

MINUTES
OPC MEETING
January 20, 2011

First Selectman David Campbell called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. in Room 206 at Town Hall.

Present were First Selectman, David M. Campbell; Board of Education Chairman, Kim Westcott; Board of Finance Chairman, Liz Mao; State Representative, Terrie Wood; RTM Moderator, Karen Armour; and Town Administrator, Karl Kilduff.

Board of Education

Ms. Westcott stated that the Board of Education administrators' contracts will be addressed by the RTM later in January.

The Board of Education is considering for possible areas to trim the Superintendent's proposed education budget.

The BoE may be looking for early approval and funding for the gym floor at Middlesex Middle School. It's likely that this capital project could go to the RTM for consideration in March, since it would need to be a summer project.

Board of Finance

Ms. Mao mentioned that the BoF has approved the Allen O'Neil tax abatement agreement, which now goes to the RTM for approval.

The BoF has met with the BoE to request justification of the Board's proposed 8% budget increase.

Finally, Ms. Mao noted that the BoF was executing bonds for: the purchase of 35 Leroy, the Renovation and Expansion of the Darien Police Department, and the Design and Construction of Sewer Expansion Projects.

State Representative

Ms. Wood conveyed that the new session begins on January 5, 2011 and that Governor Malloy will make his budget address on February 16, 2011. She supports his decision to sign a bill requiring GAAP Accounting Principles and believes he has made some positive appointments on commissions.

Additionally, Ms. Wood said she has put forth a new a bill to repeal 8-30g legislation. She stressed that it will require First Selectmen and Mayors throughout the State to put pressure on the two Chairmen of the Housing Committee to hold public hearings on the issue. She has also proposed a bill to stipulate a driving distance behind ambulances that correlates with the required distance behind fire trucks. A complete listing of all the bills that have been put forth can be found at the General Assembly website.

RTM Representative

Ms. Armour noted that the RTM meets on Monday, January 24th. Items on Monday's RTM agenda are: to consider the newly negotiated contract between the Board of Education and Darien's Administrators' Association for July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2014, consideration and action on increasing the amount of bonding authorized for Weed Beach improvements and the consideration and action on tax abatement for the Allen O'Neill project.

First Selectman

Mr. Campbell briefly discussed the Board of Selectmen's trial period of using Action Minutes for its meetings. The minutes will still include all pertinent actions taken by the Board, but they would be condensed and more in line with what neighboring communities are providing their constituents. All Board of Selectmen meetings are recorded and aired by TV79 and the videos of the meetings are posted on the Town's website so residents can review an entire meeting at any time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 206.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda O'Leary
Recording Secretary