

**TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MARCH 9, 2015**

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

STAFF: Karl Kilduff, Administrative Officer.

OTHER: Members of Planning & Zoning and Public Works Commissions as noted

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Stevenson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Discussion regarding Plan of Conservation and Development with
Planning Consultant and Members of the Planning & Zoning Commission

First Selectman Stevenson acknowledged the members of the Planning & Zoning Commission in attendance follows: Susan Kemp, Chair; John Sini, Jeremy Ginsburg, Director; Steve Olvany, and Consultant, Glenn Chalder of Planimetrics.

Ms. Kemp clarified the issue on the RTM not voting and stressed that public input is encouraged and sought after in many avenues. She noted the announcement posted on the Town website of upcoming public hearings and listed the links as follows:
www.DarienCt.gov/TownPlanUpdate along with TV 79 that can be viewed on demand.

Ms. Kemp explained that following many meetings through the timeline of the process, they are now in the conservation stage, next is development, and upcoming is the important piece of Town direction. She explained that the Commission has hired the consulting firm, Planimetrics to assist them in the Town Plan update.

Mr. Chalder provided an overview and explained the process of updating the 2006 Town Plan of Conservation & Development is a three-year process that must be done by April 2016. He referred to summary highlights of the booklet and presented a chart of three sections, as follows:

Conservation: Natural Resources, Open Space, Community Character, Coastal Resources.
Development: Community Structure, Business/Residential Development Housing Diversity
Infrastructure: Community Facilities, Traffic & Circulation, Walking/Biking, Pedestrian
Water/Sewer/Utilities

Mr. Chalder fielded questions and comments from the Selectmen including where and how Parks & Recreation issues are addressed. There was discussion on a request for a study from the Parks & Recreation Commission and issues of duplication and integrative measures.

Mr. Olvany noted that they have been in discussions with Chairman Mary Flynn and they are collaborating on an integrative study to compliment the Town plan to optimize efficiencies.

First Selectman Stevenson spoke about addressing open space and defining “raw” open space. There was discussion on strategies in the booklet with the goal of preservation of open space, maintaining existing open space and addressing managed open space such as golf courses

First Selectman Stevenson provided administrative comments relative to incorporating an assessment of the 2006 plan to include an evaluation of performance measures, analysis of accomplishments, learning points, and modification strategies. She noted that other studies should be included such enrollment, parking, EMS and to include by reference current existing studies of the Town entities as part of the Town’s vision. She asked to develop a framework to encompass considerations of special interest groups and other community stakeholders. She referred to the Corridor Study and DRI study and asked to see the New Canaan implementation plan. There was discussion on the establishment of an Implementation Committee to integrate the plan through Town Committees and Boards.

First Selectman Stevenson thanked the Planning & Zoning Commission for hiring a consultant that brings a fresh perspective and public engagement in the process. There was dialogue and exchange of comments on what the Board of Selectmen can to assist with the planning process. Mr. Chalder provided feedback on the bullet points of the chart and referred to the booklet and sections on policy strategies.

First Selectman Stevenson spoke about hazard mitigation and referred to work done by the Region. She asked about the definition of terms of density, urbanization, and village as a possible boundary designation for Noroton Heights. She asked to include the blended coverage of school infrastructure with the Board of Education and the goal of collaborative efforts.

Mr. Olvany mentioned sub-contracting to another consultant for other segments of the study, such as Parks & Recreation, and noted that this will be discussed tomorrow night. There was discussion of the Cell Tower and underserved areas and it was noted that the jurisdiction is from the state versus local antenna coverage. Mr. Chalder explained that this will be addressed through the infrastructure part of the process.

He provided a road map of the process and explained that the booklet is in draft and in April and in May; the Commission will then focus on "development-related" issues. He explained that the Planning & Zoning Commission is the statutory authority that acts as the ultimate arbitrator. He added that there is a 65 day notice of waiting period for the adoption process. He noted that the time line is on target to meet the March 2016 timeline as required by Section 8-23 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Mr. Tierney asked for an update by November. First Selectman Stevenson noted that the Board of Selectman will be actively involved throughout the stages of the process.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

First Selectman Stevenson read her report as follows:

“Behind the Orange Curtain” documentary on prescription drug addiction will be tomorrow at 6:30 at the Darien Library Community Room.

Budget Meeting Reminders

- o Boards of Selectmen and Education deliver budgets to BOF tomorrow evening and the BOF Public Hearing on the budget is tomorrow night as well
- o Board of Finance final vote on the budget before it goes to the RTM is 4/9
- o RTM Budget Discussion and vote on 5/11

The Hecker Acquisition Grant was resubmitted on March 10, 2015

- Monday, March 16th — Public Hearing concerning the rehabilitation of the bridge that carries Old Kings Highway over 1-95 — 7:00pm in Town Hall Room 206.

- Governor's \$100 billion/30 year Transportation Plan is called “Let's Go CT”. There will be several pieces of legislation presented for approval this session relating to his plan. One troublesome bill is HB 6851 “An Act Establishing the Connecticut Transit Corridor Development Authority”. Alarming highlights of this proposal include:

- 11 appointed members
- Will focus on Economic and Transit Oriented Development to concentrate housing, parking, cultural and commercial development near transit stops
- They will “coordinate” with municipalities but can overstep their zoning regulations.
- Can issue bonds
- Will have eminent domain powers within designated development areas in consultation with the local Chief Elected Official — not required.

- There was a meeting held with BOE Chair Betsy Hagarty Ross, Superintendent, BOE Director of Finance and Facilities Director to discuss a variety of issues. At my request, the administration presented me with a list of “outstanding” issues relating to 35 Leroy. I'd like to review these for the public and attach a copy to tonight's meeting minutes:

The following items continue to be outstanding:

1. HVAC — We continue to experience problems with the heating system.
2. Lighting levels inadequate- Lighting levels do not meet the Advanced Energy Design Guide (AEDG) standard.
3. Repointing of brick wall parapet
4. Front hallway lighting — sensor/timer issues.
5. Maintenance space at Ledge Road. We vacated 4,098 sq. ft. and received 3,113 sq. ft. of space. Need 958 sq. ft. of space

It was noted that there are items that were not part of the shuffle budget and the onus is on the Board of Education to take responsibility for the incremental repair funding.

Darien Public Schools Board of Finance/Operations Facilities memo continued:

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Additional items that need to be addressed:

1. Repaving lower parking area and install new lighting
2. Refurbish front basement
3. Replace roof
4. Replace windows

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Kilduff reported that staff will hire a replacement for the Parks & Recreation Director with interviews in April, selection process in May, for appointment on board and transition June 1.

There was a discussion on Edgerton remediation. Mr. Kilduff explained they are in the process of relocation and removal of the water line for demolition timing. He noted that notification to abutting property owners will begin the eight week timetable with the Board of Education

PUBLIC COMMENT

First Selectman Stevenson asked if there were members of the public that wished to speak, and hearing none, closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss Request to Form a Pedestrian Infrastructure Advisory Committee

Member of Public Works Committee were in attendance as follows: Mr. Mark Adiletta, Frank Adelman, Mac Patrick.

Mr. Adiletta outlined the Committee wanted to create a process to address pedestrian issues in Town to:

- provide more responsive guidance than the Town Plan, which is only updated every 10 years;
- preserve and grow institutional knowledge relating to pedestrian matters;
- provide guidance to the administration and P.W. Department that is more consistent, thoughtful and principled than the BoS or P&Z Commission currently provides; and
- clarify and streamline the process by which the public can have input to these matters.

Mr. Adelman provided his written comments to the Board and explained the mission was to ensure safe pedestrian access to critical locations in Town, and to promote pedestrian activity that is safe, convenient and attractive. We leave it to you, or to the Committee when named, to define safe, to define the critical locations in Town for pedestrians, and how those locations should be served.

There was discussion on the scope, collaboration and membership representation, which is recommended by the committee to be seven (7) in number and to include the following:

- at least one member from each of Darien's 6 voting districts
- at least one member who is also currently a member of the RTM's Public Works Committee
- at least one member who is also currently a member of the RTM's Public Health Safety Committee

In addition to its seven official members, the PIAC shall extend a permanent standing invitation to each of 1) the Chair of the Police Commission and 2) the Superintendent of Public Works to each name one individual to serve as a non-voting liaison to the PIAC. The intention is for these two liaisons to participate fully in all discussions and proceedings except for actually voting on matters. The objective is to ensure that the PIAC, Police Commission and Town Public Works Department are efficiently sharing information and coordinating activities.

At its discretion, the PIAC may extend similar invitations to other constituencies in Town as needed or appropriate to facilitate communications and information exchange.

Ms. Marks asked about the model used and why representation by all RTM districts was desired. She noted that while she is not opposed to this committee, she is not convinced that it is needed.

Mr. Tierney stated that he agreed with questioning representation by all RTM districts and suggested adding Parks & Recreation membership.

First Selectman Stevenson suggested that representation from Finance/Budgets be included because the need for impacts of project budget, regulatory and document review and implementation parameters. She added that there should be thought on tax implications along with interface with the Town Administrator.

Transfers

There were no comments or questions from the Board members.

**** MS. MARKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE BUDGET TRANSFER AS FOLLOWS:**

RESOLVED:

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

From:			To:		
<u>Acct. No.</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Acct. No.</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10810011-88820	School Debt – Interest	\$6,796	10810011-88810	School Debt – Principal	\$19,000
10811011-88821	Gen'l Pump – Interest	228,334	10811011-88811	Gen'l Pump – Principal	215,000
10812011-88822	Sewer Bonds – Interest	19,871	10812011-88812	Sewer Bonds – Principal	21,001
TOTAL	\$255,001		TOTAL	\$255,001	

**** MR. NIELSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

First Selectman Stevenson requested a suspension of the rules to move the order of the agenda in consideration of those waiting for appointment interviews.

- ** MR. HALL MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING APPOINTMENT INTERVIEWS.
- ** MR. TIERNEY SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting entered into Executive Session at 9:20 p.m. and was reconvened into public session at 9:37 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA REVIEW – No items added.

RE-APPOINTMENTS

Consider and take action on the following re-appointments:

- a.) Anthony Yezzi to the Town Pension Board for a 3-year term beginning on July 1, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2018.
- b.) Richard Wood as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3-year term beginning on July 1, 2014 and expiring on June 30, 2017.

- ** MS. MARKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REAPPOINTMENTS AS PRESENTED.
- ** MR. TIERNEY SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Consider and take action on the following appointments:

- c.) Lucia Zachowski to the Environmental Protection Commission for a 3-year term beginning on July 1, 2012 and expiring on June 30, 2015.
- d.) Cristina Orsi-Lirot to the Beautification Commission for a 3-year term beginning on December 1, 2013 and expiring on November 30, 2016.

- ** MR. HALL MOVED TO APPROVE THE ABOVE APPOINTMENTS AS PRESENTED.
- ** MR. TIERNEY SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- e.) Jeff Smith to the Beautification Commission for a 3-year term beginning on December 1, 2014 and expiring on November 30, 2017.

It is noted that Mr. Smith was not in attendance.

First Selectman extended an apology to Mr. Smith for the delay in the time of the interview.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of February 23, 2015

Mr. Nielsen requested a change on page 4, paragraph 2, under Darien Depot, to add the word 'not' before on the agenda.

- ** **MR.HALL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 23, 2015 AS AMENDED WITH CORRECTION NOTED.**
- ** **MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Special Meeting of February 23, 2015

- ** **MR. NIELSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 23, 2015 AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** **MR. HALL SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

March 10, 2015	Board of Finance Regular Meeting at 7:30 PM
March 10, 2015	Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting at 8:00 PM
March 11, 2015	Board of Education Regular Meeting at 7:30 PM
March 17, 2015	Board of Finance Regular Meeting at 7:30 PM
March 23, 2015	Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting at 7:00 PM

Adjournment

- ** **MR. HALL MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**
- ** **MR. TIERNEY SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Knox,
Telesco Secretarial Services