

**TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MARCH 21, 2016**

ATTENDANCE: First Selectman Jayme Stevenson; Charles Koons, Susan Marks,
Robert Richards, Marc Thorne.
STAFF: Kate Clarke Buch, Town Administrator.

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Stevenson called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

PRESENTATION Darien Library

Darien Elementary School students and teachers were in attendance to present a children's book that was written by the group on 'What We Like about Darien.' First Selectman Stevenson accepted the book on behalf of the Town and thanked the group of students, teaches and Darien Librarians for their hard work, noting that their efforts are impressive and a first for the Town.

PRESENTATION on Natural Gas Line Expansion Project

Mr. Gentile introduced members of Eversource Energy in attendance to present the project. Comments and questions from Board members were fielded throughout the presentation. A summary of the project details are as follows:

- Project Route -- Approx. 18,700'
- Eversource Capital Investment = \$4.2 Million
- Town Benefits¹
 - No Contribution in Aid of Construction (CIAC)* with Town Restoration Support
 - \$80,000 in Estimated Annual Fuel Savings²
 - Additional Property Tax Revenue (Approx. \$40,000 per year)
 - Access to natural gas for over 225 additional residential and commercial properties along the route
- Municipal Facilities
 - Darien High School
 - Middlesex Middle School
 - Royle Elementary School
 - Public Works Town Garage
 - Noroton Heights Fire Department
- Mixed-Use Developments
 - Noroton Heights Shopping Center
 - Federal Realty
 - Baywater Properties
- Residential Development
 - Old Town Hall Homes (Academy Road)

There was discussion about Holmes School and the limitations of future expansion.

Mr. Gentile came forward and spoke about the project of restoration of town roads, and that this is being developed to be brought forth for a recommended plan.

Mr. Gentile added that the next step with the natural gas expansion is a dual fuel heating systems at the schools that is being developed with Public Works and Mr. Lynch.

First Selectman Stevenson explained that the next step is an 8-24 referral to Planning & Zoning.

Attorney Wayne Fox came forward and outlined that there is no RTM meeting requirement based on the following:

1. No financing is necessary.
2. No easements are required.
3. There are no liens or leases involved.

PRESENTATION Four Month Outlook from Planning & Zoning

Jeremy Ginsberg distributed to the Board a written outline on residential and commercial projects in development in the Town of Darien. He outlined the short and long range plans consistent with the Plan for Conservation and Development. There was discussion on management of storm water and drainage guidelines. Mr. Ginsberg then outlined future plans in development for the redesign of Noroton Heights Center and Noroton and West Avenue intersections.

It was suggested to have a Board of Finance/Board of Education joint meeting to explore future ideas and next steps for planning recommendations.

Public Comment - None

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

First Selectman Stevenson read her report and provided it for the record, as follows:

- Special Meeting on 4/4 at 7pm, here in 206, to receive the McGrath EMS Report
- 3/16 CT Commuter Rail Council Meeting:

It was a privilege to host the 3/16 CT Commuter Rail Council Meeting. Attendance was low but those in attendance had a rare opportunity to engage with the council as well as staff from ConnDOT and Metro North Railroad. We were updated on the Noroton Heights platform replacement project and the Atlantic Street Bridge Replacement project in Stamford. I had the opportunity to, again, ask ConnDOT to partner with the Town of Darien on a more comprehensive station renovation project and to consider rebuilding the platforms to accommodate expanded service at the Noroton Heights station.
- Legislative Update—WestCOG handout provided to the Board for review.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Buch reported the following:

- There is a Task Force with members from the Health Department, Chief of Police, and Fire Marshal established to address residential hoarding issues. There was discussion on issues as it relates to public safety, elder services and the Blight Ordinance. First Selectman Stevenson requested an update for the RTM.
- The Tanko Presentation on street lighting is scheduled for tomorrow night to the Town Board of Finance.

New Business

Discuss and Take Action on Updates to Peddlers Ordinance

Chief Lovello came forward and outlined the recommended amendments to ordinance Chapter 46 – Peddlers and Solicitors.

The Board of Selectmen recommends to approve the Police Departments proposed changes to the Peddler's Ordinance as proposed (as amended) to the RTM for their consideration and approval, pending further review based on state statutes.

- ** MR. RICHARDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS TO PEDDLERS ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED.
- ** MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Discuss and Vote of Support for Natural Gas Expansion

There was discussion based on the presentation made earlier tonight, and consensus of the Board that this was a win-win project for the Town.

- ** MR. RICHARDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED.
- ** MR. KOONS SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN
APPROVING AN EXPANSION PROJECT AND DEVELOPMENT
AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, Yankee Gas servicing company doing business as Eversource has received approval from the Connecticut Public Utility Regulatory Authority to expand its natural gas services across Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Darien is desirous of taking advantage of this approval and expanding the availability of these services within the Town; and

WHEREAS, the agreement does not include any financial contribution by the Town for the work to be completed; and

WHEREAS, the agreement does not provide the conveyance of any interest in Town real estate to Eversource;

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectman is of the opinion that this expansion and development benefits the Town and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, under Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes a project which located or extends public utilities needs to be referred to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a report.

BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Darien hereby approves the Expansion Project and Development Agreement with Yankee Gas Services Company doing business as Eversource Energy and refers the contract to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a report.

Discuss and Take Action on Email Resolution

There was discussion based on the requirements of due diligence by municipal officials, and consensus of the Board that this was an appropriate resolution for the Town.

Ms. Sarah Seelye, Moderator for the RTM noted that the rules Committee has voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

- ** MR. RICHARDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED.
- ** MR. THORNE SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN SENSE OF THE
MEETING RESOLUTION REGARDING GOVERNMENT EMAIL FOR
ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

WHEREAS, the contact between public officials and their constituents is growing rapidly; and

WHEREAS, the material requested to be produced by a town government through the Freedom of Information statute has increased dramatically over the last several years; and

WHEREAS, requests for documentation relating to governmental activity in conjunction with pending or possible litigation has increased dramatically over the last several years; and

WHEREAS, the ability to gather the information requested is more readily accessible if centralized at one source; and

WHEREAS, the overall transparency of government would be improved were the record of governmental activities be more readily available.

BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Darien recommends and encourages that all elected and appointed officials have provided to them a public government email address for the purpose of providing and having more readily accessible a record of any town business in which they are engaged.

Discuss and Take Action on Request by CT Department of Housing

There was discussion based and consensus of the Board that this was an appropriate resolution for the Town.

- ** MR. RICHARDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED.
- ** MR. THORNE SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**RESOLUTION PLEDGING TO JOIN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE FIGHT TO END HOMELESSNESS**

WHEREAS the State of Connecticut has signed on to Zero: 2016, a national initiative sponsored by the nonprofit *Community Solutions* to end chronic homelessness by the end of calendar year 2016; and

WHEREAS the State of Connecticut has called on local chief elected officials to join the state and local nonprofits in the mission to end chronic homelessness; and

WHEREAS the Board of Selectmen believes it is important to join with the State of Connecticut to connect people with the resources they need to get them on a path to permanent, safe, stable, and affordable housing

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Darien Board of Selectmen pledge to be leaders in the community in the fight to end chronic homelessness by the end of 2016, to partner with the Department of Housing and the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness in their efforts to end homelessness and to work within the community to make sure that residents of Darien have access to quality, safe, and affordable housing.

Budget Transfers

Ms. Buch referred to the supporting documentation as presented. Chief of Police Lovello came forward to present the transfers.

**** MR. THORNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING BUDGET TRANSFERS AS PRESENTED.**

**** MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

e. Transfers

RESOLVED:

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

From:

To:

Acct. No.	Account	Amount	Acct. No.	Account	Amount
10302313-82040	Fleet Services - Repairs	\$3,000	10302323-82041	Station Oper and Maint - Facility Repair	\$5,000
10302313-83014	Fleet Services - Tires	\$2,000			
	TOTAL	\$5,000		TOTAL	\$5,000

RESOLVED:

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

From:

To:

Acct. No.	Account	Amount	Acct. No.	Account	Amount
10704000-86600	Contingency	\$34,000	10302213-820007	Police Admin - Prof Services	\$34,000
	TOTAL	\$34,000		TOTAL	\$34,000

RESOLVED:

That the following transfer of appropriations is approved for referral to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance:

From:

To:

Acct. No.	Account	Amount	Acct. No.	Account	Amount
10105091-82105	Regulatory Counsel	\$20,507	10201011-82012	Consulting	\$16,000
			10201011-82034	Software Maint & Support	\$4,507
	TOTAL	\$20,507		TOTAL	\$20,507

APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENTS

Consider and take action on the following appointment:

Gunnar Edelstein to the Environmental Protection Commission for a 3-year term beginning on July 1, 2014 and expiring on June 30, 2017.

**** MS. MARKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ABOVE APPOINTMENT AS PRESENTED.**

**** MR. KOONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Agenda Review

EMS Open Discussion; Discussion on Audit Filing & Committee- BOS Presentation*;
Goals & Objectives; Pedestrian Infrastructure Advisory Board – Discussion on role/charge;
Parking Authority –Next Steps.

*During the agenda review there was discussion on the audit outcome. Ms. Buch explained that the audit report is a draft and contains good statistical information that will be presented to the Board once it is filed.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Special Meeting of March 7, 2016

- ** **MR. THORNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 7, 2016 AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** **MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Regular Meeting of March 7, 2016

- ** **MS. MARKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 7, 2016 AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** **MR.KOONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Forthcoming Meetings

As noted

It was noted that the Parking Authority meeting would commence following this meeting.

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Knox,
Telesco Secretarial Services