

**REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF DARIEN, CONNECTICUT
FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting Held on September 19, 2011
“DRAFT”**

On September 19, 2011, a regular meeting of the RTM Finance & Budget Committee was held in room 213 of the Darien Town Hall with nine of fourteen members present.

Present were:

Kirk Hoffman
Bruce Orr
Deb Ritchie
Bill Smith
Jim Palen
Terry Duffy
Anita Rycenga
Charles Brode
Marc Thorne (Late arrival)

Absent were: Michael Harman, Jack Davis, Tim Schwarz, Reilly Tierney, Nora McIlree

The Chairman, Bruce Orr, called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

Bill Smith moved to approve the agenda and it was unanimously approved.

Bruce Orr’s opening remarks were regarding the amendment to the Darien Boat Club Lease. He questioned why Finance and Budget committee was made primary on it since the modifications to their by-laws have no financial impact on the Town. Seems solely a Park and Rec matter.

All in attendance had read the by-law changes. Bruce Orr moved to approve, seconded by Anita Rycenga and the vote was unanimously in favor. (Note that Marc Thorne was NOT present for the vote)

Anita Rycenga pointed out three corrections required on the 5/2/11 meeting minutes:

If it was a special meeting the opening sentence needs to be changed.

Anita’s last name is misspelled in the third sentence after the attendance summary.

In the second to last paragraph, second sentence it should read “it” refunds debt vs. “in”

Deb Ritchie moved to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Charles Brode and it was unanimously approved. (Note that Marc Thorne was NOT present for the vote)

Other business included a brief discussion on how we will follow up on separating the budget vote by the way the resolutions are worded so that BOS, BOE and Capital budgets can be voted on individually by the RTM hence forth. Karen Armour was seeking final say from Town counsel. Anita Rycenga will follow up with her.

Anita Rycenga asked if any committee members present had attended any of the BOE SPED subcommittee meetings and if so if they had anything to share. None had, but all agreed that since they are open meetings we should direct attention there. Bruce Orr said they are grouping more students at the elementary level and having students directed according to the teacher’s schedules. All of this he thinks, in an attempt to establish efficiencies.

Brief discussion followed regarding the BOE return of \$96,276 of the \$475,000 shortfall funded. Clarification is desired on where that leaves the SPED reserve balance.

Deb Ritchie moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:00 p.m., Anita Rycenga seconded, all approved.

Dated: September 20, 2011
Respectfully submitted,
Anita Rycenga, Member
RTM Finance & Budget Committee