

Minutes TGS & A Regular Meeting

February 16, 2016

Room 119 Darien Town Hall

Present: Frank B. Kemp, Chairman; Anstiss Agnew, John V. Boulton, Harry D. Mc Lachlin, Joseph D. Miceli, S. Lloyd Plehaty, Clara C. Sartori

Absent: Eugene F. Coyle, Nancy Coyle Downs, Chris Ezbinsky, Kenneth A. Fiveson, Jr., M. Caroline Luz.

The meeting was called to order at 7:46 p.m.

AGENDA:

1. The minutes of the meeting on January 19, 2016 were approved unanimously.
2. Chairman Frank Kemp introduced new members Anstiss Agnew and John Boulton.
3. Previous items discussed by TGS &A were reviewed as follows:
 - The revision of the section of Appendix B having to do with the procedure for nomination of the RTM Moderator was sent back to the Rules Committee who deferred the matter until the next meeting of the Rules Committee
 - Consideration of possible imposition of "term limits" for members of RTM committees who have served multiple years on the same committee was sent back to the Rules Committee. Matter will be considered at a future Rules meeting along with possible codification of procedures to be used in assigning RTM members to committees.
 - Revision of Appendix B concerning loss of self-nomination privilege for RTM members who have had poor attendance. Rules has looked at this and will do further research and possible revision of language. Mr. Plehaty noted that this issue had been discussed on two previous charter revisions.
4. Review of Harbor Master Resolution

Draft Resolution was distributed. Committee discussed draft presented and proposed several revisions.

See attached revised Resolution.

Anstiss Agnew moved to accept revised Harbor Master Resolution. Lloyd Plehaty seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

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5. Review of request by Board of Selectmen that the RTM look into a Blight Ordinance and the activities of TGS & A to date in response to that request.

Chairman Kemp and several committee members have visited neighboring towns (New Canaan, Westport and Newtown) which have passed Blight Ordinances.

It was noted that Darien RTM attempted to pass a Blight Ordinance in 2007, but it failed. Research is being done currently to improve process and provide accurate up to date information on model and best practices.

During discussion the following points were made:

- The State now allows enabling legislation concerning blighted premises; fines may be levied and an eventual lien placed on property
- Communities visited note that there is a social services component in 15 -25% of the blight issues
- In other cases property may be owned by absentee investor, may be nearing sale or in some cases foreclosure
- Emphasis is on helping to clear up the problem
- Many towns have a team approach involving representatives from social services, real estate , planning and zoning, engineering, public works
- Fines may be used to help elderly clean up properties
- Procedures differ but blight issues are handled through a step by step process in which owner is given time to remediate before a citation is issued. There is a mechanism for appeals.

The Committee discussed means of pulling together research and vetting ideas. Frank Kemp displayed the Cloud technology which Donna Rajczewski, Town Clerk has placed on the Town website under RTM committees/TGS &A. He encouraged the Committee to take a look. It will be very helpful going forward to both the Committee and the community. It was suggested that he committee consider talking points for future presentation to stakeholders in Town.

Frank will put together a draft and send it to the Committee for comments. There will likely be a work session to review.

There was no further business.

John Boulton made a motion to adjourn.

Harry Mc Lachlin seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Clara Sartori

Acting Secretary

REVISIONS BY TGS+A 2/16/16

RESOLUTION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN AMENDING ~~ARTICLE 2~~ OF THE DARIEN TOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES

CHAPTER 78, ARTICLE II

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TWO

WHEREAS, the Darien Harbor Master is charged with enforcing regulations governing Darien harbors as defined in ~~Section 78~~ of the Darien Code of Ordinances; and

CHAPTER 78, ARTICLE II

WHEREAS, the number of boaters wishing to moor vessels in Darien harbors and waters has increased; and

WHEREAS, the misuse of moorings can cause a hazard to boaters and damage to other vessels.

CHAPTER 78, ARTICLE II

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the ~~Representative Town Meeting of the Town of Darien Article 2~~ of the Town Code of Ordinances entitled "Boats, Harbors and Waterways" is hereby amended to read as follows:

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Rights and responsibilities Mooring Holder:

a) The mooring holder is responsible for installing and maintaining all mooring tackle according to Town regulations.

b) ~~Mooring holders may only use the approved mooring for the vessel registered in the mooring application.~~ ONLY THE REGISTERED VESSEL MAY USE THE MOORING AND

c) The Harbor Master must approve any changes to the size or type of vessel being placed on the mooring.

~~X~~ The mooring holder may not grant access to the mooring to another vessel.

~~X~~ Mooring holders are required to occupy their mooring no later than June 15 of each year. Requests for exceptions must be made in writing to the Harbor Master.

~~E~~ Violations of this Ordinance are subject to penalties provided in Article ~~X~~ II

THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE IS MARCH 14, 2016.