

MINUTES
OPC SPECIAL MEETING
May 21, 2015

First Selectman Jayme Stevenson called the meeting to order in Room 206 of Town Hall at 9:03 a.m.

Present were First Selectman Jayme Stevenson; Board of Education Chairman Betsy Hagerty-Ross; Planning & Zoning Chairman Susan Cameron; RTM Moderator Sarah Seelye and Board of Finance Chairman Elizabeth Mao. Also in attendance were Board of Education Vice-Chairman Michael Harman and Town Administrator Karl Kilduff.

Planning & Zoning Commission

Ms. Cameron mentioned that Trader Joe's is applying to move into space now occupied by Orvis. Due to traffic safety concerns at the exit onto Post Road, the Commission is considering making it a right-turn only exit.

The Commission has received an application from Penny Glassmeyer for a housing project on Knobel Hill. In addition, several pieces of litigation remain in the works, and the groundwork for the Town Plan of Conservation and Development continues with the focus now on infrastructure.

Board of Education

Mrs. Hagerty-Ross commented that an annual awards ceremony takes place at Darien High School this evening May 21, 2015 and that graduation is scheduled for June 16, 2015. Dr. Pierson is finishing up her work as the Interim Superintendent and helping Dr. Brennan with his transition to Darien's Superintendent beginning July 1, 2015.

Mrs. Hagerty-Ross and Mrs. Mao discussed the DAF proposal to donate fields. Mrs. Mao thanked Mr. Kilduff for his help in structuring the financing of the maintenance costs of the proposed fields.

Representative Town Meeting

Mrs. Seelye thanked members of OPC for attending the May 11, 2015 RTM meeting on the budget. The RTM approved the budget for FY2015-16 and the funds for the demolition of the old Senior Center on Edgerton and 32 Hoyt Street.

At the scheduled June 8, 2015 RTM meeting Ms. Cameron will talk about the Plan of Conservation & Development. Two resolutions will be on the agenda: one will provide the RTM moderator with more flexibility in canceling meetings and the other concerns acceptance of the pavilion at DHS and transfer of same to the BOE.

Board of Finance

Mrs. Mao reported that the Board of Finance is reviewing its options in the issuance of bonds. Additionally, she stated that the Board has selected Blum & Shapiro to audit the Town's finances. Mrs. Mao also mentioned that the Town of Darien should evaluate and prepare for the projected cost of the Cadillac Tax.

First Selectman

Mrs. Stevenson announced that Pamela Gery will begin work on June 8, 2015 as the new Director of Parks & Recreation. Mrs. Stevenson looks forward to the experience and positive energy she will bring to the department.

As a result of the recent parking changes made by the BOS, new parking permits are being issued to residents previously on the waitlist for the Leroy West parking lot. The Memorial Day Parade begins at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, May 25, 2015 and the annual Post 53 Food Fair in Tilley Park follows the parade.

Frank Huck, Chairman of the Consolidated Services Working Group, is preparing a report on the work this committee has been doing and he will attend an upcoming Board of Selectmen meeting to share his report.

A Western Connecticut Council of Governments meeting is scheduled for later today in Newtown, CT. The members of WestCOG unanimously oppose two significant pieces of legislation: one on the Transit Corridor Development Authority and another Concerning Tax Fairness and Economic Development. WestCOG is made up of 18 bi-partisan members who agree more often than they disagree on how to address the issues before them.

Mrs. Stevenson briefly shared what she learned at a recent meeting about the changes taking place in the CT workforce. And finally, on behalf of Terrie Wood, she stated that another casino has been approved for CT.

Mrs. Stevenson called for a motion to approve the OPC minutes of March 19, 2015 and April 23, 2015. Sarah Seelye moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Betsy Hagerty-Ross and approved by a vote of 4-0. Susan Cameron abstained.

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda O'Leary
Recording Secretary