

**TOWN OF DARIEN  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 12, 2012**

**ATTENDANCE:** 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman Stevenson; Gerald Nielsen; David Bayne;  
John Lundeen

**STAFF:** Karl Kilduff, Administrative Officer

**OTHER:** Carol Wilder-Tamme, Darien Chamber of Commerce;  
Tom Dunn, Don Smith, Registrar of Voters

**CALL TO ORDER**

1<sup>st</sup> Selectman Stevenson called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m.

**REPORT FROM CAROL WILDER-TAMME FOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
UPDATE**

Ms. Carol Wilder-Tamme, Darien Chamber of Commerce, said she was requesting permission for two “Shop & Dine” maps. They would be elevated ground signs. One would be in the central business district, and the other would be in Noroton Heights. Even though approval had been previously granted in 2010, she was requesting permission again because the funding has changed.

She highlighted a few upcoming events and projects sponsored by the Chamber:

- The Darien Annual Sidewalk Sales are slated for July 12, 13, and 14<sup>th</sup>.
- The 6<sup>th</sup> annual Chamber Regional Expo this Friday, March 16 at Norwalk Community College. There will be over 100 vendors and about 500 people are expected to attend for networking opportunities.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Darien Going for Green involves students in the Darien High School graphics class. A business award will be given at the awards ceremony, to be held at the Hotel Zero in Stamford.
- Chamber members have been working with Darien High School students in the AP Economy class, helping students understand what’s involved in starting a business.
- The new Chamber logo is now modernized and streamlined. A committee consisting of chamber members and residents has been formed in order to provide more visibility for retailers, businesses and the community.
- Restaurant Week just finished up, with 2 new restaurants, Darien Social and Chesko’s, participating. All reports were that the sales were successful. Indoor sidewalk sales were held at the same time.

- RFP's have been sent out for the wine tasting and charity auction.
- The two locations chosen for the Shop & Dine signs are between Dunkin Donuts and the train station, and outside of Fabricare cleaners near Palmer's Market. Restaurants and businesses rapidly change in Darien, so the town's website will be updated regularly via Cyber Sidewalks.

- \*\* MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE TAKING THE AGENDA OUT OF ORDER TO VOTE ON AN ITEM, PREVIOUSLY UNDER NEW BUSINESS.**
- \*\* MR. NIELSEN SECONDED.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

a) Discuss and Take Action on Approval of Chamber of Commerce "Shop & Dine" Signage.

- \*\* MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SHOP & DINE SIGNAGE.**
- \*\* MR. LUNDEEN SECONDED.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**REPORT FROM REGISTRARS OF VOTERS REGARDING REDISTRICTING**

Mr. Tom Dunn presented information on the newest district plan, saying they went from 5 districts to 6 districts. The total population had been 19,800 ten years ago, and now it is 20,732. The changes occurring in Districts 141 and 147 involved taking a portion from Darien and moving it to District 147, which is in Stamford. They took some of Southern Norwalk and added it to Rowayton, so the combination of that and the rest of Stamford comprises District 141. In order to get equality in some of the districts and keep the voting at the same places, District 3 remains at Holmes School, District 1 remains at Ox Ridge, District 5 remains at the high school, and District 4 remains at Hindley School. District 2 will be put back to Tokeneke School, and District 6 will be put back to Town Hall. He said that as of February 2012, District 1 has 16 RTM seats; District 2 & 3 has 17 seats each; District 4 has 16 seats; Districts 5 & 6 have 17 seats each. This will become effective March 27, 2012 pending RTM approval.

It was recommended that the new districts be posted via maps and lists at both the Town Hall and the library, and be given to the media outlets as well.

**1<sup>ST</sup> SELECTMAN'S REPORT**

1st Selectman Stevenson said she conveyed the Board of Selectmen budget to the Board of Finance on March 6th. On Friday, March 2nd, she said she attended a Connecticut Conference of Municipalities conference on Municipal Leadership and Emergency Preparedness. She welcomed a new on-line media outlet to Darien. It's

Darien's Hamlet Hub ([www.hamlethub/darien](http://www.hamlethub/darien)). She congratulated all 437 of Darien's Girls Scouts on the celebration of their organization turning 100 today.

1st Selectman Stevenson said she was unable to attend the recent League of Women Voters Elected Officials luncheon due to illness, but Mr. Lundeen attended in her absence. The concept of "Council of Governments" came up. The idea refers to a "regional" form of planning and development. The four points she highlighted follow: SWRPA currently is our regional planning organization and each of our 8 member towns have representatives on this board. Darien's representatives are Laurie Williamson and John Marr. She said she will be asking them to come to a future meeting to give an update on their work with SWRPA. Secondly, a COG will put the CEO's of the 8 member towns in the regional planning leadership role - Stamford, Norwalk, Greenwich, Wilton, Westport, Weston, New Canaan and Darien. Thirdly, she said she will continue to spend a great deal of time researching the pros and cons of this concept with other town leaders, legislators and the SWRPA leadership and will pass on what she learns. And lastly, generally, at this time, she said she didn't see any benefit for Darien to consider supporting becoming a member of COG.

1st Selectman Stevenson said the Service Plaza Renovation Project Informational Meeting was held on 3/7/12, and she provided some information on the project. Work on the northbound side of I-95 will begin on 3/22/12, and work on the southbound side of I-95 will begin on 4/0/12, coordinating with the Milford openings. The Milford southbound plaza is exactly the same as both Darien plazas. The northbound plaza will include a State-of-the-Art Welcome Center that will include the Darien Chamber of Commerce, and both plazas will include space for the State Police to have a presence.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

a) Discuss Goal Setting Workshop

It was discussed that Mr. Kilduff will send out the homework assignment to the Selectmen. The Selectmen will give available dates for the next 5 or 6 Saturdays.

b) Discuss and Take Action on Consideration of Police Union Successor Contract and Refer Same to the Board of Finance and Representative Town Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> Selectman Stevenson said the current contract expired 18 months ago, and the Police Union voted affirmatively on it today. The contract includes some retroactive actions. For the contract year of July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011, the general wage increase was agreed upon at 1.85%; from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 the general

wage increase will be 2.25%, and for each of the next two years, 2012/13 and 2013/14, it will be 2.5%. There were some small increases to clothing allowances. A few plan changes were made to health insurance. There could be additional health care savings to the Town if the health care carrier is changed. A health care premium share that is going to be modeled after the Public Works contract was included in the information provided. All of this information will be made available to the public.

- \*\* MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE TENTATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF DARIEN AND DARIEN POLICE ASSOCIATION WITH REFERRAL OF THE SAME TO THE BOARD OF FINANCE FOR A REPORT AND REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING, AS THE DARIEN LEGISLATIVE BODY, FOR FINAL ACTION.**
- \*\* MR. NIELSEN SECONDED.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

c) Transfers

**Planning and Zoning**

RESOLVED:

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

**From:**

<u>Acct. No</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10201011-82034	Software Maintenance	\$ 1,097
10204011-82009	EPC Advertising	\$ 203
10201011-82002	Conf & Meetings	\$ 1,400
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,700</b>

**To:**

<u>Acct. No</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10202011-82004	P&Z Clerical	\$ 2,700
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,700</b>

- \*\* MR. NIELSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$2,700 FROM THE SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT, EPC ADVERTISING ACCOUNT, AND CONF & MEETINGS ACCOUNT TO THE P&Z CLERICAL ACCOUNT.**
- \*\* MR. BAYNE SECONDED.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Human Resources**

RESOLVED:

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

**From:**

<u>Acct. No</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10704000-86600	Contingency	\$ 10,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>

**To:**

<u>Acct. No</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10102031-82007	Professional Services	\$ 10,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>

- \*\* MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$10,000 FROM THE CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ACCOUNT.**
- \*\* MR. LUNDEEN SECONDED.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**AGENDA REVIEW**

1<sup>st</sup> Selectman Stevenson said that they will have the sidewalk sale approval on the agenda for the next meeting; the Mather Center Building Committee will be on the agenda also. Recommendations came up about having committee members act as liaisons for the Selectmen. This will be discussed at a future meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman Stevenson asked for a status report from the Building Committee. She reminded everyone that the meetings take place every other Tuesday at 12:00 noon. They are taped and the minutes are available. 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman Stevenson said she hasn't received anything from ConnDot regarding the traffic study.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regular Meeting of February 27, 2012

The changes to the Regular Meeting of February 27, 2012 are as follows:

On page 3, 1st paragraph, eliminate the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence.

On page 4, 1st paragraph, the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence should read: "He suggested that the solution is a decked parking garage at Noroton Heights station".

On page 4, 1st paragraph, eliminate the 3rd and 4th sentences.

On page 5, last paragraph, the 2nd sentence should read: "Mr. Bayne said he was not in favor of this and would vote against it, because he finds the settlement to not be in the best economic interests of Darien, and he also objected to the provision requiring the tax

assessors to assess the golf course portion of the property as open space for as long as it remains a commercial golf course.”

**\*\* MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 27, 2012 AS AMENDED.**

**\*\* MR. NIELSEN SECONDED.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

March 13, 2012	Board of Finance Budget Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m.
March 13, 2012	Planning & Zoning Commission General Meeting at 8:00 p.m.
March 14, 2012	Board of Education Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
March 19, 2012	Representative Town Meeting Regular Meeting at 8:00 p.m.
March 21, 2012	Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
March 20, 2012	Board of Finance Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
March 26, 2012	Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting at 7:45 p.m.

**OTHER BUSINESS (Any items added to the agenda require a two-thirds vote.)**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S REPORT**

Mr. Kilduff said he just attended the joint meeting of the Parks & Rec Committee of the RTM, Public Works Committee, and FEB to review the Public Works Contract. He said efforts are being made towards the collective bargaining agreements, and also the insurance renewal for both the employee benefits side, worker’s comp and professional liability. He said he attended the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities legislative committee meeting in March.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* MR. NIELSEN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* MR. LUNDEEN SECONDED.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marr  
Telesco Secretarial Services

