

MINUTES
OPC MEETING
September 20, 2011

First Selectman David Campbell called the meeting to order at 8:16 a.m. in Room 206 at Town Hall.

Present were First Selectman, David Campbell; Selectman, Jayme Stevenson; State Representative, Terrie Wood; Planning & Zoning Chairman, Fred Conze; Board of Finance Chairman, Liz Mao; Board of Education Chairman, Kim Westcott; Board of Education Vice- Chairman, Betsy Hagerty-Ross; RTM Moderator, Karen Armour and Town Administrator, Karl Kilduff.

Planning and Zoning

Mr. Conze stated that the trial in Hartford regarding the Stefanoni proposal for the corner of Leroy Ave. and West Ave. will begin on October 5, 2011. It may take as long as six months to get a final verdict. Trials on the Stefanoni's Hoyt St. and Pheasant Run projects are expected to begin in January or February.

The Planning & Zoning Commission is considering an application to restore the building at Academy Avenue and Post Road. Finally, he mentioned that the Commission would hold a Public Hearing in mid-October on a proposed Floating Zone for Affordable Housing.

State Representative

Terrie Wood reported that she will attend the South Western Regional Housing Forum in Norwalk tomorrow. The meeting has been organized by SWRPA. Mr. Campbell and Jeremy Ginsberg, the Director of Planning and Zoning, will also attend.

Ms. Wood noted that a Special Meeting is scheduled in Hartford for October 26, 2011 to discuss a Jobs Bill. Additionally, Ms. Wood is attending meetings which consider changing the formula for how schools are funded.

Board of Education

Ms. Westcott mentioned that there is a new Commissioner of Education, Stefan Pryor. Mr. Pryor is a graduate of Yale and is a co-founder of the state's leading charter school, the Amistad Academy.

The Board of Education appreciated the efforts put forth by the Town and CL&P during Hurricane Irene. The hurricane delayed the start of school for three days, putting the new last day of school at Thursday, June 14, 2011.

The Board is interviewing candidates for the Facilities Director position in the Board of Education. Lastly, Ms. Westcott noted that the funding for temporary lights at DHS is coming along nicely. Mr. Conze mentioned that he feels the present lights have worked out well and that the Darien Junior Football League has been very mindful of neighbors with respect to lights and noise.

Board of Finance

The Board of Finance will meet tonight, September 20, 2011. Liz Mao said the agenda includes a report from George Riley on the Police Department Renovation and updates from Kim Westcott and Dr. Stephen Falcone, Superintendent of the Board of Education, on budget projections/costs for special education. Ms. Stevenson informed Ms. Mao that the Sewer Commission voted to raise both the fixed and variable sewer rates.

RTM Representative

Ms. Armour stated that the RTM agenda for September 26, 2011 includes consideration and action on the Darien Boat Club Lease and Darien Code of Ordinances regarding dog control. A presentation will be made to the RTM on the Mather Community Center/BOE Office Space. There is a possibility that the RTM will hold a Special Meeting in October to vote on the Mather Community Center/BOE Office Space.

First Selectman

Mr. Campbell reviewed the presentation made to the Board of Selectmen last night, September 19, 2011, by the Building Committee and the architect for the BOE Central Offices/Mather Community Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 206.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda O'Leary
Recording Secretary