

PUBLIC HEALTH and SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 12, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: JOHN DWECK, CASSANDRA HEGARTY, NOELLE HENDERSON, SUSAN LEHAN, MONICA MCNALLY, JEFFERY MARSTON, LAURA MOSHER, MAC PATRICK, BILL PETERS, BRIAN RAYHILL, CARLA SARTORI, GARY SWENSON

MEMBERS ABSENT: JOHN WHITEHEAD

Chair Patrick called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. A quorum was achieved by 7:25.

The minutes from the meeting on March 17, 2014 were approved.

The committee discussed Town of Darien budget concerns relating to police, fire departments, Post 53, and Emergency Management. Items highlighted were the Police department requests for new police cars, civilian dispatchers, and installation of a new radio system.

The fire department is interested in the civilian dispatcher for continuity in handling emergency calls.

On June 2nd PH&S will meet with the RTM Finance Committee, Chief Lovello and Marc McEwan to discuss Darien's radio system.

A panel discussion will be taking place on June 3rd at the library entitled "Regionalism and the MORE Commission". MORE stands for Municipal Opportunities and Regional Efficiencies. This presentation will be at 7:00 and is free and open to the public.

The date of June 4th was selected to tour the new police facility and to attend a Police Commission meeting. The committee expects to discuss dead zones at that time.

The formation of a Pedestrian Safety Committee was discussed. Laura Mosher, John Dweck and Bill Peters are on that committee. The goal of this committee is to take a more proactive roll in sidewalk development and rehabilitation. This would also include recommendations for areas that could benefit from crosswalks

and bike lanes. It was noted that the Town of New Canaan recently changed a town ordinance whereby homeowners are no longer responsible to clear snow from the sidewalks abutting their property. This committee is comprised of RTM members from all 6 districts who serve on either PH&S, PZ&H or Public Works committees.

Discussion was held on the announcement of a proposal from AT&T to build a cell tower in the form of a farm silo on the property of the Ox Ridge Hunt Club.

Discussion was held on the recent BOS approval to accept a gift from the Darien Athletic Association to turf fields at both the high school and middle school.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Mosher