## 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 REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2009 WILTON TOWN HALL, ROOM B

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

Creeth, Selectman Hal Clark, Selectman Ted Hoffstatter

GUESTS: Sandra Dennies, Warren Serenbetz (BOF), Gail Lavielle (BOF), Assessor David

Lisowski, Judy Zucker, Jerry Holdridge, Chuck Cunningham, Toni Wiseman,

Joseph Equale, Michael Lindberg, Jan Andras, approximately 20 residents

OTHERS: Joan Lounds (Bulletin), Kara O'Connor (Villager), Christian Camarota (Patch.com)

Mr. Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and moved to add to the agenda, a resolution for approval of a grant application by the Police Department and also the election of a Second Selectman. Unanimously carried.

### A. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Clark, seconded and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

#### **Minutes**

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting, November 7, 2009

#### Tax Refunds

 Personal Property and Motor Vehicle Tax Refunds as per Tax Collector's Memorandum dated 1/20/09

#### B. Discussion and/or Action

1. <u>Elderly and Disabled Tax Relief Committee Report and Recommendations</u>
Tax Relief Committee members Judy Zucker (Chairman), Toni Wiseman,
Church Cunningham, Joe Equale, Jerry Holdridge, and David Lisowski were
present.

Ms. Zucker gave a summary of the written report that was distributed to the Selectmen. The committee is recommending a "needs based" program because they feel that the program should provide relief to those who need it most. Mr. Holdridge then described the new formula being recommended to determine income and the amount of tax credit. They also feel that the deferral plan has been historically underutilized and believe that the changes being recommended will increase participation.

The committee members were thanked for their hard work and for submitting this comprehensive report. The Selectmen will now spend some time reading the report and putting together a list of questions before beginning discussions. The complete report will be available to the public on the town website beginning tomorrow. Members of the public then asked to speak.

Mr. Michael Graupner, 91 Signal Hill Road feels that this represents a minimal improvement to the existing program. The seniors were vocal about programs they believe would be more viable but the Tax Relief Committee were "handcuffed" by the charge they were given. There is a need to "take on the school lobby in the town".

Mr. Ken Dartley, 87 Olmstead Hill Road is happy that the report recommends looking at keeping seniors in town. He feels there should be a permanent committee looking out for seniors and making suggestions when appropriate.

Mr. Frank Dunn, Horseshoe Road feels that we need to compare the costs that will occur if seniors leave town to what it would cost to keep them here.

Ms. Marilyn Gould, Chicken Street pointed out that another benefit of keeping seniors in town is their knowledge and volunteerism.

# 2. Parks & Recreation Commission Request to Prohibit Dogs from all Town Playing Fields

Parks and Recreation Director Steve Pierce was present, along with Commission members Christine Finkelstein and Jamie Van Acker. The P&R Commission is recommending that the Dog Ordinance be amended to prohibit dogs from being on the playing fields or spectator areas. There are signs posted but since they do not comply with the ordinance, they cannot be enforced. Dogs and dog waste on fields cause maintenance and safety issues. The P&R Commission is asked to supply a map and/or exact description of

where dogs should be prohibited before an ordinance amendment is drafted and brought to a public hearing.

# 3. <u>Consideration of ARRA Stimulus Funding Opportunity for Wilton and Surrounding Communities</u>

Michael Lindberg of the Wilton Energy Commission advised that the EPA and Dept. of Energy have set aside \$64 million to encourage communities to come together in clusters to seek energy efficiency, conservation and clean energy usage. The application for these grant funds are due on 12/14/09.

Ms. Bruschi moved to authorize the First Selectman to sign the application for Connecticut Clean Energy Communities Program — Community Energy Savings Project". Motions seconded and unanimously carried.

## 4. Consideration of a revised Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance incorporating Package Store Permits

A public hearing was held immediately preceding this meeting with only two public comments heard – both positive.

Mr. Brennan moved to approve the amendment to the Wilton Town Code Section 8 Alcoholic Beverages as was published (copy attached). Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

# 5. <u>Consideration of a Conservation Restriction Concerning Post Field and Preserve</u>

An approval was received from the Planning & Zoning Commission as required by §8-24 of the CGS.

Mr. Clark moved to authorize the First Selectman to sign the Deed of Conservation Restriction by and between The Town of Wilton and The Wilton Land Conservation Trust. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

### 6. Wilton Historic Districts and Historic Properties Commission

Janet Foster, Carol Russell and Marian Wufleff of the HDHPC were present to give a review of their current activities. They are presently looking into expanding the Georgetown Historic District at the request of the residents. A report was prepared and sent to the P&Z Commission and the state. They will be holding a public hearing next week and will then have 65 days to send out ballots and submit a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen for another public hearing.

The HDHPC members were thanked for being present and for preparing a detailed report.

#### 7. Appointments/Reappointments

Ms. Bruschi moved reappointments as outlined (attached). Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

Mr. Brennan moved to appoint Judith White to the Western Regional Tourism District (effective 1/10 will be changed from Southwestern Regional).

Mr. Brennan moved to appoint Colleen Fawcett as an alternate member of the Historic District and Historic Property Commission. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

## 8. Proposed Tree Ordinance

Tree Committee Chairman Jessica Kaplan was present, along with Pat Sesto, to present a draft Tree Ordinance. The Tree Committee has been developing a proactive strategy to protect and preserve trees in Wilton. They would now like to apply for Tree City USA designation, which has already been received by 15 other communities in the state.

First Selectman Brennan advised that the Selectmen will now go over the proposed ordinance and request comments from the DPW. It will be discussed at the next BOS meeting and then a public hearing will be held.

#### 9. Election of Second Selectman

Upon nomination by Mr. Clark, Susan Bruschi was unanimously elected as Second Selectman.

- Resolution for FY 2010 Comprehensive DUI Enforcement Grant Application
   Mr. Clark moved the Resolution as submitted (attached). Motion seconded
   and unanimously carried.
- C. Public Comment Mr. Al Bartek, Cheese Spring Road, agrees that a map should be included with the Dog Ordinance to outline exactly where dogs are prohibited. He is concerned that the walking path from Merwin Meadows to the center of town not be included as a restricted area.

#### D. Reports

1. First Selectman – No report

#### 2. Selectmen's Reports

Mr. Creeth – He agrees with the suggestion by the Tax Relief Committee about investigating why seniors leave town. He feels it is important that we follow up.

Mr. Clark – He would like for the Board of Finance to look at the inherent assumption being made by the community about seniors leaving town and give their evaluation.

Mr. Hoffstatter - On 2/1/10, Mr. Jonathan Cunitz will give a presentation to the Board of Selectmen on the Westport ordinance banning plastic retail bags.

Ms. Bruschi - No report

### E. Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

(an Andras, Recording Secretary

attachment: Reappointments

Resolution - DUI Enforcement Grant Application

## Board of Selectmen Meeting - December 7, 2009

#### REAPPOINTMENTS

Council on Public Facilities	Term to Expire
(D) Robert Sanders	11/30/11
(D) David Waters	11/30/11
(D) James Evans	11/30/11
Inland Wetlands (D) John Hall	11/30/12
Parks and Recreation (D) Jamie Van Acker	11/30/13
Social Services Commission (D) Steve Lanza	11/30/11

Effective January 1, 2010, The Southwest Regional Tourism District will merge with The Northwest Regional District and become the Western Regional Tourism District. The Board of Selectmen appointed Ms. Judith White to the Southwest Regional Tourism District in October 2009. They are requesting her appointment to the new District for a term to begin on January 1, 2010.

## Western Regional Tourism District

Judith White

01/01/13

#### **NEW APPOINTMENTS**

## Historic District and Historic Properties Commission (alternate)

(D) Colleen Fawcett to replace Tierney O'Hearn

FINANCE DEPARTMENT Tel (203) 563-0114 Fax (203) 563-0299



TOWN HALL 238 Danbury Road Wilton, Connecticut 06897

## RESOLUTION

#### Town of Wilton

#### Board of Selectmen

FY 2010 Comprehensive DUI Enforcement Grant Application

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Wilton recognizes the need to enhance safety during the holiday seasons, and

WHEREAS, funds are being made available through a Comprehensive DUI Enforcement Program Grant to assist communities in reducing the number of impaired drivers on the Town of Wilton's roads, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Wilton wish to reduce the number of injuries and fatalities through an increased high-visibility DUI enforcement,

### NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT, the Board of Selectmen endorse the Police Department's submission of a grant application seeking funding support in the amount of \$26,475 and,

THAT, the Board of Selectmen support the additional patrols that this program makes available on the days and times identified in the application, and

THAT, the Board of Selectmen approves submission of the grant application to the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation.

William Brennan, First Selectman

Date

12/7/69