

Minutes of the Public Health and Safety Committee of the Darien RTM
June 6, 2016 7:00

Purpose of the meeting: Discuss and vote on Resolution 16-13, changes to Chapter 46 of Darien's Code of Ordinances regarding Peddlers & Solicitors. Discuss and vote on Resolution 16-15, Appropriation of and Bonding for \$230,000 to finance the construction design for the Darien Public Works Garage Complex.

In attendance: Jack Whitehead, Brian Rayhill, Gary Swenson, Mac Patrick, Colin Kelly, Laura Mosher, Nina Miller, Bill Peters.

Absent: John Dweck, Cassandra Hegarty, and Kate Haueisen.

Mac Patrick called the meeting to order at 7:04. Mac motioned for approval of the minutes of the May 9, 2016 meeting of the RTM PH&S Committee. All approved.

Sections of the Darien Code of Ordinances regarding Peddlers and Solicitors are outdated and in need of revision. Most of these sections date back to 1952. The Public Health and Safety Committee focused on the changes that relate to safety, such as:

- The solicitor shall go to the front door ONLY of a dwelling residence.
- The solicitor shall not conduct business before 9:00 am or after hours of official sunset.
- The solicitor shall show permit to any such person so solicited or to any police officer on request.
- The solicitor must, at all times, wear their issued badge in a plainly visible location on the outermost garment and carry their permit at all times.
- The solicitor shall immediately, without question, vacate any residence or premises of a person so solicited, if the person so solicited indicates that he or she does not wish to engage in business with said solicitor.

The PH&S Committee voted all in favor of **approving** Resolution 16-13.

The Public Health and Safety Committee discussed the safety aspects of Resolution 16-15. The DPW garage bays are approximately 60 years old. The floors are newer but need to be replaced in 5 of the upper bays due to leaking and structural weakness. Plow trucks loaded with salt cannot currently be parked safely indoors in preparation of a snowstorm.

There is currently no resting facility for workers who need sleep between snow plow shifts. A ten-person bunkroom and bathroom is included in the renovation.

The gasoline and diesel storage tanks currently underground are due for replacement and the new tanks will be above ground and away from the facility in line with new state regulations.

The PH&S Committee voted all in favor of approving Resolution 16-15.

Bill Peters witnessed a near accident at the high school in which a child came perilously close to being hit by a car pulling out of a very busy parking lot during a sporting event. The problem appears to be that there is no turn around past the baseball field. The visiting buses tend to park near the fields blocking the view for all the other drivers. The parking lots are understaffed during high volume times. This very issue was brought up during the PH&S Special Meeting on June 2, 2014. This joint meeting of the PH&S, F&B and Education Committees of the RTM discussed the Darien Athletic Association proposed gift to replace grass fields at the high school with artificial turf. Minutes from that meeting note "These new turf fields will allow a greater percentage of the high school campus to be utilized on weekends by youth sports groups. To ensure pedestrian safety, the committee recommends that current crosswalks, pedestrian signage and traffic patterns be examined". PH&S stands by this earlier recommendation. We strongly suggest that the Board of Education look into this matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Mosher