

MINUTES
OPC MEETING
MARCH 22, 2016

First Selectman Jayme Stevenson called the meeting to order in Room 206 of Town Hall at 8:37 a.m.

Present were First Selectman Jayme Stevenson; Board of Education Chairman Michael Harman; State Representative Terrie Wood, Board of Finance Chairman Jon Zagrodzky, RTM Moderator Sarah Seelye. Selectman Susan Marks, Town Administrator Kathleen Buch and Board of Education member Christa McNamara were also in attendance.

State Representative

Mrs. Wood discussed items of interest being addressed at the State level. With just over six weeks left to the session, work continues on the budget. The State budget deficit is projected to be \$200 million for this year and significantly larger in coming years. Budget related items were discussed.

The Government Administration & Elections Committee passed Bill 253 allowing municipalities to decide whether or not to combine local polling locations for primary elections.

Mrs. Stevenson discussed concern over additional regionalization efforts being made by the State, including the regionalization of 911 call centers.

Board of Education

Mr. Harman was pleased to provide tours of the school facilities to approximately 30 town officials. He also reported that the Board of Education is awaiting a facilities study being compiled by KG&D of Mt. Kisco, NY. Aspects of the comprehensive study were mentioned and the Board will receive the study in late May or early June. Ms. McNamara noted that the KG&D report will include solutions, not just recommendations.

Board of Finance

The March 15, 2016 Board of Finance meeting was canceled due to the lack of a quorum. The Board will consolidate its budget reviews to complete them in two evenings. Mr. Zagrodzky noted that Bond refunding and the purchase of LED lights would be addressed at tonight's meeting.

Mrs. Wood left at 9:30 a.m.

RTM Moderator

Mrs. Seelye mentioned that the RTM meeting scheduled for March 21, 2016 was canceled due to a lack of business. At the next rules committee meeting a decision will be made about holding a Special Meeting to receive a presentation on the reconciliation of the Mather Senior Center/ BoE Administrative Offices at 35 Leroy Ave. project or to include the presentation in the regular RTM April meeting. The RTM is also considering changes to the self-nominating process and the process of selecting a moderator.

Members of TGS&A continue to study the Blight Ordinances of neighboring towns in an effort to understand blight issues and create a suitable ordinance for the needs of Darien.

First Selectman

The Board of Selectmen passed a gas expansion project at its meeting on March 21, 2016. The Board will receive the EMS report being presented by McGrath Consulting at a Special Meeting on April 4, 2016. Mrs. Stevenson also mentioned that she hopes the RTM will be able to add the comprehensive review of the Mather Senior Center/ BoE Administrative Offices at 35 Leroy Ave. project and the approval of the purchase of the property at 41 Hecker Ave. to its next meeting agenda.

Finally, Mrs. Stevenson shared a book presented to the Board of Selectmen which was written and illustrated by Darien's Kids titled *D is for Darien's Alphabet*.

Mrs. Stevenson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2016 meeting. Sarah Seelye moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Michael Harman. The minutes were approved by a vote of 4-0. Sarah Seelye moved to adjourn, seconded by Jon Zagrodzky and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda O'Leary
Recording Secretary