

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

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting Held on May 3, 2010
“DRAFT”**

On May 3, 2010, a meeting of the RTM Finance & Budget Committee was held in Room B-3 of the Darien Town Hall with twelve of sixteen members present.

Present were:

Preston Bealle
Jack Davis
Michael Harman
Ted Hawkins
Nora McIlree
Bruce Orr
John Price
Anita Rycenga
Tim Schwarz
William Smith
Marc Thorne
Kirk Hoffman

Absent were: Charles Brode, Terry Duffy, Reilly Tierney, John Wolcott

The Chairman, Bruce Orr, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

The agenda for the meeting was modified by moving item #8, approval of minutes from 1/21/10 and 4/26/10 minutes to the first order of business.

* The 1/21/10 minutes were unanimously approved by those in attendance which included: Jack Davis, Ted Hawkins, Nora McIlree, Bruce Orr, John Price, Anita Rycenga, Marc Thorne and Kirk Hoffman.

The minutes of the 4/26/10 were not accepted as recorded. Mr.Orr requested that paragraph three on the second page be amended to read “ Mr. Orr requested we take a preliminary vote to get a sense of the meeting”. Ted Hawkins also wanted “albeit non-binding” added to each of the subsequent votes on the budget.

* Discussion about the RTM resolution 10-9 on Code of Ordinances and fees began. Jack Davis said that moving the fines to an appendix was not consistent with the original charge that was given to the project when he was on the Rules Committee. John Price moved to accept, seconded by Preston Bealle. The vote results were:

In favor:

Preston Bealle, Michael Harman, Ted Hawkins, Nora McIlree, John Price, Tim Schwarz, Bill Smith, Marc Thorne.

Against:

Jack Davis and Kirk Hoffman

Abstained:

Bruce Orr and Anita Rycenga

* Bill Smith moved to accept RTM Resolution 10-10 appropriating up to \$350,000 for BOE shortfall for fiscal year 2009/10. Some discussion followed and it was explained that the money will come out of the general fund. There is flexibility to do so as long as the BOF maintains it’s policy to keep the general fund in between 8-12% of budget.

Bruce called the vote and it was unanimously approved.

* Bill Smith moved to accept RTM Resolution to approve special appropriation of \$908,000 for paving and Nora McIlree seconded. The vote was unanimously in favor.

* Bill Smith moved to accept RTM resolution 10-12 appropriating \$50,000,000 to refund certain outstanding Town bonds and authorizing the issuance of refunding bonds to finance such appropriation. Bruce Orr explained that this gives the BOF the ability to refund any bonds that are outstanding depending on yield, length of maturity, etc. It allows the BOF to act quickly to take advantage of the financial climate at any given time. The vote was unanimously in favor.

* Ted Hawkins moved to accept RTM Resolution 10-13 on the fiscal year 10/11 budget and Bill Smith seconded. Some discussion was had regarding the fact that there was no effort made to renegotiate the teachers contract resulting in some taxpayer frustration. The vote was unanimously in favor.

Nora McIlrre moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Dated: May 4, 2010
Respectfully submitted,
Anita M. Rycenga, Clerk
RTM Finance & Budget Committee