

MINUTES  
OPERATIONS PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING  
June 24, 2013

First Selectman Jayme Stevenson called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. in Room 206 of Town Hall.

Present were First Selectman, Jayme Stevenson; Board of Education Chairman, Betsy Hagerty-Ross; Board of Finance Chairman, Liz Mao; State Representative, Terrie Wood, Planning & Zoning Chairman, Joe Spain and RTM Moderator, Sarah Seelye.

**Board of Education**

Mrs. Hagerty-Ross stated that on the advice of her attorney she was unable to discuss anything related to the Special Education complaint, but she was pleased to announce that there were 307 graduates from Darien High School this year and that approximately 95% of that population is going on to higher education.

**State Representative**

Terrie Wood held a legislative wrap-up session at the Darien library last week. A major concern is the State's financial outlook.

Mrs. Wood recommended a nationally certified course on mental health issues which will be held at Post 53 on September 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. She felt this course would be beneficial to members the Board of Education and mentioned that it should be considered as part of future professional training for BOE staff.

**Planning and Zoning**

It was mentioned by Mr. Spain that the proposed application for building on Old Kings Highway at Cross Street has been withdrawn. The proposal would have required a widening of Cross Street. Additionally, there are two parcels of land in town by Grieb's under development. In 2008 the sites were approved for retail development. The developer is now applying to accept businesses with more intense use, this lead to a discussion of downtown parking concerns. There was a brief discussion of overlay zones and affordable housing.

**RTM**

Mrs. Seelye noted that the RTM will hold a special meeting tonight, June 24<sup>th</sup>, to vote on acceptance of a scoreboard being offered to the BOE by the Darien Athletic Foundation and the 7<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Cell Tower Lease.

**Board of Finance**

Mrs. Mao provided positive feedback on the Town's finances. A bond sale is scheduled to take place on July 23, 2013. With regards to contract negotiations, Mrs. Mao requested that a member of the Board of Finance be present for all BOE contract negotiations. Mrs. Stevenson added that she would like to have a BOF member present for all Town contract negotiations too.

**First Selectman**

Ms. Stevenson discussed Councils of Government (COGs) and how they may affect already established regionalized organizations such as but not limited to: Human Services, Emergency Management and Transportation.

It was also noted that a street light pilot program is underway on Hoyt Street. Since some residents have concerns about the proposed lighting, Mrs. Stevenson plans to ask CL&P if a two week test period on partial light installation at the north end of Hoyt Street is an option.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 19, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 206.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda O'Leary  
Recording Secretary