

**MINUTES
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
JUNE 22, 2015**

**RECEIVED
JUN 25 2015
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
DARIEN CT.**

CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Representative Town Meeting was called to order at 8:05 p.m. by Donna Rajczewski, Town Clerk.

The following members were present:

From District I, there were 9 members present, 6 absent.
From District II, there were 10 members present, 6 absent.
From District III, there were 7 members present, 9 absent.
From District IV, there were 10 members present, 5 absent.
From District V, there were 10 members present, 7 absent.
From District VI, there were 11 members present, 4 absent.

The absentees from District I were: Buchesky, Butler, Conologue, Conze, DuPont, Dweck,

The absentees from District II were: Finn, Hoffman, Howe, Keith, McIlmurray Mundt.

The absentees from District III were: Camuti, Hageney, Hegarty, Hite, Jordan, Maroney, Morton, Schulz-Amatruda, Washecka.

The absentees from District IV were: Domittner, Hardison, Millar, Rayhill, Savage.

The absentees from District V were: Adiletta, Bates, Fead, Hennessy, LeHan, Lublin, Stolar.

The absentees from District VI were: Lauritzen, McDermott, Palen, D. Young.

The Moderator, Sarah Seelye, assumed the Chair.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

**** THE AGENDA WAS ACCEPTED BY UNIVERSAL CONSENT.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Moderator reminded all that June is dog licensing month and that licenses are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

She also announced that the Town Plan of Conversation and Development would be discussed at the Planning & Zoning Meeting Tuesday, June 23, and invited members to participate.

Lastly, an invitation was extended to all to share in a Board of Education reception to be held June 23 at 35 Leroy from 6:30 to 7:15 PM.

15-17

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF DARIEN AND THE TOWN HALL EMPLOYEE UNION

**** JACK DAVIS, DISTRICT III, VICE CHAIR FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE, MOVED:**

WHEREAS, contract negotiations between the Town of Darien and the Town Hall Employee Union have been ongoing; and

WHEREAS, the principal areas of negotiation included wage increases, contributions toward the cost of medical insurance and working conditions; and

WHEREAS, an understanding on the terms of a new agreement have been reached; and

WHEREAS, the new contract runs for four (4) years from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the new contract calls for 1.75% wage increase in first year, 2.50% wage increase in the second, third and fourth year; and

WHEREAS, effective July 1, 2015, the Town will be obligated to pay no more than the premium for the High Deductible Healthcare Plan. Effective July 1, 2016, the High Deductible Healthcare plan will be the only plan available for union members;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Representative Town Meeting of the Town of Darien hereby approves said four (4) year agreement with the Town Hall Employee Union and as is more specifically described in the contract available through the First Selectman's office.

**** THE MOTION WAS SECONDED FROM THE FLOOR.**

Jack Davis, District III and vice chair of the F&B Committee presented his committee's report.

In response to various questions, it was noted that there are 30 members (mostly clerical) in the Union, raises are automatic as opposed to merit based, and the cost to the Town is \$2.6 million or less than 2% of the budget. Further, the contract appears to compare favorably with those of other state municipalities.

Jim Cameron, District IV voiced his enthusiastic support of the Town Hall employees and the contract.

**** ITEM 15-17 CARRIED ON A RISING TALLY VOTE OF 55 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rajczewski
Acting Clerk

APPENDIX

DISTRICT I (15-17)

Buchesky absent
Bumgardner yes
Butler absent
Conologue absent
Conze absent
Dupont absent
Dweck absent
Hayes yes
Keane yes
Kelly, C yes
Kelly, P yes
Pattelli yes
Schneider yes
van der Kieft yes
von Stuelpnagel yes

DISTRICT II (15-17)

Bacon yes
Conroy yes
Finn absent
Hoffman absent
Howe absent
Keith absent
Marston yes
McIlmurray absent
McNally yes
Miller yes
Mundt absent
Sartori yes
Sawitsky yes
Seelye DOES NOT VOTE
Thorne, B. yes
Thorne, M yes

DISTRICT III (15-17)

Anderson yes
Camuti absent
Cardone yes
Conniff yes
Coyle yes
Coyle Downs yes
Davis, Jack yes
Hageney absent
Hegarty absent
Hite absent
Jordan absent
Maroney absent
Moore yes
Morton absent
Schulz-Amatruda absent
Washecka absent

DISTRICT IV (15-17)

Banks yes
Cameron yes
Davis, Joan yes
Domittner absent
Fiore yea
Haidinger yes
Hardison absent
Hawkins yes
Kemp yes
Miceli yes
Millar absent
Morrison yes
Peters yes
Rayhill absent
Savage absent

DISTRICT V (15-17)

Adiletta absent
Bates absent
Bayne yes
Boulton yes
Duffy yes
Fead absent
Fiveson yes
Hayes yes
Hennessy absent
LeHan absent
Lublin absent
McLachlin yes
Mosher yes
Patrick yes
Russell yes
Stolar absent
Young, Rob yes

DISTRICT VI (15-17)

Adelman yes
Cherico yes
Grogan yes
Hawkins yes
Lauritzen absent
Luz yes
McDermott absent
Palen absent
Plehaty yes
Poli yes
Ritchie yes
Swenson yes
Van Loan yes
Whitehead absent
Young, David absent

Darien Representative Town Meeting

Finance and Budget Committee Report on

Resolution 15-17: Consideration and action on agreement between the Town of Darien and the Town Hall Employee Union

June 22, 2015

The F&B committee met tonight with 8 of 13 members present. Joining our meeting was Karl Kilduff, Kate Buch and Frank Huck.

The resolution before the RTM tonight is to “not reject the contract” between the Town of Darien and the Town Hall Employee Union contract that has been ratified by the union. There are two other contracts still under negotiation – the public works and police union contracts.

- The union contains 28.62 FTE or 30 employees.
- The contract covers the years 2014/15 thru 2017/2018.
- These town employees have been working without a contract during the past year and the contract calls for a 1.75% increase to be paid retroactive costing the town a little less than \$32,000, an amount less than reserved in the 2015/16 budget for this retroactive pay.

Key provisions of the contract are:

- The contract effectively moves all employees to a high-deductible health insurance plan (if an employee desires to keep the prior PPO plan, that employee must pay the premiums over the cost the town would pay under the high deductible plan.) The town is estimating a \$35,000 savings.
- After the retroactive pay, the contract increases will be 2.5% increase in each grade/step in each of the next three years. Combined with the grade/step increases, the new contract will cost 3.4% (\$53,526) in 15/16; 3.23% in 16/17 and 3.05% in 17/18. Again these are estimates and as a high number of employees are at the highest grade – 19 in 14/15; 21 in 15/16; 23 in 16/17 and 24 of the 30 members in 2017/18 – any retirement will have a significant impact on actual costs associated with this budget.
- Longevity benefits cease for all new hires but continue for existing employees.
- The Pension modifications previously approved by the RTM continue with this contract – capping the defined benefit for pensions.
- The contract may be reopened in 2017 to address healthcare and the potential “Cadillac Tax” associated with “Obamacare,” if required.

F&B voted 8 in favor and none opposed to “not reject the contract.” We recommend passage of this resolution.

Respectfully submitted:

Jack Davis, District 3

Vice Chair of RTM F&B