

**TOWN OF DARIEN  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 7, 2015**

**ATTENDANCE:** First Selectman Jayme Stevenson; Kip Koons, Susan Marks, Robert Richards, Marc Thorne

**STAFF:** Kate Clarke Buch, Town Administrator; Michael Lynch, Director of Facilities; Marc McEwan, Deputy Fire Marshall

**OTHERS:** Ellie Cush, Katherine Culliton, Caroline Tortorella, Michael Towle, Jim Cameron

**CALL TO ORDER**

First Selectman Stevenson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. She asked everyone in attendance to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**PRESENTATION BY DEPOT STUDENT GOVERNING BODY**

Ms. Ellie Cush, Ms. Katherine Culliton and Ms. Caroline Tortorella gave an update about what is going on at the Depot.

Ms. Culliton highlighted a number of fun events including a cookie eating contest, pancakes and ping pong and a Friends marathon. The Executive Board meetings are held on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 and then the regular meetings follow from 7:30 to 8:30.

Ms. Tortorella is in charge of fundraising and she said the recent Spelling Bee raised \$9,000.

First Selectman Stevenson asked if they have been able to get many kids to come to the Depot on weekends. Ms. Culliton said they offer a wide variety of events and they have been able to attract a good number of kids.

The group said they do interact with Families in Recovery.

Ms. Culliton said they go to the Middle Schools at the end of the year and talk to students to get new board members.

First Selectman Stevenson said the Depot gets some funds from the Board of Selectmen and she asked the presenters what they need from the Board. Ms. Tortorella said the Depot could use a

few things to spruce up the place like fixing the booths in the eating area and possibly a new printer.

### **FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT**

First Selectman Stevenson said the Town has received a draft report from EMS Consultants. Mr. Ron Hammer, Chief Duane Lovello and Mrs. Kathleen Buch are looking over the report for inaccuracies. McGrath Consulting will present the final report to the Board of Selectmen on March 21. She said what she has seen of the report is excellent.

### **Commuter Rail Council**

The council will meet in Darien on March 16 at 7 p.m. First Selectman Stevenson said it will be an excellent opportunity for Darien residents and commuters to provide feedback on issues of concern. The Rail Council is an independent board that is an advocate for commuters.

### **Status of Hecker Acquisition**

The Town attorney and the Land Trust attorney are wrapping up the final draft of the conservation easement and the document has been sent to the State for review.

First Selectman Stevenson said Housing Commissioner Evonne Klein has requested her to sign a pledge to end homelessness in Connecticut by 2016. She said she will bring the pledge documents to the Selectmen when she hears back from Ms. Klein. First Selectman Stevenson said she asked the Darien Housing Authority to set aside one or more units at Old Town Hall Homes for veterans. She said Darien residents gave \$75,000 last year to 3 non-profits (Open Door Shelter, Shelter for the Homeless and Inspirica).

### **Legislation of Note:**

HB 5363 8-30g - Submitted testimony in support of senior and supportive housing point allocations

SB 19 - Transit Corridor Development Assistance Authority

HB 5544 - Consolidation of Public Service Answering Points (making regional dispatch centers)

HB 5053 - An Act Increasing Access to Overdose Drugs. First Selectman Stevenson provided feedback from Post 53 and Darien Police on use of Narcan since mid-2015.

HB 5301 - Would require practitioners to obtain parental permission to prescribe opioids to kids under 18

HB 5411 - An Act concerning DOT Recommendations including giving the Commissioner authority to enforce parking at state commuter parking areas - ride share lots. She said this bill is to charge people who park in those lots.

SB 221 - Paid Family and Medical Leave

HB 5377 - Increase the threshold for projects subject to prevailing wage-\$4M new construction/\$2M renovation

HB 5602 - Regionalism

Purchase goods and services through COG or regional education service center

Provides money to audit private special ed service providers  
HB 5604 - Regional Efficiencies  
HB 5591 - Act Creating the Connecticut Retirement Security Program (government sponsored retirement program)  
SB 367 - Mandates mental stress benefits for first responders who witness certain incidents or the aftermath of certain incidents  
HB 5262 - Worker's Compensation Coverage for current and former members (5 years or less) of paid or volunteer fire and ambulance work for certain types of cancer.

### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Buch reported that the audit should be filed this week. The town was waiting for information from a professional provider for a new standard for pensions and other post-employment benefits.

She also said Darien will be refunding and selling some bonds. The dollar saving is not huge, but it will be around 7%. Ms. Buch said the amount of savings is less than a \$1,000,000 over the life of the bonds.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Discuss and Take Action on Extension of Community Fund Lease

The Community Fund of Darien found a new home on Old Kings Highway South. First Selectman Stevenson said the lease technically requires a year's notice, but she will recommend that they be let out of their lease on April 30, 2016. Their lease technically expired in January.

**\*\* MR. THORNE MOVED THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN HEREBY AGREES TO EXTEND THE EXISTING LEASE WITH THE DARIEN COMMUNITY FUND FOR THE PREMISES AT 701 BOSTON POST ROAD UNTIL TO APRIL 30, 2016 AT THE AGREED UPON RATE.**

**\*\* MR. KOONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

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

Ms. Buch said it is a small building with limited space. She said it is in a historic district and the town is looking at its options.

#### Discuss and Take Action on Approval of Southwest Region Hazard Mitigation Plan

Mr. Michael Towle of WestCOG spoke about the plan. He said Darien has a plan that expires in June. Mr. Towle said it provides FEMA funding in case of an emergency and the opportunity to get FEMA grants. Mr. Toll said they have a hazard mitigation grant program for funding projects that will prevent hazards. He said having the plan active streamlines funds for your community.

- \*\* MR. RICHARDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE SOUTHWEST REGION FOR 2016-2021.**
- \*\* MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Discuss and Take Action on Adoption of Emergency Operations Plan**

Mr. Marc McEwan said the goal is to put forth a new EOP. He said the format is different because it delegates who will do what.

Ms. Marks asked about a master list for people on oxygen and what happens if the power goes out or if a child or adult who is developmentally delayed and needs help at home. Mr. McEwan said a person who has a medical condition and needs power can self declare to the power company and they have a criteria that must be met. He said sometimes people let the police know about a situation at the home, but a lot of it is self-advocacy.

The discussion turned to tree maintenance. He said it is a battle they fight every day. Mr. McEwan said the Power Company does meet once or twice a year with him about problem trees.

- \*\* MR. KOONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE DARIEN EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN AS UPDATED FEBRUARY 2016.**
- \*\* MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Transfers**

The first transfer was for hydronic heating at 35 Leroy and a Holmes generator.

Mr. Michael Lynch said the room had been without a boiler for four years and the room had to be brought up to code. The cost is higher than originally estimated due to the fact the work will be done on a second shift (night/weekend).

Mr. Lynch said \$4,000 will be taken from the Updated Fire Alarm account and moved to the work on the Emergency Generator. He said there was a little more electrical work than originally anticipated.

- \*\* MR. RICHARDS MOVED THE FOLLOWING:**

**RESOLVED:**

**That the following transfer of appropriation is approved for the referral to the Board of Finance: 31300094-Public Education**

The transfer is for \$40,000 from Convert oil burner to dual fuel Account No. 31300094-916017-31302 to Hydronic baseboard heating C.O. Account No. 35513094-916820-31309 and \$4,000 from Update fire alarm Account No. 31300094-916821-31304 to Emergency generator - Holmes 31300094-916018-31304.

- \*\* MR. THORNE SECONDED THE MOTION.**  
**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The next transfer was for \$14,000 for additional expense and provide a contingency. Mr. Lynch said the black top at the Royle School parking lots have to be milled so the new surface will be at the correct height.

- \*\* MS. MARKS MOVED THE FOLLOWING:**

**RESOLVED:**

That the following transfer of appropriation is approved for the referral to the Board of Finance:  
31300094-Public Education

The transfer is for \$14,000 from Holmes Fire Alarm Account No. 1300094-916821-31304 to Re-Surface black top Royle School Account No. 355135094-916905-31306.

- \*\* MR. RICHARDS SECONDED THE MOTION.**  
**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The last transfer is for \$1,000 for RTM Secretarial Services that had been depleted.

- \*\* MR. KOONS MOVED THE FOLLOWING:**

**RESOLVED:**

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

The transfer is for \$1,000 from Contingency Account No. 10704000-86600 Contingency to Clerical Services Account No. 10103011-82004.

- \*\* MR. THORNE SECONDED THE MOTION.**  
**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS**

### **Reappointments**

Robert Riith to the Sewer Commission for a 3-year term beginning on January 1, 2016 and expiring on December 31, 2018.

Charles Scribner to the Monuments & Ceremonies Commission for a 3-year term beginning on December 1, 2015 and expiring on November 30, 2018.

Wayne Fox of Curtis Brinkerhoff & Barrett as Town Attorney for a 2-year term.

- \*\* MS. MARKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENTS OF MR. RIITH, MR. SCRIBNER AND MR. FOX.**
- \*\* MR. THORNE SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Appointment**

David Kahn to the Advisory Commission on Costal Waters for a 1-year term beginning on January 1, 2016 and expiring on December 31, 2016

- \*\* MR. RICHARDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. DAVID KAHN.**
- \*\* MR. THORNE SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**AGENDA REVIEW**

Town Selectman Stevenson said they will be looking at the Parking Authority Advisory Committee recommendations. She said we will go back to putting goals and objectives on the agenda.

Mr. Richards read a few requests that are attached.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**Special Meeting of February 22, 2016**

- \*\* MS. MARKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22, 2016 AS SUBMITTED.**
- \*\* MR. THORNE SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Regular Meeting of February 22, 2016**

- \*\* MR. RICHARDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22, 2016 AS SUBMITTED.**
- \*\* MR. KOONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

March 21, 2016 Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
March 21, 2016 Representative Town Meeting 8:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- \*\* MR. THORNE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**
- \*\* MR. RICHARDS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

G. Venuto  
Telesco Secretarial Services

Attachments: Mr. Richards Agenda Proposal

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# Agenda Proposal

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Robert A. Richards  
BOARD OF SELECTION  
Monday, March 7, 2016

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## 1) Paramedics/EMS Study

- Status and timeline.
- Request copies of the EMS Study draft to be distributed among Board of Selectmen.

## 2) P&Z Four Month Outlook

- Request a review of major projects coming up in the next four months by Jeremy Ginsberg.

## 3) Discuss Pledge to Zero: 2016

- Pledges.
  - To be a leader in my community in the fight to end chronic homelessness by the end of 2016.
  - (Optional) to partner with groups like the Dept. of Housing and the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness.
  - (Optional) to be a Housing Champion and will work within my community to make sure that residents have access to quality, safe, and affordable housing.

## 4) 41 Hecker Avenue Acquisition

- After touring the lot and reviewing Flood Mitigation Studies I would like to offer my opinion to the BoS that any future flood mitigation solutions in the area WILL involve the 41 Hecker property. Therefore the property acquisition motion must state clearly flood mitigation use in the future.

## Notes:

GOV emails-Suggested Motion  
The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Darien hereby stipulate that all elected town officials must provide contact information to be listed publicly on the Darien Town website.

## Suggested Motion:

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Darien hereby approves the participation in the Zero: 2016 pledge to be leaders in the community in the fight to end chronic homelessness by the end of 2016.