

OFFICE OF THE  
FIRST SELECTMAN

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TOWN HALL  
238 Danbury Road  
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2014  
MEETING ROOM B, WILTON TOWN HALL**

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

**ABSENT:** Richard Dubow

**ALSO PRESENT:** Bob Nerney, Tom Thurkettle, Bruce Hampson, Members of the Board of Education, Board of Finance, Paul Zohorsky, Vice President, Marketing, Sales and Engineering for Gas Business Unit, Northeast Utilities and Yankee Gas Representatives

**OTHERS:** Members of the Press, members of the public

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

**Yankee Gas**

Mr. Brennan gave background on the Yankee Gas project, which has been ongoing for the past two years, where we are now, and hopes to get project up and running. Mr. Brennan introduced Mr. Paul Zohorsky of Yankee Gas. Mr. Zohorsky gave a presentation on the challenges and costs associated with getting natural gas into Wilton and how Yankee Gas is trying to overcome those challenges and move forward. Mr. Zohorsky stated that his company could no longer hold to a June start-date due to change in state regulations, which took hold in November. He was, however, positive a plan to move a gas line into Wilton still has potential. He stated that Yankee Gas was too optimistic on the revenue side and too unrealistic on the cost side. New PURA requirements that were released in November require that gas companies are required to have 60% of projected customers under contract. To date, Mr. Zohorsky stated that likely commitments for proposed route in Wilton are probably closer to 30%. He spoke about reviewing the proposed installation plan, and is considering lengthening the reach of distribution in Wilton.

Mr. Zohorsky stated in his presentation that there are 3 components needed to make gas expansion work. Yankee Gas needs to do their part, the town needs

to support and the new customer commitments are needed. New customers provide revenue that makes the economics work. Mr. Zohorsky maintained that he believes the 60 percent threshold required by PURA could be met, though it would be very difficult to accomplish. Mr. Zohorsky stated that Yankee Gas is evaluating interest for potential customers. He stated that Yankee Gas representatives will be down in Wilton everyday and that there will be meetings every Wednesday with Wilton officials to review what they believe is the best route through Wilton, which commitments they have received to date and to keep communications open and factual.

Mr. Brennan explained the difficulties both sides faced and that both organizations have a reasonable expectation that this project can still be done. Mr. Zohorsky stated that the first goal of his company was to change the model with PURA and try to allow the project to move forward without the 60% requirement.

Mr. Brennan ended the discussion urging patience from the community. He stated the biggest risk to date is the timeline to get this done.

A. Public Comment – None.

B. Reports

Selectmen Reports:

Mr. Dubow – None

Mr. Saxe – None

Mr. Clark – None

C. Adjournment – Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jacqueline Rochester".

Jacqueline Rochester, Recording Secretary  
(Taken from video)