

Minutes

Board of Finance – Statutory Meeting

March 12, 2013

Town Hall Auditorium 7:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Liz Mao at 7:35 PM. All members of the Board of Finance were present except Jon Zagrodzky. The meeting was broadcast over Channel 79.

STATUTORY MEETING

The purpose of this required meeting was to provide an opportunity for citizens of Darien to comment on the proposed Town and Board of Education budgets. The speeches and presentation materials described below are appended to these minutes in a separate PDF file labeled, “2013.03.12 BoF minutes – Statutory Meeting – speeches.pdf.”

Town budgets.

Deb Ice spoke about the impact of higher town debt, especially related to funding “the shuffle” in replacing the scheduled pay down of school debt. She felt that town debt was having an impact on the school budget as seen in a decline in Special Ed spending.

Bob Kernan spoke in support of the Board of Selectmen Capital Budget.

John Sini refuted Ms. Ice’s conclusions.

Board of Education budget.

The following individuals spoke in favor of the Board of Education budget (topics covered in parentheses):

- Susan Vogel, co-chair of the Council of Darien School Parents (overall budget) particularly noting increasing enrollment at the elementary school level
- Robin Nelson, (elementary school spending)
- Julia Ford, (middle school spending)

- Amy Howe (High school spending)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Liz Mao made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved 6-0 at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen Mogenson
Acting Clerk