

**TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JULY 12, 2016**

ATTENDANCE: First Selectman Jayme Stevenson; Robert Richards, Susan Marks, Marc Thorne, Charles Koons

STAFF: Kate Clarke Buch, Town Administrator

OTHERS: Ed Gentile, Director of Public Works, Darren Oustafine, Assistant Director of Public Works

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Stevenson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment – None

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

First Selectman Stevenson read her report. It is attached for the record. Selectmen Marks also expressed her thanks to the businesses who contributed, helping to pay for the fireworks, particularly David Genovese and family. She also thanked the Darien Police Department, Noroton Heights Fire Department and Post 53. She thanked the community for leaving the grounds in very good order.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Buch reported on the personnel vacancies and status of filling the position.

Ms. Buch also reported that the new website would be going live soon, following the second round of staff training.

New Business

Discuss and Take Action on process for choosing a Paramedic Service Provider:

First Selectman Stevenson gave a brief review of the decision to contract for paramedic services. She then reviewed the process options for contracting a service provider, to issue an RFP to solicit responses from all interested providers, because the charter allows for the

direct contracting for professional services, by affirmative vote of at least 4 Selectmen. After discussion, the following motion was made:

To approve the hiring of Stamford Emergency Medical Service as the Town of Darien's Paramedic Service Provider.

- ** MR. RICHARDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST.
- ** MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Discuss Solid Waste Tipping Fees and Permit Fees

The Board discussed the existing levels of solid waste tipping and permit fees and requested additional information be provided prior to continuing their discussion.

Discuss and Take Action on Tax Appeal Settlement

The Darien Board of Selectmen hereby approves settlement of the case of The Country Club of Darien, Inc v. Town of Darien to amend the Fair Market Value of the property to \$30,340,000 from \$42,862,400, effective with the Grand List of October 1, 2013 and to further amend the Fair Market Value of the Property to \$27,250,000 effective with the Grand List of October 1, 2015 in accordance with a Stipulation for Judgment.

- ** MR. RICHARDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST.
- ** MR. THORNE SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MRS. STEVENSON AND MR. KOONS RECUSED THEMSELVES.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Darien Board of Selectmen hereby approves settlement of the case of The Wee Burn Country Club, Inc v. Town of Darien to amend the Fair Market Value of the property to \$32,747,800 from \$53,592,900, effective with the Grand List of October 1, 2013 and to further amend the Fair Market Value of the Property to \$30,415,000 effective with the Grand List of October 1, 2015 in accordance with a Stipulation for Judgment.

- ** MRS. MARKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST.
- ** MR. RICHARDS SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MRS. STEVENSON AND MR. KOONS RECUSED THEMSELVES.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Darien Board of Selectmen hereby approves settlement of the case of The Woodway Country Club, Inc v. Town of Darien to amend the Fair Market Value of the property to \$27,645,000 from \$32,994,500, effective with the Grand List of October 1, 2013 and to further amend the Fair Market Value of the Property to \$24,070,000 effective with the Grand List of October 1, 2015 in accordance with a Stipulation for Judgment.

- ** MR. THORNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST.**
- ** MR. RICHARDS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- MRS. STEVENSON AND MR. KOONS RECUSED THEMSELVES.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

AGENDA REVIEW

The Board discussed the need to form a building committee and the qualifications desired for members. Expertise in building and construction expertise as well as financial expertise are desired.

Mrs. Stevenson noted that representatives from the Parks & Recreation Commission would be present at a meeting in August to present a request related to a park study.

Mrs. Marks asked to have a discussion of items from the Pedestrian Infrastructure Advisory Committee recommendations that could be implemented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Executive Session of June 20, 2016

- ** MR. KOONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.**
- ** MR. RICHARDS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. Regular Meeting of June 20, 2016.

- ** MS. MARKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.**
- ** MR. RICHARDS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. Executive Session of July 8, 2016.

- ** MR. KOONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.**
- ** MR. RICHARDS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- MR. THORNE ABSTAINED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Adjournment

- ** MR. KOONSMOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**
- ** MR. RICHARDS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen C Buch
Town Administrator

First Selectman's Report
July 12, 2016

- First, it is with great sadness that I share the sudden passing of long-time town employee and RTM member, Jack Whitehead on June 26th. Jack worked for the town for nearly 40 years, was an active member of the RTM and served as Special Police for 8 years in the 1990's. We extend our sincere condolences to Jack's sister and brother and to his co-workers
- Over the past 3 weeks, I've attended several local and regional meetings regarding the opioid crisis. We are in discussions with community partners on possible treatment options to which we can refer at risk individuals.
- Aquarium's water main replacement program is underway on Norton Avenue (Chestnut to Middlesex) and at Mansfield Avenue and Middlesex. 5,000 feet of water main will be replaced in total. These 2 specific projects should help reduce the number of service interruptions caused by water main breaks in these areas.
- In addition, Eversource has begun their upgrades to the natural gas system in Darien. Again, 5,000 feet of gas main is being replaced in the West Ave, Holmes Ave, Robinson, Brown, Catherine, Hazel, Kelsey and Moore Streets. This work is in advance of the new main installation that will be coming soon although a small portion of that work has been completed between the Post Road and Leroy Ave. already
- 6/26 Congratulate the participants and winners of the Darien Arts Center's 3rd Annual Darien's Got Talent
- 6/27 I met, along with the Harbor Master and members of the Advisory Commission on Coastal Waters and Five Mile River Commission with Scott Bates, the Commissioner of the newly constituted Connecticut Port Authority. He is visiting all coastal municipalities in CT to understand our coastal assets and hear what our concerns are. We identified safe and healthy water for recreation and shell fishing, dredging and how the Long Island Sound can play a role in emergency preparedness and response.
- 6/28 - members of the BOS were invited to tour the new Stamford Hospital. As a community, we are very fortunate to have a state of the art hospital like Stamford available to our residents. They are attracting top physician talent and have developed strong relationships with Hospital of Special Surgery and another premier cancer institute. We are grateful to the Darien residents who have made significant contributions to the hospital's capital campaign.

- 7/2 - 6th Annual Darien Fireworks - Thank you to Susan Marks, Rachel Hennemuth and Stacey Tie for organizing this year's event. (Susan to add thank you's)
- 7/4 - Thank you to VFW Post 6933 and Sharad Samy and his family for organizing the 12th Annual Push-N-Pull Parade. This year's attendance was extraordinary given the incredible weather we had for the July 4th holiday weekend.
- 7/8 - Board of Selectmen met for the second round of interviews for the position of Human Resources Director - a decision will be forthcoming very soon. We have excellent candidates.
- The town issued an RFP for healthcare consultants to help the Consolidated Services Working Group analyze any efficiencies we could realize by the town and Board of Education pooling our employees or by moving to a self-insured healthcare model. The CSWG will be meeting on 7/19 to make our final consultant selection.
- The Darien Chamber of Commerce is holding this year's Darien Sidewalk Sales this Thursday, Friday and Saturday - please come out to support our local retailers and restaurants. This year's three-day event will feature a Collectible Car Show on Saturday, bands, face painting, a treasure hunt and a giant pedal car race track behind First County Bank on Saturday.
- Tomorrow, 7/13, Darien and WestCOG are working in collaboration with UConn to begin a Road Safety Audit for our downtown. This will help support pedestrian upgrades and grant funding we may seek for those upgrades. The RSA's are the first step in the Governor's "Community Connectivity Program" which is part of his larger Let's Go CT plan and is designed to identify safety issues and counter measures to improve the safety of our local roadways. (key elements - shoulder width, sidewalk width/condition, pavement markings, traffic volume, on-road parking locations, bike lanes, traffic signals, drainage, and sightlines)