

**Joint Meeting of the
RTM Public Health and Safety Committee &
RTM Finance & Budget Committee
Wednesday, October 27, 2021
Via GoToMeeting**

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

PHS Committee Members in Attendance: Colin J. Kelly, Lois J. Schneider, Marie A. Handler, Penelope Wilson, A. James Cameron, Christine A. Castles, Brian J. Rayhill, James M. Patrick, Robert A. Werner

Committee Members Absent: Susanne R. Handler, Holly M. Giordano, Thomas W. Moore, Jennifer Woodbury, Eric D. Kanigan, Megan Kilcourse

PH&S Chair Mac Patrick called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Mr. Patrick started the meeting by reading the agenda item being discussed regarding “taking action on a gift from the Darien Foundation to the At Home in Darien being a new vehicle and an estimated value of \$82,880.00”. He asked Kate Buch, Town Administrator, to provide background on the gift. She stated that currently the Town has a minivan that is handicapped accessible, and the donated van would replace that van. She said they learned of the gift only last week so was appreciative of the committees getting together quickly to discuss the issue. She said because At Home in Darien is not a town entity, the Town insures the vehicles and thus is required to own said vehicles. She continued to explain that the At Home in Darien employees are on the Town payroll, the organization reimburses the Town for their cost and the cost of the gas, and that in future the At Home in Darien Director understands the arrangement and will alert the Town sooner. She said they are appreciative of the Darien Foundation making the donation of the vehicle that she stated will serve Town residents.

Mac Patrick asked about the value of the gift, and if it include the net value with the trade-in or is the actual purchase price of the vehicle. Finance & Budget Chairman Jack Davis replied that the trade-in value from the old van is estimated at \$10,000, but it was not included in the total value of the new vehicle. He then called his meeting together at 7:04.

Mr. Davis spoke to all committee members present that this was a unique situation and that he was moving it forward because it is difficult to purchase vehicles in general currently. He checked with Town Counsel around both committees meeting today to discuss the donation, and was advised that at the November 8 Annual Town Meeting, the moderator will ask both committee chairs to report that this discussion took place during the prior legislative session and while not a formal report, the motion can put it up to the full RTM. He added by approving the donation that it allows At Home in Darien to move more “expeditiously,” and put the vehicle into service, and that there may be an increase in the insurance for the vehicle. At Home in Darien will reimburses the Town for maintenance and gas as well, and the newer vehicle may even require less maintenance and cost.

For PH&S, Jim Cameron made the motion to accept the gift from the Darien Foundation for a vehicle to be used by the At Home in Darien organization as stated in the Agenda, Marie A. Handler seconded it. On the F&B side, Bert H. von Stuelpnagel and Stacey Tie seconded it.

The PH&S committee voted unanimously in favor of the resolution, as did the F&B committee. Meeting was adjourned by Mac Patrick at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Penelope Wilson.