

**TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION**

Investment Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 14, 2022

Present:

Committee: William Drake, Chairman; Michael Basham, Miriam Kreuzer
David Weisbrod

Staff: Joan Lynch, Assistant to the Treasurer; Peter Mynarski, Comptroller;
Nataliya Yemets, Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M.

1. Approval of the BET Investment Advisory Committee (IAC) Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion by Mr. Drake, seconded by Mr. Basham, to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Investment Advisory Committee held on February 14, 2022 as amended, the Committee voted 3-0-1 (Abstain: Weisbrod). Motion carried.

2. Review of the OPEB Trust Portfolio February 2022 performance

Ms. Yemets distributed to the Committee the March 2022 market and economic outlook provided by Vanguard as well as the OPEB Trust monthly performance report as of February 28, 2022. The Portfolio ended the month with a market value of \$44,436,895.48, posting a loss of approximately \$1.0 million in February. The month-end Portfolio allocations were as follows: 55.5% US Equity, 19.6% Non-US Equity, 20.0% US Fixed Income, and 4.9% Non-US Fixed Income. The Portfolio's return in February was -2.30% versus a composite benchmark's return of -2.06%.

Ms. Yemets commented that five-year history of the OPEB Trust Portfolio returns had been uploaded into Vanguard's performance measurement system and she was working with the Vanguard Team to upload another five years of historical returns. A member of the Committee requested a policy benchmark, consisting of 75% S&P 500 and 25% Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond index, be included in performance reports for comparison.

3. Discussion of the composition and the role of the OPEB Board

The Committee began a discussion on the role of the OPEB Trust Board going forward. Since the portfolio is now managed by Vanguard as OCIO, the purpose and role of the OPEB Board have changed. With only one current member of the OPEB Trust Board, the IAC recognizes that the OPEB Board is currently not functioning as was intended. Need to determine if it's necessary to recruit two new members. It was suggested that the Board has served as a pipeline to other Town volunteer positions, so there are reasons to consider keeping the Board intact.

The Committee also discussed how and when to make a recommendation to the BET, and whether any changes would need to be addressed in the Town's Policies & Procedures.

The Committee is working with the Town's legal counsel on determining legal requirements for the OPEB Declaration of Trust, if any, if it is decided to make any changes or eliminate the OPEB Board. It was decided that the IAC would make a report to the BET after receiving further legal guidance from the Town's legal counsel, and after the April IAC meeting.

4. **Review of Treasury Reports:**

- **Town's cash position and invested cash allocations as of February 28, 2022**

On February 28, 2022 the General Fund cash balance was \$200.9 million; the appreciation generated during the month was \$26,050. The overall Town cash position, excluding the Retirement Fund but including the OPEB Trust, was \$361.4 million. Allocations of cash deposits among three banks had rates of return between 0.05% to 0.12%; the CT STIF allocation earned 0.12% interest; and, \$21.2 million invested in CDs earned 0.80% (annualized).

As of 2/28/2022, 34.4% of the General Fund's deposits were with TD Bank, 19.6% with JP Morgan Chase, 9.7% with Webster Bank, 23.3% was invested in CT STIF, 10.6% was invested in CD and 2.5% was invested in U.S. Treasuries.

- **Investments in U.S. Treasury Bills**

Ms. Yemets reviewed seven investments made in six-month U.S. Treasury Bills since the beginning of the current calendar year. Each investment was for \$1.0 million, yields to maturity ranged from 0.203% to 0.702%. A member of the Committee asked for a comparison of three-, six-, nine-, and 12-month rates for CDs vs. Treasury Bills since T-bills were most sensitive to the Fed rate changes. A schedule comparing the investment rates to be presented to the Committee at the April meeting. Ms. Yemets suggested that the CD Program should allow for reinvesting maturing CDs into T-bills, when Treasury rates exceed those of CDs.

- **General Fund monthly cash flows: actual for February 2022 and projected for the remainder of fiscal year 2022**

Ms. Yemets reported that the General Fund total inflows in February were \$25.7 million, including \$19.9 million of real estate tax collections and \$2.3 million of grant payments from the State. The General Fund total cash outflows were \$34.9 million, and the ending cash position was \$200.9 million.

4. **Old Business** - none

5. **New Business** – none

6. **Adjournment**

Upon a motion by Ms. Kreuzer, seconded by Mr. Bashan, to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Investment Advisory Committee at 11:09 A.M, the Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary

William Drake, Chairman, Investment Advisory Cmte

The next meeting of the IAC will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 in the Mazza Room [subsequently changed to Monday, April 18, 2022 at 10:00am in the Mazza Room].

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL