

MINUTES  
OPC MEETING  
October 16, 2014

First Selectman Jayme Stevenson called the meeting to order in Room 206 at Town Hall at 8:37 a.m.

Present were First Selectman, Jayme Stevenson; Board of Education Chairman, Betsy Hagerty-Ross; Planning & Zoning Chairman, Susan Cameron and State Representative, Terrie Wood.

First Selectman Stevenson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the OPC special meeting held on September 16, 2014. The minutes could not be approved because Mrs. Cameron and Mrs. Hagerty-Ross were not present at the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Planning & Zoning Commission**

The commission has approved an Active Senior Overlay Zone. The new zone will allow for greater density when creating developments for seniors. In addition, for every four units built under this zone a unit of affordable housing will be provided somewhere in Darien.

Mrs. Wood arrived at 8:40 a.m.

Planimetrics will hold its first public input session regarding the Town Plan of Conservation and Development on October 22, 2014 at 7:30 PM in the auditorium of Town Hall. Mrs. Cameron noted that the Town's current Plan of Conservation and Development is on the Town's website for residents to review. There was some discussion about possible ways to notify the public about the meeting. Mrs. Stevenson suggested the presenters start by giving a brief overview of the major topics addressed in the plan.

Mrs. Cameron was pleased to announce that Darien has reached enough points to apply for a second 830-g moratorium. Darien is one of four communities (out of 169 in CT) to reach one moratorium and may be the first in the state to reach a second. Mrs. Stevenson commented that this is a reflection of the Town's desire to create affordable housing and the exceptional work done by Jeremy Ginsberg and the rest of the Planning & Zoning Department. Additionally, Mrs. Stevenson expressed appreciation for the bi-partisan work Terrie Wood is promoting to secure amendments to 8-30g.

The Planning & Zoning Commission expects to hear from the Palmer's family and Federal Realty next month with regards to their plans to redevelop a total of 20 acres of property in Noroton Heights. Mrs. Stevenson noted that she and the Director of Public Works, Ed Gentile, have been actively meeting with Yankee Gas representatives in an effort to bring gas lines to this redevelopment.

**State Representative**

Pending elections have temporarily quieted the work in Hartford.

**Board of Education**

Chairman Hagerty-Ross mentioned that the Board of Education administration is beginning its work on the next school budget. The capacity study prepared by Milone & MacBroom will be considered in budget planning.

The Board continues its search for an Assistant Director of Special Education and a new Superintendent of Schools.

**First Selectman**

Mrs. Stevenson stated that Sue Swiatek has retired after twenty-five years as the Director of Parks & Recreation. Additionally, she was pleased to announce that Jim Coghlan has been appointed Interim Director of Parks & Recreation.

The town is moving forward with the acquisition of the property at 32 Hoyt Street in Darien. The PZ&H committee of the RTM unanimously approved the purchase at its recent meeting. It will be brought to the F&B and Education committees before going to the full RTM for approval at a special meeting on October 27, 2014.

The RFP for a downtown parking study is underway and the members of the Parking Advisory Committee are scheduled to be appointed at the Board of Selectmen meeting on Monday, October 20, 2014.

The Consolidated Services Working Group continues to look into ways the BOE and Town can work together to create cost savings that may be passed on to taxpayers.

Mrs. Hagerty-Ross motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Cameron. By unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda O'Leary  
Recording Secretary