

Minutes

Town of Darien Representative Town Meeting Rules Committee

Monday April 3, 2023 7:30 p.m.

Darien Town Hall ROOM 119

Present: Seth Morton (Moderator), Lois Schneider (I), Patti Bumgardner (I), Mike Wheeler (II), Michael Casolo (II), Jack Davis (III), Adele Conniff (III), Frank Kemp (IV), Ann Reed (V), Mark Adiletta (V), Peter Orphanos (VI), Theresa Vogt (VI), Joe Miceli (IV)

Absent: Frank Kemp (IV)

Guest: Christa McNamara (Town Clerk), Jim Pallen (BOF Chair), Jenny Schwartz (District I), Rolf Olaf (District IV), Susan Marks (District 5), Wayne Fox (Town Counsel), Tom Moore (District III)

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Seth Morton, at 7:35 PM.

There was a motion by Mr. Adiletta and seconded by Ms. Reed to approve the Minutes from the March 6, 2022 Regular Meeting. This motion passed unanimously.

Assignment to Committees: Adele Conniff presented new members. Motion was made by Ms. Bumgardner, with second from Ms. Conniff to assign committees as presented below:

- Bill Dunne District 3 to F&B
- Anne King District 3 to Education

This motion passed unanimously.

Rules Technology Committee Update: Ms. Schneider provided a Rules Technology Committee update. Zoom, the new technology and other topics were covered. Using Zoom as primary platform for hybrid meetings going forward will be less expensive than GoToMeeting.

Christa McNamara, Town Clerk, provided an update on interest from the RTM in 1) seat rotation at RTM meetings 2) name tags and 3) an instance of a voting error. After consideration a motion was made by Mr. Adiletta with a second by Ms. Conniff that name tags be worn at the RTM Meetings. This motion passed unanimously. The Moderator delegated to the Town Clerk to choose and provide the tags to be used. Tags will be collected after each meeting.

Next was to discuss and vote on RTM items and assigning to Committees

- Donation of \$15,000 from the Darien Little League for a professional evaluation of the three athletic fields at McGuane assigned to Park. Park & Rec primary, F&B secondary

- Special Appropriation of \$40,000 for an Engineering Study of the Noroton Heights Fire Department Retaining Wall assigned to PH&S primary, and F&B secondary
- Special Appropriation of \$34,972 for Dynamic Speed Signs assigned to PH&S primary, PW, and F&P secondary.

Ms. Reed with a second from Ms. Bumgardner, made a motion to assign the committees to the items above as summarized above. This motion passed unanimously.

Great Island purchase was discussed next. Moderator introduced the topic. Next was the topic of the reduced purchase price of \$85MM. It was noted the BOF chose to spend a portion of the approved amount on cost related the acquisition beyond the reduced purchase price. Ms. Schwartz provided input wrt to the BOS meeting on, in part this topic, this evening. Mr. Pallen (BOF Chair) addressed the committee on the appropriations and bonding mechanics. How the BOS spends an appropriation, subject to the limitations in the Bonding document was presented. As discussion followed. Mr. Fox (Town Counsel) clarified a few points that came up.

Next item was to set the agenda for April 17, 2023 RTM Meeting. The proposed order is as follows:

1. Election of an RTM Member to the GI Advisory Committee
2. A motion was made by Mr. Casolo, with a second by Ms. Reed to accept the agenda as described below. This motion passed unanimously.
3. Donation of \$15,000 from the Darien Little League for a professional evaluation of the three athletic fields at McGuane Park. Park & Rec , F&B
4. Special Appropriation of \$40,000 for an Engineering Study of the Noroton Heights Fire Department Retaining Wall PH&S and F&B
5. Special Appropriation of \$34,972 for Dynamic Speed Signs PH&S, PW, and F&P

A motion to adjourn was properly made. The meeting adjourn at approximately 9:21 PM.

Mark Adiletta
Clerk

cc: Standing Committee Chairs
District Chairs
First Selectman
Rules Committee
Town Administrator
Town Counsel