

**MINUTES  
REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING  
JANUARY 22, 2018**

**RECEIVED  
JAN 26 2018  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
DARIEN CT.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the Representative Town Meeting was called to order at 8:10 by Donna Rajczewski, Town Clerk, who announced that the RTM had six new members, bringing total membership to 98. District I needs two members. The new members are:

District II                      Penny Wilson

District IV                      Michael Heitz, Rolf Obin, Linda Terhune, Morgan Whittier

District VI                      Rob Werner

Mrs. Rajczewski swore in the new members.

The Moderator, Seth Morton, assumed the Chair.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 11, 2017 STATE OF THE  
TOWN MEETING**

**\*\*        THE MINUTES WERE ACCEPTED BY UNIVERSAL CONSENT.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Moderator said that discussion of solar panels would be on a future agenda.

**REPORT ON THE BUDGET PROCESS**

Kate Buch, Town Administrator, made a Power Point presentation on the budget process.

Jack Davis, District III, Chairman of the Finance & Budget Committee, said that the Board of Finance determines the debt service, timing and length, etc. Ms. Buch said they don't decide on the rates. The RTM approves the total amount. The Board of Finance determines the structure and it goes out to bid.

**REPORT FROM DISTRICT II ON THE JANUARY 7TH INFORMATIONAL  
MEETING WITH DISTRICT II RESIDENTS**

Nina Miller discussed this meeting, noting that there were approximately 20 people in attendance. Some of the issues raised were as follows:

- Limits on hunting
- More crosswalks
- Dedicated dog parks unleashing dogs during winter
- Too much garbage along the road and on sidewalks
- What happens to the budget when they have to cut services
- Mill rate should be adjusted for those in private associations
- Shared services with towns such as New Canaan

Clara Sartori said they might do this again. Another issue brought up is that the RTM should have an Environmental Committee.

Heather Pommernelle talked about various ways to communicate with members of their district.

**18-1**

**CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON AN AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF  
THE POLICE PENSION PLAN**

**\*\* JAMES PATRICK, DISTRICT V, CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE, MOVED:**

WHEREAS, the Town of Darien (the “Town”) maintains the Town of Darien Police Pensions (the “Police Plan”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 13.01 of the Police Plan, the Police Plan may be amended by the Town’s Board of Selectmen with approval of the Board of Finance and a Representative Town Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectman has voted to approve an amendment and restatement of the Police Plan effective as of July 1, 2016, for the purposes of updating the Police Plan in order to comply with all applicable laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, a copy of said document is available for review in the Town Clerk’s office and will also be posted on the Town’s website.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Representative Town Meeting of the Town of Darien hereby approves the aforementioned amendment and restatement of the Police Plan, effective as of July 1, 2016.

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

James Patrick, District V, Chairman of the Public Health & Safety, read the Committee report (attached).

Jack Davis, District III, Chairman of the Finance & Budget Committee, read the Committee report (attached).

**\*\* ITEM 18-1 CARRIED ON A RISING TALLY VOTE OF 77 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

**18-2**

**CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON AN AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLAN**

**\*\* JACK DAVIS, DISTRICT III, CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE, MOVED:**

WHEREAS, the Town of Darien (the “Town”) maintains the Town of Darien Employee Retirement Plan (the “Plan”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 50-181 of the Town of Darien Code of Ordinance, the Plan may be amended by the Town’s Board of Selectmen with approval of the Board of Finance and a Representative Town Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectman has voted to approve an amendment and restatement of the Plan effective as of July 1, 2016, for the purposes of updating the Plan in order to comply with all applicable laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, a copy of said document is available for review in the Town Clerk’s office and will also be posted on the Town’s website.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Representative Town Meeting of the Town of Darien hereby approves the aforementioned amendment and restatement of the Plan, effective as of July 1, 2016.

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

Jack Davis, District III, Chairman of the Finance & Budget Committee, read the Committee report (attached).

James Cameron, District IV, said they hear about the State problems with pensions. This is an opportunity for the Town Administrator to reassure them about stability in funding. Kate Buch, Town Administrator, said that Town pensions were well funded; they are in very good shape. Mr. Cameron said that was most reassuring.

**\*\* ITEM 18-2 CARRIED ON A RISING TALLY VOTE OF 77 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

**\*\* UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED FROM THE FLOOR, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN AT 9 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Telesco Blois  
Telesco Secretarial Services

APPENDIX

<u>DISTRICT I</u>	<u>(18-1)</u>	<u>(18-2)</u>	<u>DISTRICT IV</u>	<u>(18-1)</u>	<u>(18-2)</u>
Baldwin	yes	yes	Banks	yes	no
Barsanti	yes	yes	Cameron	yes	yes
Bumgardner	yes	yes	Joan Davis	absent	absent
Butler	absent	absent	Fiore	yes	yes
Carter	yes	yes	Hardison	yes	yes
Conologue	yes	yes	P. Hawkins	yes	yes
Ezbiansky	yes	yes	Heitz	yes	yes
Keane	absent	absent	Kemp	yes	yes
Kelly, C.	yes	yes	Miceli	yes	yes
Lee	yes	yes	Millar	yes	yes
Lublin	absent	absent	Montanaro	yes	yes
Muchhal	absent	absent	Obin	yes	yes
Pattelli	yes	yes	Rayhill	yes	yes
Schneider	yes	yes	Savage	yes	yes
von Stuelpnagel	yes	yes	Terhune	absent	absent
			Whittier	yes	yes
 <u>DISTRICT II</u>			 <u>DISTRICT V</u>		
Bacon	yes	no	Adiletta	yes	yes
Boulier	absent	absent	Bayne, C.	yes	yes
Cusack	yes	yes	Bayne, D.	yes	yes
Goertel	yes	yes	Boulton	yes	yes
Handler, S.	absent	absent	Costa	yes	yes
Howe	yes	yes	Duffy	yes	yes
McNally	yes	yes	Fiveson	yes	yes
Miller	yes	yes	Hebert	yes	yes
Mix	yes	yes	Hennessy	yes	yes
Pommernelle	yes	yes	Kelly	yes	yes
Russell	absent	absent	Martin	yes	yes
Sartori	yes	yes	McLachlin	yes	yes
Thorne, B.	yes	yes	Moller	yes	yes
Tie	yes	yes	Mosher	absent	absent
Wheeler	absent	absent	Parent	yes	yes
Wilson	yes	yes	Patrick	yes	yes
			Reed	yes	yes
			Smith	absent	absent
 <u>DISTRICT III</u>			 <u>DISTRICT VI</u>		
Conniff	yes	yes	Adelman	yes	yes
Jack Davis	yes	yes	Cantavero	absent	absent
Feldman	yes	yes	Chickles	yes	yes
Giordano	yes	yes	Grogan	yes	yes
Marousek	yes	yes	Handler, M.	yes	yes
McGoey	yes	yes	Ted Hawkins	absent	absent
Mitchell	absent	absent	Lauritzen	yes	yes
Moore	yes	yes	Lewis	absent	absent
Morton	DOES NOT VOTE		Luz	yes	yes
Riordan	yes	yes	McDermott	yes	yes
Sload	yes	yes	Orphanos	yes	yes
Vitale	yes	yes	Poli	absent	absent
Washecka	absent	absent	Silsby	absent	absent
Woodbury	yes	yes	Swenson	yes	yes
Yarnell	yes	yes	Van Loan	absent	absent
Zimmerman	yes	yes	Vogt	yes	yes
			Werner	yes	yes

Good evening, I'm Mac Patrick, Chairman of Public Health and Safety.

I move Resolution 18-1, Consideration and action on an amendment and restatement of the Police Pension Plan. Do I have a second?

Without objection, I will waive the reading of the Resolution.

The Public Health and Safety Committee met tonight, January 22, 2018, at 7:00pm with 8 of 13 members present to discuss and vote on Resolution 18-1 regarding the Police Pension Plan.

Kate Buch, Darien Town Administrator, attended our meeting and made reference to the Executive Summary, noting that no substantive changes were made to the Plan. The review and update accomplished 3 main objectives.

1. The documents and the Plan, as outlined in the Town Charter, have been brought into compliance with one another and with the Union contracts, where applicable.
2. The documents have been updated to reflect the most current tax codes applicable.
3. Some administrative policies and procedures have been codified.

Any and all changes were thoroughly reviewed by staff as well as the pension board. The documents were also reviewed by union representatives.

Some specific updates included:

How often an employee can get the specifier of their position - once a year by the actuary and once by the town. \$4,500 cost.

The Committee voted 8 to 0 with - abstentions to support  
Resolution 18-1 and we ask the Full RTM to do the same. Respectfully submitted,  
James M. Patrick, Chairman

**RTM F&B Report**

**January 22, 2018**

**18-1 CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON AN AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF THE POLICE PENSION PLAN**

I am Jack Davis, District 3, Chairman of the RTM Finance & Budget Committee.

The RTM Finance & Budget Committee met on January 16<sup>th</sup> with 10 of 14 members present constituting a quorum. Jennifer Charneski, Town Finance Director was present at our meeting.

This resolution is basically getting the Police Pension plan, the supporting ordinance and the Pension documents in sync. The Police union contract was approved during the 2015/16 legislative year. The ordinance has been revised. The Town Pension Board authorized a review of plan documents with the following three main goals:

1. The documents and the plan, as defined in the town charter, be brought into compliance with the ordinances and union contracts
2. The documents be updated to reflect the most current tax codes applicable
3. And lastly, administrative policies and procedures to be codified

These have been accomplished by counsel; reviewed by town staff and the pension board as well as the union representatives. The final step is approval of this body.

The RTM Finance & Budget committee reviewed the changes and voted unanimously to approve amendments and restatements to the Town Employee Pension documents and recommend the same to the full RTM.

Respectfully submitted

Jack Davis, Chairman of the RTM F&B committee

**RTM F&B Report**

**January 22, 2018**

**18-2 CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON AN AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLAN**

I am Jack Davis, District 3, Chairman of the RTM Finance & Budget Committee.

I move RTM resolutions 18-2 consideration and action on an amendment and restatement of the Town of Darien employee retirement plan.

Do I have a second? If there are no objections, I propose to waive the reading of the resolutions.

The RTM Finance & Budget Committee met on January 16<sup>th</sup> with 10 of 14 members present constituting a quorum. Jennifer Charneski, Town Finance Director was present at our meeting.

There are seven town unions that over the course of three years agreed to modifications capping their pension funds. The last of these union contracts were approved by the RTM during the 2015/2016 legislative year. As town employee pensions are coded in the ordinances, all pensions needed to be approved by their union members and town government boards and bodies prior to modifying the ordinances – which was the next step. The RTM modified the ordinances at its May 8 2017 meeting by approving resolution 17-14 which modified Darien code section 50-181.

The final step is to modify the Pension documents. Simply put, this resolutions ensures that the union contracts, the codified pension ordinances and the pension documents are in sync. The Town Pension Board authorized a review of plan documents with the following three main goals:

1. The documents and the plan, as defined in the town charter, be brought into compliance with the ordinances and union contracts
2. The documents be updated to reflect the most current tax codes applicable
3. And lastly, administrative policies and procedures to be codified

These have been accomplished by counsel; reviewed by town staff and the pension board as well as the union representatives. The final step is approval of this body.

The RTM Finance & Budget committee reviewed the changes and voted unanimously to approve amendments and restatements to the Town Employee Pension documents and recommend the same to the full RTM.

Respectfully submitted

Jack Davis, Chairman of the RTM F&B committee