

**TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2009**

ATTENDANCE: Evonne Klein, First Selectwoman; David Bayne; Callie Sullivan;
Seth Morton; Linda Santarella

STAFF: Karl Kilduff, Administrative Officer

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Klein called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public who wished to address the Board this evening.

**REPORT FROM MILONE & MACBROOM ON STONY BROOK WATERSHED
EVALUATION**

Ms. Nicole Burnham, project manager and Mr. Jim MacBroom of Milone and MacBroom presented a power point presentation to the Board.

A presentation for the Community is scheduled for March 31, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. The next step, following the community meeting is to get feedback and then have further discussion on the plan. The Board agreed that this was a great presentation.

**REPORT FROM ADVISORY BOARD OF HEALTH ON AMBULANCE
SERVICES**

Mr. Kevin Cunningham reviewed the written report provided to the Selectmen. He described the training requirements between EMTs, EMT Intermediate and Paramedics. In the State of Connecticut, a person has to be an EMT for one year before they can take the Paramedic class. He also described the clinical training for EMTs and Paramedics.

Ms. Santarella said that when a person places a call to 911, they need to be able to describe clearly what is wrong. Mr. Cunningham said that oftentimes they get calls from home health providers who can not speak English and who do not understand how the system works. In addition, a relative may be upset, and unable to clearly describe the emergency. Ms. Santarella said that it is important for the care giver to be able to articulate the problem. Mr. Cunningham said that it is sometimes hard to get accurate information from the care giver.

Between March 1, 2009 and May 31, 2008 the Darien Police and Post 53 responded to 1,200 call; 112 involved requests for a Paramedic. Mr. Cunningham said that the key success factor to the Darien EMS is the availability of the nearest Paramedic.

The Board recommended forming a working group with representatives from the Police Department, Health Department and Post 53. Mr. Cunningham said that it is important to bring in people who are directly involved in the program; they need to be a part of the process.

Mr. Bayne pointed out to Mr. Cunningham that in the prior package they had a broader charge of the sub-committee. Mr. Cunningham said that that was changed because they felt that was beyond their reach; Post 53 is not a Town entity. Mr. Bayne said that the Fire Department asked for defibrillators and there may be redundancies. He said that he would be interested in pursuing a better way for the Police, Fire and EMS to work together.

Ms. Santarella said that she liked the recommendation in the December 9th package and feels that the Board should consider how to incorporate both recommendations into one group. Ms. Sullivan said that they needed to be careful not to impose a layer where it is not advantageous to the users. Mr. Morton said that he did not have a problem with forming a group; it is clear there is zero coordination.

Ms. Klein suggested writing a charge and see where it falls. There are a lot of rumors going on about Paramedics and what might happen. This is simply a look see. There is the potential for misunderstanding in the public.

Ms. Klein recognized Ms. Mary Guimond who said that if they start with something small, they can make a determination. Mr. Morton said that there are two reports on the table and that the Board likes both. He told Mr. Cunningham that the December 2008 report did not go beyond their prevue.

Ms. Klein said that the Town established an ad hoc committee to look at affordable housing, so they have a model for establishing another ad hoc committee.

Mr. Walter Casey said that they need objective members for the group and should contain concerned citizens. He said that there should be a minimum response time. They should get to an emergency as fast as possible with the most highly trained people.

Mr. Casey said that the idea of educating the public is great, but suggested not putting the burden on the public making the calls. There are going to be people who are injured, emotional or drunk making the call. He said that he does not understand why Post 53 does not want to upgrade; there are a lot of people potentially at risk. The objective is not to have great volunteers; the objective is to get the best trained people there as fast as possible.

Mr. Cunningham said that the problem with setting a level of response time is that setting an unrealistic time puts people at risk. Mr. Casey said that was not what he said.

Ms. Klein said that this is something that has to be worked on. When there is an emergency it depends on who it affects. Putting the responsibility on the caller is not realistic. She said that they can provide education for the public, but the person arriving on the scene is the one who has to be able to administer the right care.

FIRST SELECTWOMAN'S REPORT

Ms. Klein reported that a report done by the State Health Department reclassified Scott's Cove as a restricted area. For the past two years, the DEP has seen deterioration in the water quality there. Under the new ARRA, Darien was approved to be reimbursed for road paving. The funding allotment will be determined by population. To date there has not been a decision made about the grants that were submitted for the downtown improvements.

Ms. Klein reported that the second JAO report went in and was favorable to the Town. They did not favor the FAA report. Attorney General Blumenthal is asking chief official to appear in court. The completion date for catenary B is December 2010. The DEP application for Heights Road drainage was hand delivered to the DEP on March 9th. A firm was hire and Ms. Klein and Mr. Kilduff have been to a number of meetings with the DEP to go over every aspect of the plan. It is not a simple process.

May 5th is Darien Volunteer Recognition Day. Names need to be submitted by May 1st.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Kilduff said that his report was submitted. He called attention to his report that focused on the procurement of electricity. He said that this is a unique opportunity to get competitive prices as well as some green electricity.

Mr. Kilduff said that departments will need to do transfers from within their own departments to be sure that they end the year in the black. Police overtime and Public Works overtime will be items that will hit contingency.

Ms. Klein said that each department needs to balance its own budget, but understands when it is something beyond their control. She added that there is no reason each department can't come in in the black.

NEW BUSINESS

**** MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM:**

- A. DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE FIRST SELECTWOMAN TO APPLY FOR \$44,000 IN GRANT FUNDING FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**** MR. MORTON SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM:**

- B. DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION GRANTING PERMISSION TO THE YWCA OF DARIEN/NORWALK FOR THE 5TH ANNUAL PUSH-n-PULL PARADE ON JULY 4, 2009

**** MS. SULLIVAN SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MS. SANTARELLA MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM:**

- C. DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION GRANTING PERMISSION TO THE NOROTON YACHT CLUB FOR THE US OPTIMIST DINGHY CLASS ASSOCIATION TEAM TRAILS APRIL 29 THROUGH MAY 3

Ms. Santarella asked why they did not ask for permission to hold this event at Weed Beach. Mr. Kilduff said that the request was specifically for Pear Tree Point. Ms. Sullivan said that they are using Weed Beach. Ms. Santarella said that it seems like they are using both beaches. Ms. Sullivan said that they sail from Pear Tree Point, but park at Weed Beach. Mr. Bayne asked if the Town was going to be charged for security. Mr. Kilduff said that Darien is being indemnified and will not be responsible.

Ms. Santarella said that she wanted to be sure there would be a Police presence and that the town is not paying. Mr. Kilduff said that he was going to monitor this event with the Police.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

D. TRANSFERS

**** MR. MORTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM:**

Support Services

RESOLVED:

That the following transfer appropriation is approved for referral to the Board of Finance:

From:			To:		
Acct. No.	Account	Amount	Acct. No.	Account	Amount
10102021-81003	Seasonal & Temp	\$1,500	10101021-82024	Copy Equip & Lease	\$3,450
10102021-82008	Printing	250			
10102021-83001	Office Supplies	200			
10102011-82001	Travel	250			
10102011-82002	Conf & Mtgs	1,100			
10102011-82003	Training Serv.	150			
TOTAL		\$3,450			\$3,450

**** MS. SULLIVAN SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

AGENDA REVIEW

Ms. Klein noted that a presentation for the Community by Milone and McBroom will take place on March 31st at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium.

A Department head meeting will take place in early April.

Ms. Klein asked the Selectmen if there were any items that needed to be added to the agenda. Ms. Sullivan noted that garbage, parking at the railroad station and agreements with the Fire Department need to be included. Also, going forward the Library budget and Library report need to be included.

APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

Consider and take action on the following appointments:

**** MS. SULLIVAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENT:**

Robert Munro (R) as a member of the Advisory Commission on Coastal Waters

**** MR. BAYNE SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Consider and take action on the following reappointments:

Monuments & Ceremonies Commission

**** MR. MORTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING REAPPOINTMENTS:**

Edward Carabillo (D)

George Walsh (U)

John Geoghegan (U)

For the terms beginning on December 1, 2009 and expiring on November 30, 2012

**** MR. BAYNE SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Regular Meeting of February 23, 2009

The following corrections were made to the minutes:

Page 1 – Absent: Ms. Santarella

Page 2, second paragraph, add per annum after \$54,000 and \$84.00

Correct spelling from Mr. Marr to Mr. Vanderkeef throughout

Page 4, Correct Mr. Simms to Mr. Simon

Page 4, 9th paragraph, should read...asking that the Selectmen get Darien to a moratorium

Page 5, 4th paragraph, should read...Mr. Fox and asked if this disclaimer in the plan was typical...

- ** MR. BAYNE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED
- ** MR. MORTON SECONDED
- ** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MS. SANTARELLA)

Special Meeting of February 24, 2009

- ** MS. SULLIVAN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED
- ** MR. MORTON SECONDED
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services