

## **Minutes of the special meeting of TGS&A – June 5, 2012 in room 213**

Eight of thirteen members of the committee were present at this meeting.

**Present were:** Chairman Sarah Seelye, Patti Bumgardner, John Boulton, Eugene Coyle, Frank Huck, Frank Kemp, Seth Morton and Deepika Saksena

**Absent were:** Vice Chair Spencer McIlmurray, Michael Burke, Cecelia Mundt, Lloyd Plehaty and Sam Schoonmaker

**Others present:** Ed Schmidt (Town Counsel), Olive Hauser (Director Dept. of Social Services), David Knauf (Director of Health), Karen Armour (RTM, Moderator)

**Also:** Nina Miller (RTM, District 2), Katie Keith, Victoria Holdt and Sandy Filmer (Representatives of Choose To Reuse).

The meeting was called to order at 7:45pm by Chairman Seelye.

Chairman Seelye reviewed the agenda for the meeting, according to the following:

### **Discuss and Take Action on Revisions to Town Charter Chapter X.**

Olive Hauser who is the Director of Dept. of Social Services in Darien presented two changes to the Town Charter Chapter X.

1. Removal of term limits on the Darien Department of Social Services.
2. Change the name of Department of Social Services to Department of Human Services.

Motion was made by Frank Kemp to hold a public hearing in July to gather comments for the suggested changes. Motion was seconded by John Boulton and passed unanimously.

### **Questions and discussion by TGS&A regarding enforcement of the Plastic Bag Ordinance**

David Knauf who is the Director of Public Health was at the meeting. He submitted a letter (see attached document) that states that *“it does not consider the ordinance to be a matter of public health and that Darien Department of Public Health and/or public health resources should not be used to enforce such activities”*.

Questions were raised and discussion ensued. Ed Schmidt (legal counsel) clarified for TGS&A that if the job was given to them, they could not say no. Finally it was decided to continue the process using the original draft wording in the plastic bag

ordinance document, while simultaneously advising the Board of Selectmen of the problem and seeking their guidance on the resolution.

**Adjournment and the next meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm. The next meeting of the TGS&A committee will be scheduled to take place in two weeks.

Respectfully submitted,

Deepika Saksena

Clerk