

**6TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JULY 6, 2015**

ATTENDANCE: Jayme Stevenson, First Selectman; Susan Marks; Christopher (Kip) Hall; Gerald Nielsen; E. Reilly Tierney

STAFF: Karl Kilduff, Administrative Office

OTHERS: James Cameron, Area 9 Cable Council; Jim Dever, Area 9 Cable Council; Ronald Hammer, Director Darien Post 53

CALL TO ORDER

. The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

PRESENTATION ON AREA 9 CABLE COUNCIL

Mr. Cameron and Mr. Dever spoke about their role as representatives on the Area 9 Cable Council, and shared some of the goals and functions of the Council. FCC rules require funds from a \$5.00 fee to subscribers to be designated for community cable access. The funds are proportioned as 2/3 for educational and 1/3 for governmental purposes, as in Darien where the funds are used to broadcast town meetings on Channel 79. Mr. Cameron said, based on his experience, a portion of the grant money can now be appropriated for camera operators as well as buying more equipment. He noted the Darien High School station Blue Wave TV, has not applied for any grant money for the past 2 years. He said Blue Wave TV was passing up on nearly \$17,000-18,000 each year. He said he thought this was unfortunate, and noted Blue Wave TV had not been putting out much programming. There was some discussion as to who recorded the Board of Education Meetings and where they were broadcast. There was further discussion on the best way to get Blue Wave TV up to speed on broadcasting, by reaching out to the BOE as well as the new superintendent. There was discussion about the camera operators, there has been little success at recruiting high school students to shoot footage, even at a rate of \$25/hr. Mr. Cameron explained how town meeting programming was now available on VIMEO, although it was costing money, and said about 750 families received the Area 9 program guide each year. He said the Council was under-budget this year and would be giving back about \$500.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

First Selectman Stevenson reported the following to the Board:

- June 30 Susan (*Selectman Marks*) and I attended the inaugural meeting of the Pedestrian Infrastructure Advisory Committee. Beth Harmon was voted Chairman and Terry Duffy and Pat Morrissey will share the clerk duties. I want to thank Frank Adelman again for his diligence in helping the BOS form the committee. We look forward to the outcome of their work.
- We welcomed Mr. Lee Palmer today as the Town of Darien's new Human Resources Director. He is eager to meet with all our town employees over the coming weeks and to assist the Board of Selectman with our search for a new Town Administrator.
- Today, I had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Dan Brenner, our new Superintendent of schools. Dr. Brenner began in the District on July 1st. We talked of many things, but one topic I expressed great interest in discussing more over the coming months, is shared services.
- Our road re-paving schedule will begin on July 13th, and will include portions of the following roads: Harriet Lane, Harriet Lane East, Miles Road, Noroton Avenue, Hollow Tree Ridge Road, Old King's Highway South, Overbrook Road and Country Club Road. More detailed information will be on the town web site. Work should be complete by the week of July 21st.
- Also, today I attended an important meeting in New Haven with Senator Blumenthal and President Obama's nominee for Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration, Ms. Sarah Feinberg. The purpose of this meeting was to give Mayors and First Selectmen an opportunity to discuss rail issues of concern to our respective communities, our regions and the State of Connecticut. On behalf of the Town of Darien, I was able to express our interest in much needed improvements to the Noroton Heights Station, including expanded parking amenities, improved frequency and speed of rail service, station and track safety. I want to publicly thank Senator Blumenthal for understanding the significance of improved rail infrastructure on the Connecticut and Northeast Region economy.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Kilduff reported he had spent some time with Mr. Palmer on his first day today, going over various Human Resources issues. He said he was in the process of preparing a memorandum regarding various projects, in anticipation of his departure.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Discuss Correspondence from Post 53 and Possible Consultant Engagement

Mr. Hammer said Post 53 would be transitioning to State training standards for EMT training. As a result, the intermediary position of Advanced EMT (AEMT), would be virtually made redundant by State requirements. At present to becoming an AEMT requires about 120 hours of additional training, and it is offered to more experienced EMTs, primarily as a way to distinguish their seniority. New state training requirements for AEMTs would require more hours, and he said he imagined most candidates would opt to go the additional step to become paramedics instead of AEMTs. The full scope of the change in training will not take effect until 2018. After some discussion with the Board, he indicated Post 53, would not, in general be affected by the lack of AEMTs as paramedics could handle intravenous issues, which is the usual practice. First Selectmen Stevenson asked for more clarification on how Post 53 would be handling supervisory roles.

There was further discussion of proceeding with the plans for engaging a consultant to analyze and advise on Post 53. The conclusion this would be a final try to make sure Post 53 was following best practices. First Selectmen Stevenson acknowledged the current Board was doing good work in taking up the issue to finally resolve any unanswered questions or issues surrounding Post 53. She said she wanted to emphasize she thought the letter from the previous consultants, indicated Post 53 was doing a much more than adequate job in servicing the community.

b) Transfers

Mr. Kilduff explained the Building Department was running into issues with just part-time building inspectors, including backlogs and lack of consistency. The transfer would allow for just one full-time staff member. There was some discussion of the additional cost of benefits that might be required by a full-time employee, and the fact the transfer would not necessarily be “cost neutral.” The Board also discussed the fact the part-time inspectors were not providing efficient service to the Town, and a full-time staffer would be better for productivity.

**** MS. MARKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER AS LISTED BELOW:**

Building Department:

RESOLVED:

That the following transfer of appropriations is approved for referral to the Board of Finance.

From:

To:

| Acct No. | Account | Amount | Acct. No. | Account | Amount |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 10301011-81002 | Part Time Salary | \$61,250 | 10301011-81002 | Full Time Salary | \$61,250 |
| | TOTAL | \$61,250 | | TOTAL | \$61,250 |

**** MR. NEILSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

APPOINTMENT RE-APPOINTMENT

Consider and take action on the following re-appointments:

a) James Cameron to the Area Nine Cable Council for a 2-year term beginning on July 1, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2017

b) David Dever to the Area Nine Cable Council for a 2-year term beginning on July 1, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2017

**** MR. HALL MOVED TO RE-APPOINT JAMES CAMERON TO THE AREA NINE CABLE COUNCIL FOR A 2-YEAR TERM BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRING ON JUNE 30, 2017, AND DAVID DEVER TO THE AREA NINE CABLE COUNCIL FOR A 2-YEAR TERM BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRING ON JUNE 30, 2017**

**** MR. TIERNY SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

AGENDA REVIEW

First Selectman Stevenson said there will be a building committee update at the next meeting. Letters to those on the parking waitlist have been sent. Ms. Marks said she still doesn't

understand why people on the wait list turn down permits, and hopes people will respond promptly.

ADJOURNMENT

- ** MR. HALL MOVED TO AJDOURN.**
- ** MR. NIELSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. Lund
Telesco Secretarial Services