

MINUTES  
OPC MEETING  
November 18, 2010

First Selectman David Campbell called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. in Room 206 at Town Hall.

Present were First Selectman, David M. Campbell; Selectman, Gerald Nielsen, Jr.; Board of Education Chairman, Kim Westcott; State Representative, Terrie Wood; P & Z Vice-Chairman, Joseph Spain; RTM Chairman, Karen Armour; and Town Administrator, Karl Kilduff.

**Board of Education**

Ms. Westcott expressed appreciation for the outpouring of support received after the Board of Education Facilities Director, Paul Engemann, passed away suddenly on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. A number of groups including: the PTOs, youth groups and local press organizations have been getting out the word that a scholarship fund has been established for Paul's children. For the present time, other staff members are taking over the maintenance and custodial responsibilities for the BoE.

Ms. Westcott commented that a Student Resource Officer is being considered for the Darien High School to improve the relationship between students and police officers. The officer would be a resource for students and teachers.

Additionally, Ms. Westcott noted that some emergency repairs were needed at Ox Ridge Elementary School and those repairs have been completed.

**State Representative**

Terrie Wood informed OPC members of a meeting with two Dept. of Transportation engineers and a group of people from Darien and New Canaan that took place on Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. They met to address pedestrian safety issues along Hoyt Street by Talmadge Hill. It appears that the DOT may take issue with the installation of stanchions but will not have any objection to additional lighting. The possibility of creating a pathway instead of a sidewalk is being considered.

Ms. Wood noted that a Downtown Pedestrian Safety Committee has been formed. The committee will consider: the suggestions made in a recent SWRPA Rte. 1 study, establishing new crosswalks, identifying downtown as a "gateway" and organizing a public awareness program to ensure pedestrian safety along Post Road.

**Planning & Zoning**

Mr. Spain explained that the Planning and Zoning Commission changed the regulations to eliminate the inclusionary zoning component that had prioritized assignments for affordable housing units with regards to Town emergency workers, residents, etc. He also discussed that two affordable housing applications under 8-30g are being considered.

Mr. Spain attended a recent on-site review of the temporary lighting of the football field at the high school which revealed no substantial difference to the neighbors if lights were raised to 30 feet. Additionally, the lights are quieter now that they are no longer powered by diesel generators.

**RTM Representative**

Ms. Armour stated that the RTM moved the discussion of a leash law to its March meeting and that the RTM calendar of meetings for 2011 has been posted on the Town's website.

**Town Administrator**

Mr. Kilduff noted that a transfer request would be presented to the BoS and then the BoF for the architectural services to design the new BoE Central Offices and Mather Senior/Community Center.

Additionally, Mr. Kilduff stated that a tree ordinance could come before the TSGA committee at some point. Right now it is being reviewed by the Town's attorney.

**First Selectman**

Mr. Campbell mentioned that the Department of Justice would be conducting interviews and site reviews in Darien on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Also, the Town has responded to the questions about Clock Hill Homes that were proposed by the Department of Economic Community Development with regards to the town's moratorium on 8-30g. A determination on the status of the Town's moratorium is expected in the near future.

The EMS review Committee has submitted its final report to the Board of Selectmen. Members of the committee are scheduled to attend the December 20<sup>th</sup> BoS meeting to review their findings.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 16, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 206.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda O'Leary  
Recording Secretary