1. BET Budget Consolidation Day Documents

Documents:

- SUB_TO_APP_02-24-15_DAY_SIX_CONSOLIDATION_DAY.PDF
- APPROVED_BET_BUDGET_COMM_CONSOLIDATION_DAY_MINUTES_02-24-15.pdf
TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION
BUDGET COMMITTEE

DAY SIX - CONSOLIDATION DAY FOR FY16 BUDGET
MINUTES

Town Hall Meeting Room – 9:00 A.M.
Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Present:
Committee: Marc V. Johnson, Chairman; Mary Lee A. Kiernan, Jeffrey Ramer, Leslie L. Tarkington

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director; John Crary, Town Administrator; Melissa Jones, Senior Business Analyst; John Wayne Fox, Town Attorney; Jean McLaughlin, Ass’t Town Attorney; Fernando Arango, Ass’t Town Attorney; Abby Wadler-Shin, Ass’t Town Attorney; Aamina Ahmad, Ass’t Town Attorney; Allen Brown, Executive Director, Nathaniel Witherell

Selectman: Peter Tesei, First Selectman; John Toner, Selectman

Board: Michael Mason, Chairman; John Blankley, William Drake, William Finger, Sean Goldrick, Randall Huffman, Nancy Weissler

Other: Barbara O’Neill, Chairman, BOE; Steve Warzoha, RTM Member; Larry Simon, Retirement Board Member; Lloyd Bankson, Friends of Nathaniel Witherell; Susan Rogers, Junior League

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:04 A.M.

Mr. Johnson called for an Executive Session to discuss litigation matters.

The Committee entered Executive Session at 9:05 A.M.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Committee voted to exit Executive Session.

The Committee exited Executive Session at 9:40 A.M.

Consolidation Process

Mr. Johnson informed the Committee that the process would begin with a review of Revenues. They would then proceed to Expenses. The purpose of Consolidation Day was to build consensus among Committee Members as to which line items would be changed.

FUNDING

Other Revenues – The Committee discussed the following possible adjustments:
- **Prior Year Taxes** – increase Real Estate Taxes $100k

- **Interest on Delinquent Taxes** – increase $100k - $300k

  Ms. Tarkington expressed concern that several factors might make this increase excessive and unachievable: 1) reduction of interest rate which could be mandated by the State; 2) previous year’s tax settlements; 3) increase Senior Tax Credit amount.

- **Building Permits** – possible increase of $250k due to current trends

  Mr. Gieger noted the prospect of a year-end surplus of as much as $500k.

- **Conveyance Tax** – FY15 trending favorably. Possible increase of $250k.

- **Bridges** – possible reimbursement of $1 million from Federal and State sources

  Mr. Mynarski noted that an actual amount was unpredictable due to the amount of processing time of Federal and State agencies, so bridge reimbursements are not budgeted. These could be considered as fallback revenues, including additional FEMA grants, should TOG experience a shortfall.

- **Cancellation of Encumbrances** – return an additional $1 - $1.2 million

  Mr. Mynarski commented that although many departments had capital projects that would be closed out, he could only estimate based on FY14 that approximately $1 million could be returned as unspent.

- **Police Outside Job Fees** – estimated $100 - $150k

  Mr. Ramer and Ms. Kiernan commented that this reflected the new source of revenue mentioned by Chief Heavey during discussions about the new position of outside job Coordinator.

- **Other Revenue** – State payment in lieu of taxes

  Mr. Gieger commented that a payment of $897k was anticipated in FY15 and $858k in FY16.

  A PILOT reimbursement from the Housing Authority is anticipated in FY ’16.

**CAPITAL TAX REVENUE**

A discussion began on restoring the $3m cut from the Capital Tax Levy by the First Selectman’s Office. The BET Budget Guidelines had indicated that the Capital Tax Levy should be increased from $39.4m (FY15) to $42.4m (FY16). Mr. Crary commented that $3 million could be moved from the fund balance to apply against Capital Projects as a one-time policy to reduce borrowing. Ms. Kiernan questioned the idea of using fund balance to reduce cheap debt when interest rates were expected to rise, and noted that other uses of fund balance should also be
considered if there is an appropriate level of fund balance at the end of the current fiscal year. Additional comments from BET Members addressed long-term financing and debt policy.

**FIRST SELECTMAN’S COMMENTS**

Mr. Johnson invited Mr. Tesei and Mr. Crary to appear before the Committee to help prioritize Capital Projects requested in their submitted budget.

Mr. Tesei requested that all projects having to do with maintenance of Town buildings roadways, drainage and sewers be left intact. Mr. Tesei suggested that the following projects could be considered to be of a discretionary nature and might be moved forward to another year’s Budget: Silva Cell Tree Well installation; Parking Department license plate laser scanner, LRAD, Storm Water Program Compliance, Strickland Brook drainage, Holly Hill Master Plan, Byram Beach Master Plan, Digital Learning, Automated Ticket Dispensing Machines, Cardinal Stadium Feasibility Plan, and Byram Marina dredging.

Ms. Kiernan asked whether the increase in the Town contribution for the Youth Coordinator position was for salary purposes, and whether the First Selectman would be supportive of a further modest increase in this contribution for programmatic purposes. The First Selectman agreed and noted how much time the Youth Services Coordinator spends bringing in program revenue by writing grant applications. Mr. Ramer asked about progress on the Northwest fire station site and Mr. Tesei offered that the second proposed site was no longer viable and that a conditional offer had been made on the first site. Ms. Tarkington asked if a prospective budget had been prepared for the events surrounding TOG 375 Anniversary events so that the request for $25k could be evaluated.

**NATHANIEL WITHERELL**

The Committee met again with TNW representatives to discuss a new capital request. Mr. Simon presented a new solution to readdress the immediate and future revenue shortfall by adding 5 additional short term beds to the rehab unit increasing rehab to 47 beds and subtracting 5 beds from the long term care floors reducing its long term skilled nursing to 155 beds. Mr. Brown and Mr. Bankson explained how the proposed solution would meet the unmet demand for post-operative short-term rehabilitation bed availability. They proposed the immediate investment of $240k for repurposing unused rooms that were used for swing space during construction and currently not code compliant because of distance from the nursing station. Mr. Brown emphasized that Nathaniel Witherell’s brand was skilled nursing and rehabilitation, so it would not be competing directly with newer local assisted living facilities.

Mr. Ramer asked if the capital improvement request for $1.531 million would be modified. Mr. Goldrick asked to be provided with a revised P/L showing the impact of dedicating an additional capital contribution to room rehabilitation.

**OPERATING FUND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Budget Committee discussed the following potential changes:

**General Government**

- **Historical District Commission - (+$15,000)** - Mr. Tesei asked the Committee to consider adding $15k to TOG Operating Budget to provide temporary assistance to the Commission and Historic Preservation Trust for clerical assistance and grant research.

**Finance Department**
• **Additional Consulting Projects** - (+$25,000) – The Committee asked if additional funds should be added to the Finance Department's Budget for: 1) consulting; 2) the Housing Authority audit; 3) a study on possible changes to the town charter; 4) accelerating the 311 phone project.

**Tax Collectors Office**

• **Reduce Temporary Salary Line** – (-$5,000) – Mr. Ramer requested that the Committee reduce temporary salaries in the FY16 budget.

**Fire Department**

• **Reduce Promotional Salary Increase and OT** – (-$660,000) – Mr. Johnson proposed eliminating the request for 9 new Firefighters, promotions of Lieutenants to Captain and reducing the OT line. Mr. Ramer proposed hiring 8 firefighters but deleting the floater or 9th person and eliminating the promotions.

**Police**

• **Eliminate the addition of the new position** – (-$97,000) – Ms. Tarkington suggested that the tasks of the new position could be redistributed among current staff.

**Health Department**

• **Eliminate the proposed educator position** (-$35,000) – This new position was not recommended by the BET H.R. Committee.

• **Reinstate Temporary Salary (+$7,580)**

• **Reduce OT for ADP coordination** (-$2,658) Ms. Kiernan anticipates that ADP issues would be resolved by June 30, 2015, eliminating the need for ADP OT.

**Parks & Recreation**

• **Reduce OT for ADP coordination** (-$19,500) – Ms. Kiernan anticipates that ADP issues would be resolved by June 30, 2015, eliminating the need for ADP OT. This would also discourage the use of paper duplication of the payroll process; extra training would be provided.

**Social Services**

• **Reinstate Teen Talk Program** – (+$85,000) – Kids in Crisis will oversee the new program at Eastern, the third and final Middle School to launch this program.

**Youth Services**

• **Increase allocation for Programmatic Funding** – (+$10,000) – Ms. Kiernan suggested that the First Selectman’s addition of $5k for salary should be increased by $10,000 for program purposes, to a total increase of $15k.

**Libraries**

• **Reduce Greenwich Library Budget** – (-$28,737) – Ms. Ormerod-Glynn, Director Greenwich Library, amended the Greenwich Library budget request.

• **Reduce Perrot Library** (-$15,000) - Kevin McCarthy, Director, Perrot Library, amended the Perrot Library budget request.

**Conservation Commission & Wetlands Agency**
• **Reduce transferred employee’s Salary – (-$40,000)** - Employee moved from Wetland’s staff to Conservation Commission staff. Mr. Gieger was asked to analyze the impact on both budgets.

**FIXED CHARGES**

The Budget Committee discussed the following potential changes:

• **Healthcare Administration – (-$100,000)** – ADP is now responsible for administering Health Benefits beginning with FY16 Open Enrollment period.

• **OPEB Savings – (-$828,000)** – Savings to budget if 7% rate of return and 70% ARC funding is assumed. Ms. Tarkington requested additional information about the ARC without the Workmen’s Compensation component.

• **HR Employee Transfer Savings – (-$50,000)** – Safety Coordinator position transferred from Consulting Contract to full-time employee status.

• **Risk Management Fund Expense – ($500,000)** – Increase Risk Reserve to $2.3million.

• **School Lunch Program Expense – ($450,000)** – Condition half of allocation until a BET meeting during December.

• **Nathaniel Witherell – $2.4million expenditure FY16** – Ms. Tarkington questioned if auditors would force TOG to write off previous capital infusions. The Committee discussed bonding new capital improvements going forward. Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Mynarski if TOG triple-A rating with bonding agencies would be affected.

**CAPITAL BUDGET ITEMS**

The Budget Committee discussed the following potential changes:

**General Government**

• **IT Department – (-$105,000)** Departmental budget reduction by reducing or deferring applications upgrade, network and website design.

• **Parking Services – (-$80,000)** Laser scanner elimination

• **Public Works – (-$544,000)** unspent 2012 and 2013 appropriations for annual stormwater compliance testing returned to budget.

• **Binney Park Sedimentation Project (+$100,000)** Permitting fee moved up to FY16 Budget, Dredging project moved up to FY17 ($1.2million)

• **Silva Cell Tree Well – (-$240,000)** reduction based on moving project to the FY17 Budget.

• **GHS Soil Remediation – (-$1.5million)** reduction based on reduced scope of project and deferral of differential.
• **Holly Hill Master Plan items – (-$2.25m and -$875k)** Mr. Johnson seeking to separate sewer relocation phase from balance of the plan.

**Byram Pool Park Plan**

The Committee discussed options for the Byram Park Pool Project. Mr. Mason proposed reducing the appropriation from $11.5 million to $9.5 million and conditioning the release of the construction funds upon receipt of the A&E study and renderings. Mr. Finger concurred with Mr. Mason, proposed moving the project along and agreed that the conditioning of funds until the plans and estimates could be reviewed again, was a productive way to continue to move forward. Ms. Tarkington offered that the plan was important to Byram, however, the FY14 Budget anticipated Project cost to be $6.9 million, and expressed concern about the continued increase in the costs. Mr. Johnson said that the plan, at $7.5 m, had received lukewarm response last year and now the price had escalated to $11.5 m. He suggested that plan should show several options at lower prices for comparison. Ms. Kiernan noted that multiple plans would keep the pool closed for multiple summers by delaying the project and requiring additional Planning & Zoning approval; additionally a different design might jeopardize the Junior League’s commitment to $2.5 million in fundraising.

The Junior League representative, Ms. Rogers, suggested the League’s preference was for the project to be in the FY16 Budget, not just the soil remediation.

Ms. Tarkington asked Ms. Rogers if the Resolution for the acceptance of funds in the current budget remains satisfactory to the Junior League.

**New Lebanon School**

The Committee began a discussion on the New Lebanon School expenditure. Mr. Ramer proposed conditioning A&E funding based on site testing and an understanding of the MI approval process. To move the project forward, the steps in the Municipal Improvement approval process were considered next so that a preliminary timeline could be formulated. Financial release steps were discussed for amounts and timing purposes. Ms. Tarkington and Ms. Kiernan were asked by Mr. Johnson to develop the conditions on the appropriation, and they plan on a meeting with Mr. Fox, Ms. DeLuca, Mr. Branyan and Ms. O’Neill to explore the topic further.

**Other Capital Projects**

• **Fleet budget reduction (-$155,000)** Elimination of several P&R vehicles resulted in savings. Transfer of Nathaniel Witherell bus to Nathaniel Witherell budget.

**Parks & Recreation**

• Reduction of one automated ticket dispenser; Western Civic Center unit eliminated
• Skate Park Upgrade – clarification of amount needed to supplement existing maintenance fund would be sought by Mr. Gieger.
• A feasibility study for Middle School athletic fields improvement to turf was suggested by Ms. Kiernan. Mr. Johnson suggested that this was a brand new project and soil testing would need to be done first. Ms. Kiernan noted that the Board of Parks & Recreation had unanimously endorsed this study last spring and it was a top priority for the Parks & Recreation Board.
• Greenwich Point Invasive Plant removal – move to FY17 operating budget.
• Island Beach sidewalk repair – not covered by FEMA
• Greenwich Point Pier replacement – Mr. Johnson will explore immediacy of need.
• The Griff Master Plan implementation – awaiting new manager

Public Works
• Cardinal Stadium Replacement Feasibility Study– moved to discretionary project list.
• Dredging Byram Marina – possible loss of harbor permit if deadline missed
• MISA Phase 2 and 3 have not started. Potential cost overruns should be considered and their impact on FY16 projects.

The meeting adjourned at 4:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

_____________________________
Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary

_____________________________
Marc V. Johnson, Chairman

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL
TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION
BUDGET COMMITTEE

DAY SIX - CONSOLIDATION DAY FOR FY16 BUDGET
MINUTES

Town Hall Meeting Room – 9:00 A.M.
Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Present:
Committee: Marc V. Johnson, Chairman; Mary Lee A. Kiernan, Jeffrey Ramer, Leslie L. Tarkington
Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director; John Crary, Town Administrator; Melissa Jones, Senior Business Analyst; John Wayne Fox, Town Attorney; Jean McLaughlin, Ass't Town Attorney; Fernando Arango, Ass't Town Attorney; Abby Wadler-Shin, Ass't Town Attorney; Aamina Ahmad, Ass't Town Attorney; Allen Brown, Executive Director, Nathaniel Witherell
Selectman: Peter Tesei, First Selectman; John Toner, Selectman
Board: Michael Mason, Chairman; John Blankley, William Drake, William Finger, Sean Goldrick, Randall Huffman, Nancy Weissler
Other: Barbara O’Neill, Chairman, BOE; Steve Warzoha, RTM Member; Larry Simon, Retirement Board Member; Lloyd Bankson, Friends of Nathaniel Witherell; Susan Rogers, Junior League

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:04 A.M.

Mr. Johnson called for an Executive Session to discuss litigation matters.

The Committee entered Executive Session at 9:05 A.M.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Committee voted to exit Executive Session.

The Committee exited Executive Session at 9:40 A.M.

Consolidation Process

Mr. Johnson informed the Committee that the process would begin with a review of Revenues. They would then proceed to Expenses. The purpose of Consolidation Day was to build consensus among Committee Members as to which line items would be changed.

FUNDING

Other Revenues – The Committee discussed the following possible adjustments:
• **Prior Year Taxes** – increase Real Estate Taxes $100k

• **Interest on Delinquent Taxes** – increase $100k - $300k

  Ms. Tarkington expressed concern that several factors might make this increase excessive and unachievable: 1) reduction of interest rate which could be mandated by the State; 2) previous year’s tax settlements; 3) increase Senior Tax Credit amount.

• **Building Permits** – possible increase of $250k due to current trends

  Mr. Gieger noted the prospect of a year-end surplus of as much as $500k.

• **Conveyance Tax** – FY15 trending favorably. Possible increase of $250k.

• **Bridges** – possible reimbursement of $1million from Federal and State sources

  Mr. Mynarski noted that an actual amount was unpredictable due to the amount of processing time of Federal and State agencies, so bridge reimbursements are not budgeted. These could be considered as fallback revenues, including additional FEMA grants, should TOG experience a shortfall.

• **Cancellation of Encumbrances** – return an additional $1-$1.2million.

  Mr. Mynarski commented that although many departments had capital projects that would be closed out, he could only estimate based on FY14 that approximately $1million could be returned as unspent.

• **Police Outside Job Fees** – estimated $100-$150k

  Mr. Ramer and Ms. Kiernan commented that this reflected the new source of revenue mentioned by Chief Heavey during discussions about the new position of outside job Coordinator.

• **Other Revenue** – State payment in lieu of taxes

  Mr. Gieger commented that a payment of $897k was anticipated in FY15 and $858k in FY16.

  A PILOT reimbursement from the Housing Authority is anticipated in FY ‘16.

**CAPITAL TAX REVENUE**

A discussion began on restoring the $3m cut from the Capital Tax Levy by the First Selectman’s Office for the amount suggested in the BET Budget Guidelines. The BET Budget Guidelines had indicated that the Capital Tax Levy should be increased from $39.4m (FY15) to $42.4m (FY16). Mr. Crary commented that $3million could be moved from the fund balance to apply against Capital Projects as a one-time policy to reduce borrowing. Ms. Kiernan questioned the idea of using fund balance to reduce cheap debt when interest rates were expected to rise, and
considered if there is an appropriate level of fund balance at the end of the current fiscal year. Additional comments from BET Members addressed long-term financing and debt policy.

FIRST SELECTMAN’S COMMENTS
Mr. Johnson invited Mr. Tesei and Mr. Crary to appear before the Committee to help prioritize Capital Projects requested in their submitted budget.

Mr. Tesei requested that all projects having to do with maintenance of Town buildings roadways, drainage and sewers be left intact. Mr. Tesei suggested that the following projects could be considered to be of a discretionary nature and might be moved forward to another year's Budget: Silva Cell Tree Well installation; Parking Department license plate laser scanner, LRAD, Storm Water Program Compliance, Strickland Brook drainage, Holly Hill Master Plan, Byram Beach Master Plan, Digital Learning, Automated Ticket Dispensing Machines, Cardinal Stadium Feasibility Plan, and Byram Marina dredging.

Ms. Kiernan asked whether the increase in the Town contribution for the Youth Coordinator position was for salary purposes, and whether the First Selectman would be supportive of a further modest increase in this contribution for programmatic purposes. The First Selectman agreed and noted how much time the Youth Services Coordinator spends bringing in program revenue by writing grant applications. Mr. Ramer asked about progress on the Northwest fire station site and Mr. Tesei offered that the second proposed site was no longer viable and that a conditional offer had been made on the first site. Ms. Tarkington asked if a prospective budget had been prepared for the events surrounding TOG 375 Anniversary events so that the request for $25k could be evaluated.

NATHANIEL WITHERELL
The Committee met again with TNW representatives to discuss a new capital request. Mr. Simon presented a new solution to readdress the immediate and future revenue shortfall by adding 5 additional short term beds to the rehab unit increasing rehab to 47 beds and subtracting 5 beds from the long term care floors reducing its long term skilled nursing to 155 beds. Mr. Brown and Mr. Bankson explained how the proposed solution would meet the unmet demand for post-operative short-term rehabilitation bed availability. They proposed the immediate investment of $240k for repurposing unused rooms that were used for swing space during construction and currently not code compliant because of distance from the nursing station. Mr. Brown emphasized that Nathaniel Witherell’s brand was skilled nursing and rehabilitation, so it would not be competing directly with newer local assisted living facilities.

Mr. Ramer asked if the capital improvement request for $1.531 million would be modified. Mr. Goldrick asked to be provided with a revised P/L showing the impact of dedicating an additional capital contribution to room rehabilitation.

OPERATING FUND RECOMMENDATIONS
The Budget Committee discussed the following potential changes:

General Government
- Historical District Commission - (+$15,000) - Mr. Tesei asked the Committee to consider adding $15k to TOG Operating Budget to provide temporary assistance to the Commission and Historic Preservation Trust for clerical assistance and grant research.

Finance Department

BET Budget Committee Consolidation Day FY 2016
February 24, 2015 – Approved
• **Additional Consulting Projects** - (+$25,000) – The Committee asked if additional funds should be added to the Finance Department’s Budget for: 1) consulting; 2) the Housing Authority audit; 3) a study on possible changes to the town charter; 4) accelerating the 311 phone project.

**Tax Collectors Office**
- **Reduce Temporary Salary Line** – (-$5,000) – Mr. Ramer requested that the Committee reduce temporary salaries in the FY16 budget.

**Fire Department**
- **Reduce Promotional Salary Increase and OT** – (-$660,000) – Mr. Johnson proposed eliminating the request for 9 new Firefighters, promotions of Lieutenants to Captain and reducing the OT line. Mr. Ramer proposed hiring 8 firefighters but deleting the floater or 9th person and eliminating the promotions.

**Police**
- **Eliminate the addition of the new position** – (-$97,000) – Ms. Tarkington suggested that the tasks of the new position could be redistributed among current staff.

**Health Department**
- **Eliminate the proposed educator position** (-$35,000) – This new position was not recommended by the BET H.R. Committee.
- **Reinstate Temporary Salary** (+$7,580)
- **Reduce OT for ADP coordination** (-$2,658) Ms. Kiernan anticipates that ADP issues would be resolved by June 30, 2015, eliminating the need for ADP OT.

**Parks & Recreation**
- **Reduce OT for ADP coordination** (-$19,500) – Ms. Kiernan anticipates that ADP issues would be resolved by June 30, 2015, eliminating the need for ADP OT. This would also discourage the use of paper duplication of the payroll process; extra training would be provided.

**Social Services**
- **Reinstate Teen Talk Program** – (+$85,000) – Kids in Crisis will oversee the new program at Eastern, the third and final Middle School to launch this program.

**Youth Services**
- **Increase allocation for Programmatic Funding** – (+$10,000) – Ms. Kiernan suggested that the First Selectman’s addition of $5k for salary should be increased by $10,000 for program purposes, to a total increase of $15k

**Libraries**
- **Reduce Perrot Library** (-$15,000) - Kevin McCarthy, Director, Perrot Library, amended the Perrot Library budget request.

**Conservation Commission & Wetlands Agency**
• **Reduce transferred employee’s Salary** – **(-$40,000)** - Employee moved from Wetland’s staff to Conservation Commission staff. Mr. Gieger was asked to analyze the impact on both budgets.

**FIXED CHARGES**

The Budget Committee discussed the following potential changes:

- **Healthcare Administration** – **(-$100,000)** – ADP is now responsible for administering Health Benefits beginning with FY16 Open Enrollment period.

- **OPEB Savings** – **(-$828,000)** – Savings to budget if 7% rate of return and 70% ARC funding is assumed. Ms. Tarkington requested additional information about the ARC without the Workmen’s Compensation component.

- **HR Employee Transfer Savings** – **(-$50,000)** – Safety Coordinator position transferred from Consulting Contract to full-time employee status.

- **Risk Management Fund Expense** – **($500,000)** – Increase Risk Reserve to $2.3 million.

- **School Lunch Program Expense** – **($450,000)** – Condition half of allocation until a BET meeting during December.

- **Nathaniel Witherell** – **$2.4 million expenditure FY16** – Ms. Tarkington questioned if auditors would force TOG to write-off previous capital infusions. The Committee discussed bonding new capital improvements going forward. Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Mynarski if TOG triple-A rating with bonding agencies would be affected.

**CAPITAL BUDGET ITEMS**

The Budget Committee discussed the following potential changes:

**General Government**

- **IT Department** – **(-$105,000)** Departmental budget reduction by reducing or deferring applications upgrade, network and website design.

- **Parking Services** – **(-$80,000)** Laser scanner elimination

- **Public Works** – **(-$544,000)** unspent 2012 and 2013 appropriations for annual stormwater compliance testing returned to budget.

- **Binney Park Sedimentation Project** **(+$100,000)** Permitting fee moved up to FY16 Budget, Dredging project moved up to FY17 ($1.2 million)

- **Silva Cell Tree Well** – **(-$240,000)** reduction based on moving project to the FY17 Budget.

- **GHS Soil Remediation** – **(-$1.5 million)** reduction based on reduced scope of project and deferral of differential.
• Holly Hill Master Plan items – ($2.25m and -$875k) Mr. Johnson seeking to separate sewer relocation phase from balance of the plan.

Byram Pool Park Plan

The Committee discussed options for the Byram Park Pool Project. Mr. Mason proposed reducing the appropriation from $11.5 million to $9.5 million and conditioning the release of the construction funds upon receipt of the A&E study and renderings. Mr. Finger concurred with Mr. Mason, proposed moving the project along and agreed that the conditioning of funds until the plans and estimates could be reviewed again, was a productive way to continue to move forward. Ms. Tarkington offered that the project was important to Byram, however, the FY14 Budget anticipated Project cost to be $6.9 million, and expressed concern about the continued increase in the costs. Mr. Johnson said that the plan, at $7.5 million, had received lukewarm response last year and now the price had escalated to $11.5 million. He suggested that plan should show several options at lower prices for comparison. Ms. Kiernan noted that multiple plans would keep the pool closed for multiple summers by delaying the project and requiring additional Planning & Zoning approval; additionally a different design might jeopardize the Junior League’s commitment to $2.5 million in fundraising.

The Junior League representative, Ms. Rogers, suggested the League’s preference was for the project to be in the FY16 Budget, not just the soil remediation.

Ms. Tarkington asked Ms. Rogers if the Resolution for the acceptance of funds in the current budget remains satisfactory to the Junior League.

New Lebanon School

The Committee began a discussion on the New Lebanon School expenditure. Mr. Ramer proposed conditioning A&E funding based on site testing and an understanding of the MI approval process. To move the project forward, the steps in the Municipal Improvement approval process were considered next so that a preliminary timeline could be formulated. Financial release steps were discussed for amounts and timing purposes. Ms. Tarkington and Ms. Kiernan were asked by Mr. Johnson to develop the conditions on the appropriation, and they plan on a meeting with Mr. Fox, Ms. DeLuca, Mr. Branyan and Ms. O’Neill to explore the topic further.

Other Capital Projects

• Fleet budget reduction (-$155,000) Elimination of several P&R vehicles resulted in savings. Transfer of Nathaniel Witherell bus to Nathaniel Witherell budget.

Parks & Recreation

• Reduction of one automated ticket dispenser; Western Civic Center unit eliminated
• Skate Park Upgrade – clarification of amount needed to supplement existing maintenance fund would be sought by Mr. Gieger.
• A feasibility study for Middle School athletic fields improvement to turf was suggested by Ms. Kiernan. Mr. Johnson suggested that this was a brand new project and soil testing would need to be done first. Ms. Kiernan noted that the Board of Parks & Recreation had unanimously endorsed this study last spring and it was a top priority for the Parks & Recreation Board.
• Greenwich Point Invasive Plant removal – move to FY17 operating budget.
• Island Beach sidewalk repair – not covered by FEMA
• Greenwich Point Pier replacement – Mr. Johnson will explore immediacy of need.
• The Griff Master Plan implementation – awaiting new manager

Public Works
• Cardinal Stadium Replacement Feasibility Study– moved to discretionary project list.
• Dredging Byram Marina – possible loss of harbor permit if deadline missed
• MISA Phase 2 and 3 have not started. Potential cost overruns should be considered and their impact on FY16 projects.

The meeting adjourned at 4:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary

Marc V. Johnson, Chairman