1. BET Budget Comm. Decision Day 1 Documents

Documents:

- SUB_TO_APP_BET_BUDGET_COMM_DECISION_DAY_1_MINUTES_02-26-15.PDF
- APPROVED_BET_BUDGET_COMM_DECISION_DAY_1_MINUTES_02-26-15.PDF
TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION
BUDGET COMMITTEE

DAY SEVEN - DECISION DAY FOR FY16 BUDGET
MINUTES

Town Hall Meeting Room - 9:00 A.M.
Thursday, February 26, 2015

Present:

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

Staff: Peter Mynarski Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director; Maureen Tracy, Financial Administration; Alan Monelli, Superintendent Building Maintenance and Construction

Selectmen: First Selectman, Peter Tesei; Selectman, Drew Marzullo; John Toner, Selectman

Other: John Crary, Town Administrator; Barbara O’Neill, Chairman, BOE; Steve Warzoha, RTM Member

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

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:06 A.M.

Mr. Johnson welcomed the public and explained that his goal was to make Decision Day as efficient as possible. He thanked members of the Committee for their thoughtful contributions to discussions and hoped they were ready to conclude the process with Decisions. He noted that the Minutes would only reflect motions made on specific items. Unless otherwise noted, each item would be considered accepted and forwarded to the full BET for their reviews and votes.

OPERATING BUDGET REVENUE

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**School Lunch Fund** – No motion. Conditioning language for Appropriation to be drafted before BET Meeting March 19, 2015.

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Island Beach Sidewalk Replacement – Mr. Johnson made a motion to delete $125,000 from the project, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 4-0 to approve. Mr. Johnson will ask Mr. Siciliano if there is a balance of FEMA funds that can be transferred to the project.

Sewer Pump Removal – Mr. Johnson made a motion to delete $50,000 for the replacement of the Byram Park pump, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 4-0 to approve.

Nathaniel Witherell Capital Projects – Ms. Tarkington expressed concern that over $34 million in capital had been appropriated to the facility since 2008 and she was not in favor of the full capital request for $1.53 million. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the request for Nursing Medical Equipment ($30,000), Water Line Replacement ($164,000), Renovation of Four Tower Floors ($1,025,800) and Tower Rooms ($219,000), seconded by Mr. Ramer. The Committee voted 3-1 to approve. (Opposed: Tarkington) Mr. Johnson made a motion to delete $66,600 for the renovation of the Board Room, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 4-0 to approve.

Holly Hill Sewer Rehabilitation – Ms. Tarkington made a motion to delete $2.25 million from the Sewer Maintenance Fund budget, seconded by Mr. Johnson. The Committee voted 2-2. Motion failed. (Opposed: Ramer, Kiernan).

CAPITAL TAX LEVY

Mr. Johnson made a motion to add back $2.45 million to the Capital Tax levy, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 2-2. Motion failed. (Opposed: Ramer, Kiernan) Mr. Mason commented that this would be a decision on fund balance usage or increased borrowing. He suggested that fund balance could be applied to OPEB or other appropriations. Ms. Kiernan commented that this model was ten years old and in the low interest rate environment, the mill rate increase could be 2.03% if the Capital Tax Levy increase wasn’t added back.

Mr. Ramer made a motion to approve an overall budget of $406,254,477 as of 2/26/15, seconded by Mr. Johnson. The Committee voted 4-0 to approve.

Mr. Johnson thanked Mr. Mynarski, Mr. Geiger and the Finance Department for their assistance with the Budget process. He also commended all of the Town, BOE and Appointing Authority Department Heads for their hard work and dedication in preparing their budgets.

The meeting was adjourned at 5.13 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary
SUBJECT TO APPROVAL
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_BET Budget Decision Day FY 2016_  
_February 26, 2015 – Approved_
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Grass Island Maintenance & Parking – Mr. Johnson made a motion to delete $50,000, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 3-1 to approve. (Opposed: Kiernan)

Island Beach Sidewalk Replacement – Mr. Johnson made a motion to delete $125,000 from the project, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 4-0 to approve. Mr. Johnson will ask Mr. Siciliano if there is a balance of FEMA funds that can be transferred to the project.

Sewer Pump Removal – Mr. Johnson made a motion to delete $50,000 for the replacement of the Byram Park pump, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 4-0 to approve.

Nathaniel Witherell Capital Projects – Ms. Tarkington expressed concern that over $34 million in capital had been appropriated to the facility since 2008 and she was not in favor of the full capital request for $1.53 million. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the request for Nursing Medical Equipment ($30,000), Water Line Replacement ($164,000), Renovation of Four Tower Floors ($1,025,800) and Tower Rooms ($219,000), seconded by Mr. Ramer. The Committee voted 3-1 to approve. (Opposed: Tarkington) Mr. Johnson made a motion to delete $66,600 for the renovation of the Board Room, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 4-0 to approve.

Holly Hill Sewer Rehabilitation – Ms. Tarkington made a motion to delete $2.25 million from the Sewer Maintenance Fund budget, seconded by Mr. Johnson. The Committee voted 2-2. Motion failed. (Opposed: Ramer, Kiernan).

CAPITAL TAX LEVY

Mr. Johnson made a motion to add back $2.45 million to the Capital Tax levy, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 2-2. Motion failed. (Opposed: Ramer, Kiernan) Mr. Mason commented that this would be a decision on fund balance usage or increased borrowing. He suggested that fund balance could be applied to OPEB or other appropriations. Ms. Kiernan commented that this model was ten years old and in the low interest rate environment, the mill rate increase could be 2.03% if the Capital Tax Levy increase wasn’t added back.

Mr. Ramer made a motion to approve an overall budget of $406,254,477 as of 2/26/15, seconded by Mr. Johnson. The Committee voted 4-0 to approve.

Mr. Johnson thanked Mr. Mynarski, Mr. Geiger and the Finance Department for their assistance with the Budget process. He also commended all of the Town, BOE and Appointing Authority Department Heads for their hard work and dedication in preparing their budgets.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary
Marc V. Johnson, Chairman