OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

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

Email to: Selectman@Wiltonct.org



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 REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2010 WILTON TOWN HALL, ROOM B

PRESENT: First Selectman William Brennan, Second Selectman Susan Bruschi,

Selectman Richard Creeth, Selectman Hal Clark, Selectman Ted

Hoffstatter

GUESTS: Sandra Dennies, Pat Sesto, Tom Thurkettle, Sean O'Toole, Stephanie

Barksdale, Karen Strickland, Bob McDowell, Jan Andras

OTHERS: Kara O'Connor (Villager), Wilton Patch, The Daily Wilton

First Selectmen 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 of 8/02

Tax Refunds

- Real Estate and Motor Vehicle as per Tax Collector Memo 8/11/10
- Real Estate and Motor Vehicle as per Tax Collector Memo 8/30/10
- Real Estate and Motor Vehicle as per Tax Collector Memo 9/2/10
- Motor Vehicle as per Tax Collector Memo 9/2/10

Gifts

- Donation of \$800 from The Greens to the Senior Center Newsletter
- Donation of \$500 from Lions Club to Parks & Recreation

B. Discussion and/or Action

Norwalk River Valley Trail – National Recreation Trails Program Grant

Pat Sesto, Director of Environmental Affairs has been very involved in this multi town effort, including Wilton, Redding, Ridgefield, Norwalk and Danbury. A \$180,000 grant has been approved to fund a study for this 27 mile trail from Norwalk to Danbury. A press conference will be held next week to announce the approval of the funds. The National Park Service is also providing a technical grant to assist with the project.

2. Presentation on "Get Movin', Get Healthy"

Stephanie Barksdale, Karen Strickland and Bob McDowell then gave a presentation on the September 11, 2010 kick-off of "Get Movin', Get Healthy", a program to help prevent childhood obesity. This program is being funded by a \$52,000 grant.

Approval of 2011 Town Hall Employees Paid Holiday Schedule
Ms. Bruschi moved to approve the 2011 Town Hall Employees Paid
Holiday Schedule, as attached. Motion seconded and unanimously
carried.

4. Approval of Resolution to authorize FS to sign Wire Transfer Agreement – The Wilton Bank

Sandy Dennies advised that the Town has two accounts with The Wilton Bank and the resolution is necessary in order to change the signatories to reflect the recent change in Treasurer. Mr. Clark moved to approve the Resolution authorizing the First Selectman to sign the Wire Transfer Agreement with The Wilton Bank. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

6. Miscellaneous Other Business

<u>Update on current projects</u> - First Selectman has prepared an OP ED article that is being sent to the local media, in order to give the residents an update on the projects in Town. Copy attached. Mr. Clark thanked Mr. Brennan for the work he has done to convince the DOT to improve and re-open the Wilton Train Station.

<u>Bus Barn Fuel Tank</u> – In late August, it was discovered that the underground diesel fuel tank at the bus barn was leaking. The matter was handled capably by town and schools personnel. The tank and contaminated soils have been removed and a new aboveground tank will be installed. Once final costs are known, a special appropriation will be necessary to cover this unexpected expense. Sean O'Toole advised that we will need to monitor the ground water for a least a year.

C. Public Comment - None present at this time

D. Reports

1. First Selectman's Report :

<u>Hurricane Season</u> – The Emergency Preparedness Guide is on the Town website. All residents should be prepared. During the most recent storm, some homes were without power for 4-5 days.

2. Selectmen Reports

Mr. Creeth: The Wilton Energy Commission will be meeting this week and plan to "re-invigorate". They will be seeking new volunteers.

Mr. Clark: In 1973, a police fund was established which he has been administering on behalf of the PD. Recently \$30,000 from that fund was transferred into a town account. He is working on structuring the use of those funds.

Mr. Hoffstatter: On 9/20, we will be holding the informational meeting on the re-usable bags proposal at 7:00 pm at the Library.

Ms. Bruschi: No report

E. Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Jan Andras, Recording Secretary

Att: OP ED article

2011 Employee Holiday Schedule

Welcome Back

By now, most Wilton vacationers are back in town, kids dutifully back in school and fall event notices are streaming in to fill our collective calendars.

The pace in town is quickening, and therefore, it is timely to update the community on a number of Wilton projects and some exciting events on the horizon.

Let's start with the renovation of the Wilton train station. I am pleased to report that work continues on schedule. The state's contractor started work in mid June and should be completely finished by the end of October. Old buildings present many renovation challenges and the Wilton station is not an exception. Nevertheless, the contractor has made steady progress and is essentially on schedule.

When dealing with the Connecticut Department of Transportation, it is best to be conservative when passing on DOT project completion dates! In early June, I communicated to the community that two very visible major projects at the busy intersection of Routes 7 and 33 were scheduled to start in the summer and would be finished by early fall! Unfortunately, problems arose that scuttled earlier start up dates!

Both projects were complicated by design or utility issues, which required more design/engineering time. Excavation work at the Crossways project area for utility modifications have started and should take approximately two weeks, which will be followed by construction of the new retaining wall and sidewalk in front of the shopping center. Work hopefully will be completed by the contractor by the end of November.

The second project, completion of structural maintenance on the Route 33 bridge over the train station, is now scheduled to start in late September and should be completed by late December. These are best estimates of completion dates from the project manager, as the DOT wants to be finished with the Route 7 widening project completely by year end.

The Town has also been very busy this summer. While the economy is gradually improving, progress is forecast to be slow. Therefore, we continue to be economically vigilant and have focused on budgeted facilities maintenance and projects supported by grants or private donations.

A capital project was approved last year to prevent further deterioration of the Townowned Marvin Tavern and the little yellow house at 415 Danbury Road. Architectural and structural design plans were required to insure proper restoration of these buildings, so that they may eventually be leased to residential tenants and once again provide a steady stream of rental income to the Town of Wilton.

The little yellow house, known as the "Ebenezer Bennett House", one of Wilton's oldest residences, also required substantial maintenance work. When interior renovations have been completed, the exterior of both houses will be power washed and painted, completing the project. Fortunately, the work this summer has proceeded on schedule and costs have been less than budgeted estimates. And lastly, work began in July on the stabilization and structural repair of the Raymond Ambler house and is progressing on schedule, funded partially from a \$250,000 Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grant.

After the DOT finished their clean up and grading of the sides of the Route 7 roadway, the deteriorated support wall in front of the Town Hall was able to be repaired in late August. The wall had crumbled in several places, weakening the adjacent lawn areas. This budgeted maintenance project, which had been deferred several years due to Route 7 construction work, has now enabled lawn maintenance work to also be completed.

As you may have noticed, site work started in mid-August to construct the Veterans' Memorial Green Project in Wilton Center. The memorial monuments and flagpole have been ordered and our objective is to have the project completely finished by November 11th, Veterans Day. Fundraising has also made steady progress. Over \$55,000 has been contributed by more than 300 individuals, schools and organizations. However, due to vacations in August, contributions slowed. We still need to raise about \$15,000 more and I encourage all citizens, veterans and businesses to please consider a donation to support this worthy project.

On September 11th, there will be a memorial service at 10:00 a.m. at the Wilton Fire Station. All citizens are invited to attend this ceremony that honors the individuals who perished at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Later in the day, there will be another exciting event in the Town Center. "Celebrate Wilton". This is a community wide event supported by the Wilton Family Y, the Town of Wilton, the Chamber of Commerce, the Teen Center and the Wilton Schools. The objective is to promote a healthy Wilton by encouraging citizens of all ages to walk, jog, bike or stroll on a regular basis. Kicking off the celebrations at noon, a Family Bicycle Parade will start from Allen's Meadow and continue to Wilton Center. All bikers are welcome. Many other events are scheduled that promote fitness, exercising and healthy living. In summary, Wilton Center will be jumping from noon to 2:00 p.m. with music, fun events for kids and various demonstrations. Come one — come all!

That's the latest news on the Town's projects and events! Welcome back Wiltonians.

Bill Brennan, First Selectman

September 3, 2010

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TOWN HALL 238 Danbury Road Wilton, CT 06897

September 7, 2010

TO:

Board of Selectmen

FROM:

Jan Andras

RE:

2011 Proposed Town Hall Employees Paid Holiday Schedule

Below is a proposed 2011 Town Hall Employee Paid Holiday Schedule for your review and approval:

HOLIDAY

New Year's Day

Friday, December 31 (New Years falls on Saturday)

Martin Luther King Day

Monday, January 17

Presidents Day

Monday, February 21

Good Friday

Friday, April 22

Memorial Day

Monday, May 30

Independence Day

Monday, July 4

Labor Day

Monday, September 5

Columbus Day

Monday, October 10

Veterans Day

Friday, November 11

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 24 Friday, November 25

Day after Thanksgiving

riday, November 25

Christmas

Monday, December 26 (Christmas Day is on Sunday)