



**TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION
LAW COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, July 13, 2022
Mazza Room**

Committee: Karen Fassuliotis, Chair, Stephen Selbst

Town Attorney: Barbara Schellenberg

BET: Harry Fisher

Law Department: Valerie Maze Keeney

**Department of
Human Services:** Demetria Nelson

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3.00 P.M.

1. Approval of Minutes

June 9, 2022 - Regular Meeting. Upon motion made by the Chair and seconded by Mr. Selbst, the Law Committee voted 2-0-0 to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2022 regular meeting.

2. Old Business

COVID19 Update. Ms. Schellenberg reported that several employees of the Law Department had recently contracted COVID 19, and that many employees were currently working from home as a result, but that the Law Department was nevertheless able to continue to function smoothly.

Year to Date Budget. Ms. Schellenberg reported that the Law Department came in within its FY 2022 budget. Although the Law Department has received all bills from outside counsel, Ms. Schellenberg reported that she was still waiting on some bills for expenses, such as experts and court reporters.

- 3. National Opioid Settlement** – Valerie Mase Keeney of the Law Department and Demetria Nelson of the Department of Human Services updated the Law Committee on the status of the national opioid settlement with the distributors, which was previously approved by the Office of the First Selectman in December 2021. Under this settlement, the Town will receive annual payments for approximately 18 years, and the first payment will be in the amount of \$24,819.34. Amounts in subsequent years may vary, Ms. Keeney said.

Ms. Nelson advised the Law Committee that the first payment was expected on or about the week of August 2, 2022, and that she will work with Mr. Mynarski to have the Town enrolled to receive its funds.

Ms. Nelson explained that under the settlement, there are a number of uses for the settlement funds, including treatment for victims of opioid addiction and education to prevent opioid health issues. No determination has been made yet on the use of the funds.

The Law Committee determined that the full BET should approve the receipt of the funds at its July 2022 meeting.

4. Recent Court Filings

Spillane v. Lamont et al. -- Ms. Schellenberg reported that the Town and other parties had been named in an action alleging that the Town's vaccination policy for public school students infringed the religious rights of the plaintiffs. Ms. Schellenberg advised that she was likely to retain outside counsel to handle the matter.

Scanlon v. Town of Greenwich – Ms. Schellenberg reported that the Town had recently filed a motion seeking recovery of attorneys' fees and expenses in this action.

Greenhaw v. Town of Greenwich – Ms. Schellenberg reported that Yolanda Greenhaw, a former police officer, had filed a claim against the Town with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. Ms. Schellenberg advised that she was likely to retain outside counsel to handle the matter.

5. Executive Session

Upon motion made by the Chair and seconded by Mr. Selbst, the Law Committee voted 2-0-0 to go into executive session at 3.25 P.M.

Upon motion made by the Chair and seconded by Mr. Selbst, the Law Committee voted 2-0-0 to exit executive session at 4.00 P.M.

6. Adjournment.

Upon motion made by the Chair and seconded by Mr. Selbst, the Law Committee voted 2-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 4.00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen Selbst, Recording Secretary



Karen Fassuliotis, Chair, Law Committee