

**TOWN OF GREENWICH  
 BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION  
 BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
 TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM  
 Tuesday, June 6, 2023 - 1 P.M.**

Committee

Present: Leslie L. Tarkington, Chair; Nisha Arora, Laura Erickson, Leslie Moriarty

Staff:

Roland Gieger, Director, Budget & Systems Management, Finance Department; Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Barbara Schellenberg, Town Attorney; Justin Kuhn, Attorney, Moore Kuhn, PLLC, Amy Siebert, Department of Public Works (DPW) Commissioner; James Michel, DPW Deputy Commissioner; Luigi Romano, Superintendent, DPW Building Construction and Maintenance; Tracy Schietinger, Executive Director, Greenwich Emergency Medical Services, Inc. (GEMS); Thomas Miserendino, Chief Financial Director, GEMS; Caroline Baisley, Director of the Health Department; Blaize Levitan, Greenwich Public Schools Chief Operations Officer; Mike Miller, Transportation Association of Greenwich President, Board of Directors

Board:

Dan Ozizmir, Chairman, Harry Fisher, Jeff Ramer

Other:

Don Conway, GCTV

Ms. Tarkington called the meeting to order at 1:03 P.M.

**1. Request for Budget Adjustments (continued)**

<u>Number</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
<b>PW-1</b>	<b>Public Works</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>Continue-in-Force</b>
	Z312, B312 59600 23316		Glenville Center

Mr. Michel presented this item. He said the Glenville Center project went out to bid and came back higher than the appropriated funds. The Department reached out to the State of Connecticut and applied for Local Transportation Capital Improvement (LOTICIP) grant funding. Approvals for funding were granted by the State and the project will go back out to bid. This project is also conditioned on obtaining outside funding from the neighborhood group.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to continue-in-force the appropriation of \$500,000 for the Glenville Center Capital Project. Motion carried as a Routine matter.

<b>PW-2</b>	<b>Public Works</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>	<b>Continue-in-Force</b>
	B345 59560 22327		Hamill Rink Improvements

Mr. Romano presented this item. He requested to carry over funding so that the DPW can complete the design and obtain the Final Site Plan approvals for the Hamill Rink Improvement project. The condition placed on these funds includes the receipt of Municipal Improvement (MI) and Preliminary Site Plan approval.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to continue-in-force the appropriation of \$50,000 for the Hamill Rink

Improvements Capital Project. Motion carried as a Routine matter.

<b>PW-3</b>	<b>Public Works</b>	<b>\$325,000</b>	<b>Continue-in-Force</b>
	Z345 59560 23327		Greenwich Point

Mr. Romano presented this item. He requested to carry over funding for septic and electric improvements done by the Town in connection with the renovation of the Chimes Building at Greenwich Point. These funds were conditioned to be released when additional construction plans, budget breakdowns, and a funding confirmation in conjunction with the Greenwich Point Conservancy are received. Mr. Romano stated the Greenwich Point Conservancy is working on documentation and additional survey information necessary for the anticipated work.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to continue-in-force the appropriation of \$325,000 for the Greenwich Point Capital Project. Motion carried as a Routine matter.

<b>GM-2</b>	<b>GEMS</b>	<b>\$4,782,305</b>	<b>Release of Conditions</b>
	A440 57225		Contribution to GEMS

Ms. Scheitinger and Mr. Miserendino provided an overview of GEMS financial position at the close of its fiscal year, April 30, 2023. Ms. Scheitinger provided an update on operations and Mr. Miserendino provided an update on finances. In previous years, the BET required GEMS personnel to come twice a year for the release of funding. This request is for the full release of funding for the entire fiscal year of 2023-2024. The funding will continue to be distributed in equal semi-annual installments.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora, the Committee recommended the release conditions on \$4,782,305 for the entire contribution for FY 2023-2024 GEMS. The Committee 4-0-0 to recommend the item as Routine. Motion carried.

<b>HD-4</b>	<b>Health Department</b>	<b>\$289,088.67</b>	<b>Approval to Use</b>
	F40112 Various		ELC- 2 Covid Grant

Ms. Baisley presented this item and stated that the request is being made to accept federal funding through the State Department of Public Health to support the detection, response, surveillance and prevention of COVID-19 and other public health diseases of significance. The grant is effective from March 1, 2023 to February 29, 2024.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to accept and appropriate \$298,088.67 for the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) -2 Grant. Motion carried as Routine matter.

<b>LAW-1</b>	<b>Law Department</b>	<b>\$275,000</b>	<b>Additional Appropriation</b>
	A140 51400		Outside Legal Fees

Attorney Schellenberg presented this request for additional appropriation funding for the Law Department budget for fiscal year 2022-2023. She stated the cost overruns were from the retirement of two attorneys, whose work had to be outsourced, and the addition of the Town directed Greenwich Public Schools investigation regarding hiring practices.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to appropriate \$275,00 for additional legal expenses for the Law Department. Motion carried as a Routine matter.

<b>TA-1</b>	<b>TAG</b>	<b>\$154,000</b>	<b>Release of Conditions</b>
	A440 57221		Contribution to TAG – 1 <sup>st</sup> Half

Mr. Miller presented this item and gave the Budget Committee a 2023 Forecast Review and update. Overall, the forecast was favorable.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to accept the semi-annual report of the TAG regarding operations, personnel and finances and to the release of conditions of \$154,000 for one half of the fiscal year 2023-2024 to the full BET. Motion carried as a Routine matter.

Ms. Moriarty made a motion to add item ED-8 to the agenda, seconded by Ms. Arora. The item passed 4-0-0.

<b>ED-8</b>	<b>BOE</b>	<b>\$129,000</b>	<b>Continue-in-Force</b>
	Z680 59560 23327		Generator Replacement

Mr. Levitan presented this item and told the Budget Committee the Greenwich Public Schools is currently repurposing a relatively new generator, deployed elsewhere, to the North Mianus School. He requested funds be carried over and the project will be bid out this summer.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to continue-in-force the appropriation of \$129,000 for the Greenwich Public Schools Generator Replacement Capital Project. Motion carried as a Routine matter.

At the conclusion of his remarks, Mr. Levitan took the opportunity to tell the Budget Committee that he really appreciated the working relationship he and his staff are experiencing with the Town's Finance Department.

## **2. New Business**

- Economic Conditions Report**

There was no Economic Conditions Report presented. It was too early in the month and Budget Director Gieger promised the report would be sent out at the end of the week, if all figures were available.

## **3. Approval of BET Budget Committee Meeting Minutes**

The BET Budget Committee Regular Meeting of April 11, 2023 minutes were deferred subject to final editing.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora, to approve the Minutes of the BET Budget Committee Day 4 Meeting of February 9, 2023, the BET Budget Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

Ms. Moriarty made a motion. Seconded by Ms. Arora, to add the approval of the May 9, 2023 Budget Committee Meeting minutes to the agenda. The motion and vote carried 4-0-0. Ms. Moriarty made an additional motion, seconded by Ms. Arora, to approve the May 9, 2023 minutes. The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the minutes and the motion carried.

#### **4. Executive Session**

The BET Budget Committee held an Executive Session to discuss the following legal matter:

- Kinard v. Town of Greenwich

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora, to enter Executive Session at 2:22 P.M. to discuss the above noted legal case, the Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora to close the Executive Session at 2:41 P.M., the Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

#### **5. Adjournment**

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Arora to adjourn the meeting at 2:41 P.M., the Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Mynarski, Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie L. Tarkington, Budget Cmte Chair

The next Regular Meeting of the BET Budget Committee will be held on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 1:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.