

MINUTES
OPERATIONS PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
April 18, 2013

First Selectman Jayme Stevenson called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m. in Room 206 of Town Hall.

Present were First Selectman, Jayme Stevenson; Board of Education Vice Chairperson, Clara Sartori; RTM Moderator, Sarah Seelye; Planning & Zoning Chairman, Fred Conze; State Representative, Terrie Wood and Town Administrator, Karl Kilduff.

State Representative

Mrs. Terrie Wood stated the proposed amendments to 8-30g did not make it out of committee this year. New initiatives on gun regulations and the budget have been very time consuming. A discussion arose regarding 8-30g and affordable housing in Darien. It was suggested that Mrs. Stevenson, Mrs. Wood and Mr. Conze meet with the local Board of Realtors who have expressed an interest in learning more about 8-30g.

Board of Education

Mrs. Clara Sartori mentioned that the Darien Athletic Foundation (DAF) has offered gifts to the Board of Education which include a new scoreboard and a concession stand with a bathroom at Darien High School. The group discussed the process by which these gift donations should be considered for approval.

Students at the high school have asked the BOE to reconsider Open Ends for second semester seniors in good academic standing. This would allow eligible students to have conditional flexibility in their school attendance schedules (late arrivals/early dismissals).

The BOE presently favors two building projects to address anticipated enrollment increases. One is to build an addition with 7-8 classrooms at Tokeneke School and the other is to reconfigure the cafeteria and common room spaces at Royle School to create more classroom space. Mrs. Stevenson has asked that the Board provide a definitive answer on whether or not it seeks to acquire the property at Edgerton Street.

The administrative offices for the BOE are expected to be located at 35 Leroy by the end of the month.

Planning and Zoning

Mr. Conze noted that there will be a P & Z Public Hearing in May in response to the reapplication for a building project on Hoyt Street.

The Golden property in the Heights has been sold to Federal Realty Corporation. As of yet, no plans for redevelopment have been indicated to Planning & Zoning.

RTM Moderator

Mrs. Seelye stated that the RTM meets on Monday, May 13, 2013. At this time, items on the agenda include: two bond resolutions, one refunding, acceptance of a gift and approval of the Town's budget for FY 2013-2014.

First Selectman

Ms. Stevenson discussed recent information on flooding guidelines issued by FEMA and the related increased costs for flood insurance in flood zones. Planning & Zoning will be sending letters to residents in the flood zones to inform them of the FEMA changes and offer assistance in understanding how these changes will affect their building projects and flood insurance costs.

Darien is closer to a settlement with the City of Stamford on the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA).

Mrs. Stevenson noted that an Affordable Housing Trust Fund is being drafted since the town has received its first fee-in-lieu for the project being built on Academy Street.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 206.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda O'Leary
Recording Secretary