

1. BET Budget Comm. Decision Day Documents

Documents:

[APPROVED\\_BET\\_BUDGET\\_DECISION\\_DAY\\_MINUTES\\_02-28-13.PDF](#)  
[SUB\\_TO\\_APP\\_BET\\_BUDGET\\_DECISION\\_DAY\\_MINUTES\\_02-28-13.PDF](#)

**TOWN OF GREENWICH  
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION  
BUDGET COMMITTEE  
DECISION DAY ONE FY2013-2014 BUDGET  
MINUTES  
Cone Room - 9:00 A.M.  
Thursday, February 28, 2013**

Present:

- Committee: Joseph L. Pellegrino, Chairman; William R. Finger, Jeff Ramer, Leslie L. Tarkington
- Staff: Peter Mynarski Comptroller, Roland Gieger, Budget Director; Maureen Tracy, Financial Analyst
- Other: John Crary, Town Administrator; Peter Tesei, First Selectman Leslie Moriarty, Board of Education, James Heavey, Police Chief, Mark Kordick, Police Captain, Greg Hannigan, Director Police General Services Division, John Wayne Fox, Town Attorney, Charlee Tufts, GEMS Director, Joan Sullivan, Purchasing Agent
- Board: Michael Mason, Chairman; Greg Bedrosian, Sean Goldrick, Randall Huffman, Mary Lee Kiernan, Marc Johnson, Robert Brady, Art Norton

Mr. Pellegrino called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM.

Mr. Pellegrino explained to the Committee the process he would be following for Decision Day. Mr. Pellegrino stated that there would be a brief overview from Mr. Gieger, followed by a Revenue Presentation from Mr. Mynarski. The Committee would then review each Capital Project individually, each department individually and then the funds other than the General Fund. The minutes will only reflect comments and motions made on specific items. Unless otherwise noted, each item will be considered accepted and forwarded in total to the full BET for their reviews and votes.

At the request of Chairman Michael Mason, Budget Director Roland Gieger prepared a pro forma 2014-2015 estimated budget and compared it to the submitted 2013-2014 First Selectman's Budget. The purpose of the exercise was to show the potential impact on the future budget and the challenges that come with balancing it. Mr. Gieger distributed the documents and gave a quick overview of the highlights of the 2014-2015 Budget as follows:

- Healthcare is estimated to go up by 10% or \$4,745,000.
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- The Pension Contribution is estimated to go up by 16.49% or \$3,270,000.
- The use of Fund Balance will go down to \$7 million, a decrease from the 2013-2014 Budget.
- The Grand List is estimate to grow by only 0.50%.

- If these estimates materialize the impact will result in a 5.27% increase in the mill rate for 2014-2015
- The amount of budget cuts needed to get to a 3.5% mill rate increase is \$5,875,036 under this presented scenario.

Mr. Pellegrino concluded by saying the Town is looking at increasing demands with budgetary pressures that will result in higher mill rate increases. He said the Budget Committee and full BET has its work cut out for it next year.

The next portion of the meeting dealt with a revenue budget presentation by Mr. Mynarski. Upon completion of the presentation, Mr. Pellegrino made the following remarks on selected portions of the presentation:

- Page #4 – Mr. Pellegrino noted that the Town continues to experience very low Grand List growth which takes potential revenues away from the budget.
- Page #11 – He said that the Town continues to earn very low interest income on its investments in the General Fund. Interest income revenue is about \$4 million lower than its best year.
- Page #12 – Conveyance Taxes are about \$3.8 million lower than its highest budget year of 2005-2006.
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- Collectively the Town has lost over \$10 million dollars in revenues from its best years presenting us very challenging budget pressures to keep taxes low.

Mr. Pellegrino then instructed the Committee he will go through each and every Capital Project request from a listing prepared by Mr. Gieger. He said that if there are no comments or motions to adjust the item will be considered accepted. Following is the Capital Projects that were adjusted along with comments:

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- When Mr. Pellegrino came to the first vehicle listed, the Committee discussed a methodology on reducing the total vehicle request. Mr. Gieger displayed a list of all the replacement vehicles and those vehicles that the Fleet Manager, Jay Domeseck could be deferred. After a discussion on how much to cut, Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to cut 5% of the total budget. The vote passed 4 to 0.
- 302-983 – Cos Cob Park – Final Remediation and Park Construction – Mr. Pellegrino made motion to increase the request by \$2.3 million dollars for a total of \$4.6 million dollars, seconded by Mr. Ramer. Ms. Tarkington stated she is not in support of increasing the project. She said Public Works is taking on too many projects and doesn't have the capacity to do all of the work. Mr. Pellegrino stated the project has been languishing for years and he wants to expedite it to completion. Mr. Finger agreed and Mr. Ramer added that we will be able to finish the project a year earlier. The vote was 3 to 1 to add another \$2.3 million dollars, Ms. Tarkington voting against the increase.
- 312-960 - Highway Maintenance – Mr. Finger made a motion to add \$250,000 to this project, seconded by Mr. Ramer. Mr. Finger reminded the Committee of a remark

made by the Public Works Director; Amy Siebert that she felt the Town was not properly maintaining the storm drains. Ms. Tarkington said she would support the increase with a condition. Mr. Ramer stated he is not in favor of a condition. Mr. Pellegrino asked Mr. Finger how he arrived at the figure of \$250,000. Mr. Finger answered there was no magic to the figure he just wanted to provide more funding for storm drains. A question came up about the specifics of the increase and if it would be applied specifically to storm drains and if, in fact, this project is for storm drain maintenance. The vote was 4 to 0 in favor to increase the funding contingent upon Mr. Gieger verifying that this account would be for storm drain maintenance.

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- 315-983 – Greenwich High School Soil Remediation - \$3,000,000 – Ms. Tarkington made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino to add \$3 million dollars to the \$800,000 request. There was a discussion about funding this project through the Capital Non-Recurring Fund versus bonding for it. Mr. Pellegrino pointed out that they would probably not need the funds for the 2013-2014 budget year and it was concluded that the best way to fund this is through bonding. The vote passed 4 to 0 to increase the funding for this project and bond it.
- 345-946 – Central Fire Station – Public Safety Complex – \$20,000,000 - Ms. Tarkington made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino to subject this project to a release of conditions. The condition being that the BET review and accept the bids on this project. The vote passed 4 to 0.
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- 822-983 – Trees at Risk Program - \$325,000 – There was no motion to adjust this request. The Committee wanted to comment for the record that they are not happy with amount of Police costs associated with this program and would like to initiate proceedings to try to alleviate the Police costs that are approximately 36% of the program thereby reducing the total number of trees that can be removed.
- 219-930 – Parking Services – Gate Installation in the Plaza Garage - \$187,000 – Ms. Tarkington made a motion to delete the \$187,000 request, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino. The vote passed 4 to 0 to delete the item. Ms. Tarkington added that she would like to add the cost to install speed bumps at the Plaza Garage to alleviate speeding. Mr. Gieger stated the cost could be absorbed in the Parking Services Operating budget.
- 450-956 – 2014 The Nathaniel Witherell (TNW) Operating Capital Budget - \$338,000 – Ms. Tarkington made a motion to reduce this account by \$188,000. The other Committee members were not in favor of this reduction and there was no second to the motion. As a compromise, Mr. Finger made a motion to condition the project, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino. The motion was for TNW officials to tell the BET what they were spending the monies on and what the impact on the census count would be. The motion to condition passed 4 to 0.
- 361-965 – Phase 1 and 2 SSES Ongoing: Private Inflow Source Removal Program - \$450,000 – Ms. Tarkington wanted to move these costs into the Sewer Improvement Fund. Mr. Pellegrino emphatically stated he will not condone any movement of projects from the Sewer Maintenance Fund to the Sewer Improvement Fund without written documentation from the Public Works Director, Ms. Amy Siebert, authorizing such an action. Ms. Tarkington agreed to meet with Mr. Mynarski, Mr. Gieger and Ms. Siebert to further explore this matter.
- Bruce Museum request for network Servers - \$45,000 – This item was inadvertently left out of the CIP process. When recognized and reviewed the Committee decided that adequate information to fully explain the project was lacking. As a result, Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to add \$45,000 to the capital budget, seconded by Mr. Ramer with a condition. The motion to add \$45,000 passed 4 to 0. Mr. Ramer made another motion to condition the project, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, The condition being for Bruce Museum officials to supply the BET with additional documentation regarding the request for the Network Server and to justify the total cost of the project of \$609,000. The vote on the condition passed 4 to 0.

The Committee recessed for lunch at 12:20 P.M. and reconvened at 12:48 P.M.

Mr. Pellegrino told the Committee that besides voting on the Operating Budget, they will cover three main topics. The three main topics were; 1) Police Department Compensatory Time and Staffing, 2) the Schools Digital Learning Program and 3) Compensation for Elected Officials.

The afternoon session began with the Committee debating the issue of Police Compensatory Time with First Selectman Peter Tesei, Police Chief James Heavey and Police Captain Mark Kordick. First Selectman Tesei began by asking if compensatory time is supposed to be legally disclosed and if it were an issue with the credit rating agencies. Mr. Mynarski responded by saying that all compensated absences, including vacation and sick balances, must be disclosed in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and regarding the credit rating agencies, this issue is immaterial to them. Mr. Pellegrino offered his version of how compensatory time works and asked Police

Chief Heavey if he had it right. Chief Heavey explained in further detail how it is governed by state statute and Mr. Pellegrino's rendition is basically correct. Mr. Pellegrino explained that last year we had funded in the current year's budget \$150,000 in Fixed charges, which were monies intended to be used to begin to buy down some of the accumulating unused comp time. Mr. Pellegrino then added that this was an experiment that did not work and the Committee wanted to vote to remove it from the budget. Chief Heavey countered by saying that they are buying it down but it is being offset by officers earning equal amounts of new compensatory time. As a result of the discussions, Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to reduce the Compensatory Time Account in the fixed charges by \$150,000, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The vote passed 4 to 0 to reduce compensatory time by \$150,000.

The second issue discussed dealt with the Police Department's inability to fully staff their full complement of police officers. Mr. Pellegrino stated that he understood that police department staffing is a statewide structural problem experienced by other police departments. Mr. Pellegrino informed the First Selectman and Police Chief that the Committee wanted to move ten budgeted police positions into the fixed charges. However, Mr. Pellegrino offered to them that they still have time between now and the final vote to come back with solutions such as the following; 1) go to a 40 hour week, 2) formalize a police academy, 3) seek more lateral transfers and 4) budget more than you have now to come up with the proper staffing level. Mr. Tesei countered with a response to each suggestion. Mr. Tesei stated that going to a 40 hour workweek is a contractual issue. Regarding the formalizing of a Police Academy, both he and the Chief are looking at that and want to partner up with another town to create their own Police Academy. Mr. Tesei told Mr. Pellegrino that it would be difficult to recruit lateral transfers if you are changing police benefits such as going to a 40 hour week or eliminating the pension plan. Finally, Mr. Tesei told Mr. Pellegrino that the Town tried previously to over budget in the 1990's to obtain more police officers and it was not successful. It was indicated to the Chief and to the Comptroller that starting with the 2013-2014 fiscal year, all comp time taken by any officers needs to be deducted from the appropriated overtime budget for the Department. Those funds are to be transferred from the overtime account to a new account opened under Fixed Charges so those funds moved to the new Fixed Charges Account will reflect the accumulating liability of the Town for unused comp time, and so that the diminution of funds available in the overtime account will limit the department to overtime within the limits appropriated.

Mr. Pellegrino finalized the discussions by making a motion to move 10 budget police positions, amounting to \$600,000, from the Police Department budget to the Fixed Charges, seconded by Mr. Ramer. The vote passed 4 to 0 in favor.

At this point Town Attorney John Wayne Fox was invited back to discuss the Risk Fund which dealt with the payment of litigated settlements. Ms. Tarkington made a motion to go into Executive Session at 12:57 P.M., seconded by Mr. Ramer and the vote passed 4 to 0.

Mr. Pellegrino made a motion at 1:06 P.M. to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Finger and the vote passed 4 to 0.

The second topic for discussion previously mentioned by Mr. Pellegrino was the Board of Education and the Digital Learning Program. Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to remove \$1,126,552 from the BOE Operating Budget to the Capital Project Budget, seconded by

Ms. Tarkington. The motion passed 4 to 0. Ms. Tarkington made a motion to condition the project. The condition was to subject to the release of the funds based on the receipt of a consultant's report on the Digital Learning concept, acceptance of an explanation of how the proposed funds are to be spent. The condition was seconded by Mr. Ramer and the vote passed 4 to 0 to condition the monies.

Mr. Pellegrino invited the Director of the Greenwich Emergency Management Service, Inc. (GEMS), Charlee Tufts for a discussion on the cut of \$50,000 in funding to this external entity. Mr. Finger told Ms. Tufts it isn't appropriate for the Town of Greenwich to completely absorb the loss of revenues to GEMS they have experienced. Ms. Tarkington noted that the GEMS salary line went up 2.7%. Ms. Tufts said that they are falling way behind other Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) in the State of Connecticut and it is getting difficult to retain staff. The discussion concluded with a motion by Mr. Finger to cut \$50,000 of the annual subsidy to GEMS, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The vote passed 4 to 0 to cut \$50,000 from Account 440-57225 (External Entities).

The Committee turned its attention to reviewing and accepting all of the remaining departments. The first department with an adjustment was the Administrative Services Center. Mr. Pellegrino wanted to make a motion to reduce the headcount in this department by one half of one position. Mr. Pellegrino was reminded that the department consisted of five full time positions and if you cut out a half position this would result in a layoff because the department was fully staffed. After an extended discussion, it was agreed by Mr. Crary that the Office of the First Selectman would reduce the overall headcount in 2013 -2014 through attrition. Mr. Crary couldn't promise where the cut would fall until people leave.

The next department with an adjustment was the Office of the Tax Collector. Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to reduce the vacant full time position to a part time position, seconded by Mr. Finger. The amount of the reduction amounted to \$19,106. The vote passed 4 to 0 to eliminate the full time position and replace it with a part time position. The next adjustment was on a motion by Mr. Finger to cut the Account 139-5330 (Wearing Apparel) for \$2,500, seconded by Mr. Ramer. The vote passed by a vote of 4 to 0 to cut the Wearing Apparel request. The next adjustment was on a motion by Mr. Pellegrino, seconded by Ms. Tarkington to fund the salary of the Tax Collector with a 2% increase. It was made clear that this was not a vote to set the salary of the Tax Collector. It was for funding only. Mr. Finger reminded the Committee that when the appropriate time comes, he will make a motion to reduce the Tax Collector's salary by 50%. The vote to fund the 2% increase was 2 to 2 and it failed. Mr. Ramer and Mr. Finger voted against the funding increase.

Town Clerk's Office – Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to fund a 2% increase for the salary of the Town Clerk, seconded by Mr. Ramer. It was pointed out this is for funding only and not to set the salary of the Town Clerk. The vote passed 4 to 0 to add back \$925 to the salary line for the Town Clerk budget.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to add back \$1,799 to the salary line for the Conservation Commission salary account, seconded by Mr. Ramer. This was an error correction made during budget data inputting. The vote passed 4 to 0.

Fire Department – Ms. Tarkington made a motion to add back \$10,883 to the Fire Department budget, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino. This was a budget input error correction. The vote passed 4 to 0 to add the monies back.

Social Services – Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to add back \$30,000 to the Social Services budget for external entities, seconded by Mr. Finger. Mr. Gieger provided the Committee with details on where the monies would be replaced. The vote passed 4 to 0 to increase the Social Services contribution to external entities.

Fixed Charges – Mr. Finger made a motion to cut \$75,000 from Account 902-57330 (Unemployment Insurance), seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The vote passed 4 to 0. Mr. Finger made a motion to cut \$127,322 from Account 926-57600 (Payment Mandated By State Statute), seconded by Ms. Tarkington. It was noted that this request for two private school nurses had been withdrawn.

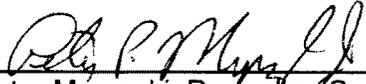
**Other Funds:** The Committee had no adjustments to the amounts requested for all funds other than the General Fund and proceeded to accept the amounts requested for the following funds:

- Recommendation to accept the Sewer Maintenance Fund as submitted for an amount of \$11,161,252.
- Recommendation to accept the Sewer Improvement Fund as submitted for an amount of \$3,991,000.
- Recommendation to accept the Nathaniel Witherell Fund as submitted for an amount of \$26,062,288.
- Recommendation to accept the School Lunch Fund as submitted for an amount of \$4,047,377.
- Recommendation to accept the Parking Fund as submitted for an amount of \$4,190,161.
- Recommendation to accept the Griffith E. Harris Golf Fund as submitted for an amount of \$2,024,082.
- Recommendation to accept the OPEB Fund as submitted for an amount of \$9,575,000.

On a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino, the Committee voted 4 to 0 to accept the final budget, as amended.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Peter Mynarski, Recording Secretary

  
Joseph L. Pellegrino, Chairman

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- 219-930 – Parking Services – Gate Installation in the Plaza Garage - \$187,000 – Ms. Tarkington made a motion to delete the \$187,000 request, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino. The vote passed 4 to 0 to delete the item. Ms. Tarkington added that she would like to add the cost to install speed bumps at the Plaza Garage to alleviate speeding. Mr. Gieger stated the cost could be absorbed in the Parking Services Operating budget.
- 450-956 – 2014 The Nathaniel Witherell (TNW) Operating Capital Budget - \$338,000 – Ms. Tarkington made a motion to reduce this account by \$188,000. The other Committee members were not in favor of this reduction and there was no second to the motion. As a compromise, Mr. Finger made a motion to condition the project, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino. The motion was for TNW officials to tell the BET what they were spending the monies on and what the impact on the census count would be. The motion to condition passed 4 to 0.
- 361-965 – Phase 1 and 2 SSES Ongoing: Private Inflow Source Removal Program - \$450,000 – Ms. Tarkington wanted to move these costs into the Sewer Improvement Fund. Mr. Pellegrino emphatically stated he will not condone any movement of projects from the Sewer Maintenance Fund to the Sewer Improvement Fund without written documentation from the Public Works Director, Ms. Amy Siebert, authorizing such an action. Ms. Tarkington agreed to meet with Mr. Mynarski, Mr. Gieger and Ms. Siebert to further explore this matter.
- Bruce Museum request for network Servers - \$45,000 – This item was inadvertently left out of the CIP process. When recognized and reviewed the Committee decided that adequate information to fully explain the project was lacking. As a result, Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to add \$45,000 to the capital budget, seconded by Mr. Ramer with a condition. The motion to add \$45,000 passed 4 to 0. Mr. Ramer made another motion to condition the project, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, The condition being for Bruce Museum officials to supply the BET with additional documentation regarding the request for the Network Server and to justify the total cost of the project of \$609,000. The vote on the condition passed 4 to 0.

The Committee recessed for lunch at 12:20 P.M. and reconvened at 12:48 P.M.

Mr. Pellegrino told the Committee that besides voting on the Operating Budget, they will cover three main topics. The three main topics were; 1) Police Department Compensatory Time and Staffing, 2) the Schools Digital Learning Program and 3) Compensation for Elected Officials.

The afternoon session began with the Committee debating the issue of Police Compensatory Time with First Selectman Peter Tesei, Police Chief James Heavey and Police Captain Mark Kordick. First Selectman Tesei began by asking if compensatory time is supposed to be legally disclosed and if it were an issue with the credit rating agencies. Mr. Mynarski responded by saying that all compensated absences, including vacation and sick balances, must be disclosed in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and regarding the credit rating agencies, this issue is immaterial to them. Mr. Pellegrino offered his version of how compensatory time works and asked Police

Chief Heavey if he had it right. Chief Heavey explained in further detail how it is governed by state statute and Mr. Pellegrino's rendition is basically correct. Mr. Pellegrino explained that last year we had funded in the current year's budget \$150,000 in Fixed charges, which were monies intended to be used to begin to buy down some of the accumulating unused comp time. Mr. Pellegrino then added that this was an experiment that did not work and the Committee wanted to vote to remove it from the budget. Chief Heavey countered by saying that they are buying it down but it is being offset by officers earning equal amounts of new compensatory time. As a result of the discussions, Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to reduce the Compensatory Time Account in the fixed charges by \$150,000, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The vote passed 4 to 0 to reduce compensatory time by \$150,000.

The second issue discussed dealt with the Police Department's inability to fully staff their full complement of police officers. Mr. Pellegrino stated that he understood that police department staffing is a statewide structural problem experienced by other police departments. Mr. Pellegrino informed the First Selectman and Police Chief that the Committee wanted to move ten budgeted police positions into the fixed charges. However, Mr. Pellegrino offered to them that they still have time between now and the final vote to come back with solutions such as the following; 1) go to a 40 hour week, 2) formalize a police academy, 3) seek more lateral transfers and 4) budget more than you have now to come up with the proper staffing level. Mr. Tesei countered with a response to each suggestion. Mr. Tesei stated that going to a 40 hour workweek is a contractual issue. Regarding the formalizing of a Police Academy, both he and the Chief are looking at that and want to partner up with another town to create their own Police Academy. Mr. Tesei told Mr. Pellegrino that it would be difficult to recruit lateral transfers if you are changing police benefits such as going to a 40 hour week or eliminating the pension plan. Finally, Mr. Tesei told Mr. Pellegrino that the Town tried previously to over budget in the 1990's to obtain more police officers and it was not successful. It was indicated to the Chief and to the Comptroller that starting with the 2013-2014 fiscal year, all comp time taken by any officers needs to be deducted from the appropriated overtime budget for the Department. Those funds are to be transferred from the overtime account to a new account opened under Fixed Charges so those funds moved to the new Fixed Charges Account will reflect the accumulating liability of the Town for unused comp time, and so that the diminution of funds available in the overtime account will limit the department to overtime within the limits appropriated.

Mr. Pellegrino finalized the discussions by making a motion to move 10 budget police positions, amounting to \$600,000, from the Police Department budget to the Fixed Charges, seconded by Mr. Ramer. The vote passed 4 to 0 in favor.

At this point Town Attorney John Wayne Fox was invited back to discuss the Risk Fund which dealt with the payment of litigated settlements. Ms. Tarkington made a motion to go into Executive Session at 12:57 P.M., seconded by Mr. Ramer and the vote passed 4 to 0.

Mr. Pellegrino made a motion at 1:06 P.M. to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Finger and the vote passed 4 to 0.

The second topic for discussion previously mentioned by Mr. Pellegrino was the Board of Education and the Digital Learning Program. Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to remove \$1,126,552 from the BOE Operating Budget to the Capital Project Budget, seconded by

Ms. Tarkington. The motion passed 4 to 0. Ms. Tarkington made a motion to condition the project. The condition was to subject to the release of the funds based on the receipt of a consultant's report on the Digital Learning concept, acceptance of an explanation of how the proposed funds are to be spent. The condition was seconded by Mr. Ramer and the vote passed 4 to 0 to condition the monies.

Mr. Pellegrino invited the Director of the Greenwich Emergency Management Service, Inc. (GEMS), Charlee Tufts for a discussion on the cut of \$50,000 in funding to this external entity. Mr. Finger told Ms. Tufts it isn't appropriate for the Town of Greenwich to completely absorb the loss of revenues to GEMS they have experienced. Ms. Tarkington noted that the GEMS salary line went up 2.7%. Ms. Tufts said that they are falling way behind other Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) in the State of Connecticut and it is getting difficult to retain staff. The discussion concluded with a motion by Mr. Finger to cut \$50,000 of the annual subsidy to GEMS, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The vote passed 4 to 0 to cut \$50,000 from Account 440-57225 (External Entities).

The Committee turned its attention to reviewing and accepting all of the remaining departments. The first department with an adjustment was the Administrative Services Center. Mr. Pellegrino wanted to make a motion to reduce the headcount in this department by one half of one position. Mr. Pellegrino was reminded that the department consisted of five full time positions and if you cut out a half position this would result in a layoff because the department was fully staffed. After an extended discussion, it was agreed by Mr. Crary that the Office of the First Selectman would reduce the overall headcount in 2013 -2014 through attrition. Mr. Crary couldn't promise where the cut would fall until people leave.

The next department with an adjustment was the Office of the Tax Collector. Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to reduce the vacant full time position to a part time position, seconded by Mr. Finger. The amount of the reduction amounted to \$19,106. The vote passed 4 to 0 to eliminate the full time position and replace it with a part time position. The next adjustment was on a motion by Mr. Finger to cut the Account 139-5330 (Wearing Apparel) for \$2,500, seconded by Mr. Ramer. The vote passed by a vote of 4 to 0 to cut the Wearing Apparel request. The next adjustment was on a motion by Mr. Pellegrino, seconded by Ms. Tarkington to fund the salary of the Tax Collector with a 2% increase. It was made clear that this was not a vote to set the salary of the Tax Collector. It was for funding only. Mr. Finger reminded the Committee that when the appropriate time comes, he will make a motion to reduce the Tax Collector's salary by 50%. The vote to fund the 2% increase was 2 to 2 and it failed. Mr. Ramer and Mr. Finger voted against the funding increase.

Town Clerk's Office – Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to fund a 2% increase for the salary of the Town Clerk, seconded by Mr. Ramer. It was pointed out this is for funding only and not to set the salary of the Town Clerk. The vote passed 4 to 0 to add back \$925 to the salary line for the Town Clerk budget.

Conservation Commission – Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to add back \$1,799 to the salary line for the Conservation Commission salary account, seconded by Mr. Ramer. This was an error correction made during budget data inputting. The vote passed 4 to 0.

Fire Department – Ms. Tarkington made a motion to add back \$10,883 to the Fire Department budget, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino. This was a budget input error correction. The vote passed 4 to 0 to add the monies back.

Social Services – Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to add back \$30,000 to the Social Services budget for external entities, seconded by Mr. Finger. Mr. Gieger provided the Committee with details on where the monies would be replaced. The vote passed 4 to 0 to increase the Social Services contribution to external entities.

Fixed Charges – Mr. Finger made a motion to cut \$75,000 from Account 902-57330 (Unemployment Insurance), seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The vote passed 4 to 0. Mr. Finger made a motion to cut \$127,322 from Account 926-57600 (Payment Mandated By State Statute), seconded by Ms. Tarkington. It was noted that this request for two private school nurses had been withdrawn.

**Other Funds:** The Committee had no adjustments to the amounts requested for all funds other than the General Fund and proceeded to accept the amounts requested for the following funds:

- Recommendation to accept the Sewer Maintenance Fund as submitted for an amount of \$11,161,252.
- Recommendation to accept the Sewer Improvement Fund as submitted for an amount of \$3,991,000.
- Recommendation to accept the Nathaniel Witherell Fund as submitted for an amount of \$26,062,288.
- Recommendation to accept the School Lunch Fund as submitted for an amount of \$4,047,377.
- Recommendation to accept the Parking Fund as submitted for an amount of \$4,190,161.
- Recommendation to accept the Griffith E. Harris Golf Fund as submitted for an amount of \$2,024,082.
- Recommendation to accept the OPEB Fund as submitted for an amount of \$9,575,000.

On a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino, the Committee voted 4 to 0 to accept the final budget, as amended.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Peter Mynarski, Recording Secretary

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Joseph L. Pellegrino, Chairman

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL