Present:

Committee: Michael S. Mason, Chairman; William Finger, Laurence B. Simon, Leslie L. Tarkington

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director;

Board: Steve Walko, Nancy Barton, Randall Huffman, Art Norton, Joseph Pellegrino, Jeff Ramer

Other: Peter Tesei, First Selectman, John Crary, Town Administrator, Peter Siecienski, Fire Chief, David Ridberg, Police Chief, Charlee Tufts, GEMS Executive Director, Amy Siebert, Public Works Commissioner, Genny Krob, RTM, Steve Warzoa, RTM, Leslie Moriarty, Board of Education, Robert Kick, Deputy Fire Chief, Al Monelli, Public Works

Mr. Mason called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

TOPICS

The BET Budget Committee and BET members in attendance were provided with a list of consolidation topics for discussion today and further action on Thursday, February 25, 2010 at the BET Budget Committee Decision Day meeting. The topics in the order of discussion basically covered the following areas:

1. Department 104 – Emergency Operations Coordinator’s contract - discussion to reduce contract amount. The Town Administrator was asked to bring information documenting the impact of the proposed reduction. Also, he was asked if the Executive Director to the First Selectman could assume responsibility for the writing of grant requests and other such tasks.

2. Department 105 – Office of the First Selectman – Temporary Salaries – move Nuisance Abatement funding to Dept. 351 – Building Inspection = $23,400. Move 50% or $9,750 of clerical temporary salaries to the Coastal Resources Advisory Committee budget.

3. Department 109 – Human Resources – pull MC raises in the budget out of applicable departments and transfer into fixed charges.

4. Department 120 – Registrar of Voters – funding for two primaries.
5. Department 130 – Finance – put $75,000 in budget for Human Resources/Payroll/Finance Department staffing study.
6. Department 134 – Information Technology – condition a portion of funding to show evidence of a strategic plan.
7. Department 135 – Assessor – Are there sufficient resources to do the revaluation for October 1, 2010.
8. Department 140 – Law Department – the Committee discussed the ratio of clerical support (5) to attorneys (5.5).
9. Department 196 – Senior Center – discussion included reducing the budget to avoid duplication, establishing subject to release conditions, the status of the food outsourcing and the ongoing need for a Teamster cook.
10. Fire Department – discussion on the volunteer firemen budget – move volunteer healthcare premiums from account #208-51490 and put into account #208-57201.
11. Police Department – the table of organization needs to be changed to reflect four Captains, to remove Deputy Chief of Police and to reflect correct grades for the positions of Chief of Police and Captain. Increase funding for Captains by $22,000 (#211-51010). There was a discussion to remove one vehicle during the night shift from 11 cars to 10 cars.
12. Department 440 – Contributions to External Entities – delete $50,000 from Historical Society contribution and move the Greenwich Adult Daycare Center $60,000 contribution (used to fund TAG) into External Entities and out of Social Services. Move GEMS from 440-51490 to 440-572?? And label Contribution to GEMS.
13. Social Services – make various changes to external entities as detailed in handout materials. Transfer the Deputy Commissioner funding from Social Services budget to Fixed Charges.
14. Board of Education – recapture $235,000 of utilities money repurposed. Reduce General Wage Increase from 3.25% to 2.5% amounting to $100,000. Invite Board of Education to Thursday meeting to explain aide staffing positions, payments for temporary services funding and have the Superintendent discuss his five largest items labeled as new initiatives or extensions of existing programs.
15. Library – the Peterson Foundation Agreement was discussed. It was decided to invite Eugene McLaughlin to the BET Budget Committee Decision Day meeting for further discussions.
16. Fixed Charges – the discussion dealt with healthcare costs, reducing the Police Pension Fund contribution, workers' compensation and unemployment costs. The Committee invited Alison Graham, Employment Benefits Manager to the Decision day meeting to provide the Budget Committee with updated healthcare quotes.
17. Vacancy List – the Committee plans to take all "no request to fill" positions listed on the February 4, 2010 Vacancy Report from the Human Resources Department out of their respective department budgets and put the salaries into fixed charges. The affected departments would than come to the BET Human
Resources Committee and then the full BET to release funds as the positions are requested to be filled.

The meeting adjourned at 2:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Peter Mynarski, Recording Secretary

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Michael S. Mason, Chairman