

**APPROVED MINUTES  
BOARD OF FINANCE REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 3, 2008  
7:30 pm  
TOWN HALL –ROOM 206**

Chairman Murry Stegelmann called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. All members of the Board of Finance were present. Finance Director Kate Clarke Buch was present. Evonne Klein, First Selectwoman, was present as well as other members of the Board of Selectmen and Karl Kilduff, Administrative Officer. Several members of the Board of Education were present, as well as several members of the public. The meeting was being broadcast on Channel 79.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING STADIUM LIGHTS**

Mr. John Boulton, Chairman of the Board of Education, led the discussion of the BOE's cost estimates for the stadium lights. Mr. Boulton reported that the BOE's insurance carrier said there would be no increase in liability insurance because of the lights. Mr. Boulton addressed costs saying that practices under the lights would be about \$3,000 per year. Football and other sports would be a net positive because of the gate fees charged. Murry Stegelmann noted that the Board of Finance was concerned with the narrow issue of the lights' costs to taxpayers.

Gwen Mogenson noted that she wanted a greater involvement of the RTM on the issue. Martha Banks said that it was a logical progression through town board approvals to have the Board of Finance vote on the lights.

The meeting was then opened up to the public for comments.

Flora Smith, 42 Hamilton Lane, noted that the RTM needs an appropriation from the Board of Finance in order to vote on the lights.

Susan Richter, 60 Hanson Road, commented on her concern over the insurance questions.

Ann Hannon expressed her concern about zoning changes and the procedure.

Walter Raleigh, 369 Middlesex Road, told the history of a prior effort to put in lights, which had been turned down by the P & Z.

Cece Tucci, 300 Noroton Avenue, expressed her concerns about increased liability and costs of the lights.

Lisa Wensberg, 13 Sunset Road, spoke in support of the lights

Cheryl Russell, Holly Lane and John Wolcott, 13 Linda Lane, spoke in opposition of the lights.

Gwen Mogenson moved the resolution recommending approval. The motion was seconded by Martha Banks. Murry Stegelmann then read the motion recommending approval. The motion reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS  
FOR THE INSTALLATION OF EXTERIOR LIGHTS  
AT THE DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM FIELD**

WHEREAS, private individuals known as the Stadium Field Lights committee have raised funds for the purposes of installing exterior lights at the Darien High School Stadium; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectman and Board of Education have both approved resolutions authorizing the acceptance of funds raised by the Stadium Field Lights Committee and have forwarded said resolutions to the Representative Town Meeting for its consideration and approval; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Finance approves the request of the Board of Education for an appropriation of up to \$550,000 for the purpose of installing exterior lights at the Darien High School Stadium, with the provision that at no time shall the appropriation exceed the amount which has been deposited with the Town for that purpose combined with any interest earnings on such funds while they are invested by the Town and hereby recommends this appropriation to the Representative Town Meeting for its consideration.

The motion was carried 4-2-1.  
The following votes were cast:

Peter Hovell –No  
Tom Volpe-No  
Lori Bora- Yes  
Gwen Mogenson-Yes  
Murry Stegelmann-Yes  
Martha Banks-Yes  
Liz Mao -Abstain

#### TRANSFERS TO INFRASTRUCTURE RESERVE

Tom Volpe moved that the agreed upon reserve fund accounts totaling \$228,067.90 be swept and put into the Board of Finance Infrastructure Reserve.

The motion was seconded and the motion was passed unanimously, 7-0.

#### WEED BEACH RENOVATION

Peter Hovell handed out Weed Beach Renovation Plan packets and asked that the matter be put on the calendar for a vote on April 8, 2008.

Gwen Mogenson moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded and approved 7-0.

There being no other business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Smith Mao, Clerk