time to complete the last remaining items.

William F. Brennan

HERBERT L. COHEN
(1928-1983)

AUSTIN K. WOLF
RICHARD L. ALBRECHT
JONATHAN S. BOWMAN
IRVING J. KERN
STEWART I. EDELSTEIN
NEIL R. MARCUS
G. KENNETH BERNHARD
DAVID L. GROGINS
GRETA E. SOLOMON
ROBIN A. KAHN
RICHARD SLAVIN
DANIEL S. NAGEL
RICHARD J. DI MARCO
DAVID B. ZABEL
MARK A. KIRSCH
DAVID M. LEVINE
JOSEPH G. WALSH
DAVID A. BALL
JOCELYN B. HURWITZ
STUART M. KATZ
MONTE E. FRANK
PATRICIA C. SULLIVAN
VINCENT M. MARINO
JULIE D. KOHLER
ARI J. HOFFMAN
COURTNEY A. GEORGE
BARBARA M. SCHELLENBERG
JANE L. HARNESSE
JESSE A. LANGER
RACHEL A. PENCU
JASON A. BUCHSBAUM
L. JOYELLE DEFELICE
LAUREN G. WALTERS
DAVID M. MOROSAN
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MARTIN F. WOLF

PLEASE REPLY TO WESTPORT
WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL: (203) 341-5312
E-MAIL ADDRESS: kbernhard@cohenandwolf.com

1ST SELECTMANS OFFICE

JUL 11 2011

June 8, 2011

William Brennan, First Selectman
Town of Wilton
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, Connecticut 06897

RE: Soles4Souls

Dear Bill:

I want to thank you for your willingness, on behalf of the Town, to assist in the collection efforts for Soles4Souls. During the past five weeks, the citizens of Wilton have helped to accumulate and donate one of the largest single donations of shoes received by the organization. The Town can be very proud, and I wanted to be certain that you were aware of same.

Again, thank you for your help.

Best wishes.

Very truly yours,



G. Kenneth Bernhard

GKB/rb