



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

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

Virtual Meeting

Committee

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

Staff: Timothy Coughlin, Turf Operations Manager, Parks & Recreation Department; Roland Gieger, Director, Budget and Systems Management, Finance Department; Blaize Levitan, Assistant Director, Parks & Recreation Department; Donald Mohr, Recreation Supervisor, Parks & Recreation Department; Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Joseph Siciliano, Director, Parks & Recreation Department

Board: Dan Ozizmir, Chairman; Michael Basham, Miriam Kreuzer, Jeffrey S. Ramer, David Weisbrod

Guests: Ryan Chmielewski, Consultant, Weston Simpson Engineers, Inc.

Ms. Tarkington called the meeting to order at 1:04 P.M. As this was the first meeting of the new BET term she introduced returning Committee member, Leslie Moriarty, new Committee member Laura Erickson, and new BET and BET Budget Committee member, Nisha Arora.

Request for Budget Adjustments

<u>Number</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
PR-1	Parks & Recreation	\$150,000	Release of Conditions
	Z822 2002 22378		Field Master Plan Design

Mr. Siciliano requested the release of conditions on \$150,000 to continue with the next phase of designing the Field Master Plan. Weston Simpson Inc., selected through an RFP process, developed the scope of the work, performed an inventory of the Town's athletic fields, created an inventory and assessment of the fields, provided insights on field deficiencies, condition and number of available hours of use time. The study covered factors such as seasonal stress, safety, appearance, dependability and customer experience. The 15-year Parks & Recreation Field Master Plan's goals are to expand the usable hours with recommendations including drainage improvement, lighting, and installation of artificial turf at discreet locations to cap field remediation. The total cost of the plan is estimated to be \$32.6 million. The initial work to be accomplished during the first 5-years will be executing work to eliminate deficiencies that are estimated to cost \$15.25 million. Mr. Siciliano urged releasing conditions as soon as possible to allow drainage work to commence this spring.

Ms. Tarkington suggested that the Committee would need time to study the plan and requested a summary referring specifically to fields identified for drainage improvements, measures to be implemented and an expense summary for each field for the drainage work from the \$150,000 appropriation to be released. The release of conditions was deferred to the February 16, 2022 Regular Budget Committee meeting and further discussion of the complete capital plan will take place during the February Departmental Hearing in the FY23 Budget cycle.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Economic Conditions Report**

Mr. Gieger reviewed the Town's financial position to date and reported that 6 month revenues from Building Permits continued to the highest they had been in the last 6 years. He highlighted that revenue was ahead of previous year by \$15.7 million resulting primarily from more than \$13 million of grand list tax collection. State reimbursement for bridges contributed \$1 million to the total revenue. Expenses were \$9 million higher year to date resulting from pensions, capital dedicated to the "Z" fund, Information Technology and BOE costs.

Mr. Gieger was asked for a report of year-to-date expenses by department in preparation for February Departmental Budget Hearings.

Approval of BET Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Ms. Moriarty made a motion, seconded by Ms. Erickson, to accept the Minutes of the Regular BET Budget Committee Meeting held on December 14, 2021 and the BET Budget Committee Special Meeting held on December 16, 2021. The Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

Chair Remarks

Ms. Tarkington made the following comments:

- The February 16, 2022 Regular Budget Committee meeting will be held at 1:00 P.M.
- The January 25, 2021 Budget Presentations by the First Selectman and the Board of Education and the Budget Committee Public Hearing will be held by Zoom and televised live on GCTV, Channels 24, 79, and YouTube.
- The Calendar for the FY23 Budget Cycle Department Meetings will be posted shortly.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Erickson, to adjourn the meeting at 2:29 P.M., the Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary

L. Tarkington

Leslie L. Tarkington, Budget Cmte Chair

The next Regular Meeting of the BET Budget Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2022, at 1:00 P.M.