



MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Estimate and Taxation held on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 in a virtual Zoom webinar, Greenwich, CT.

Chairman Dan Ozizmir called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Board members in attendance:

Dan Ozizmir, Chairman
Michael Basham, Vice Chairman
Nisha Arora, Clerk
William Drake
Laura Erickson
Karen Fassuliotis
Miriam Kreuzer
Leslie Moriarty
Jeffrey S. Ramer
Stephen Selbst
Leslie L. Tarkington
David Weisbrod

Staff: Lauren Elliott, Assessor; Department; Roland Gieger, Director, Budget & Systems Management, Finance Department; Peter Mynarski, Comptroller

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

The Town Assessor, Ms. Elliott, highlighted the following items from her written monthly report: a litigation of a 2015 Grand List property was withdrawn resulting in no reduction to the Grand List and no revenue loss to the Town; notification for the Senior and Disabled Tax Relief Program are being mailed to all previous recipients and are available to new applicants at the Assessor's Office for filing between February 1 through May 16, 2022; availability of 2021 informal ReValuation conferences ended January 12, 2022, changes will be made to the 2021 ReValuation list to be published by January 24, 2022, deadline for filing an appeal with the Board of Assessment Appeal Appointments is February 22, 2022. It was noted that no extension for filing the Grand List will be needed for the 2021 ReValuation whereas it had been regularly required after previous ReValuations. A comment was made that Greenwich accepted request for Senior Tax Relief on homes valued as high as \$2 million if all other qualifications were met.

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted 12-0-0 to accept the Assessor's Report. Motion carried.

COMPTROLLER'S REPORT

Comptroller Mynarski drew the Board's attention to a number of topics in his written report for possible discussion. He discussed the successful January sale of \$75 million in Bond Anticipation Notes and \$40 million in Bonds. He mentioned that we had the second lowest interest rates ever compared to the previous year. In addition, Mr. Mynarski mentioned that the Town maintained its Triple A credit ratings. Members of the Board asked questions about: the status of filing the State and Federal Single Audit by January 31, 2022 and Mr. Mynarski responded that the audits were completed but the Auditor was still awaiting federal guidance to file with the State of Connecticut. Mr. Mynarski talked about expanding the At Fault Vehicle Policy by the Risk Manager. Finally, Mr. Mynarski stated that the next American Rescue Plan (ARP) Working Group meeting was being delayed so that responses from the Request for Proposals from non-profits agencies seeking ARP funds could be evaluated.

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Ms. Moriarty, the Board voted 12-0-0 to accept the Comptroller's Report. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Board voted 12-0-0 to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

BET Standing Committee Reports

BET Budget Committee: Ms. Tarkington reported that the annual Budget cycle will begin on January 25, 2022 with the presentation of the First Selectman's Budget, followed by the presentation of the BOE Budget. The meeting will be in a webinar format with written questions and comments submitted through the Town website. A broadcast of the webinar presentation will also be available on GCTV, Channels 24 and 79, and on YouTube.

The agendas of Annual Budget Committee Departmental Hearings 12-day schedule will be posted on the Town website and attendees able to participate through Zoom webinar features. A broadcast of the meeting will be also available on GCTV, Channels 24 and 79, and on YouTube. The Hearings focus on departmental FY2023 operating plans and proposed expenditure.

BET Liaison Reports

No reports were scheduled.

BET Special Project Team Reports

No reports were scheduled.

OLD BUSINESS

No topic was scheduled for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

- **2020-2021 Annual Report – First Read**

Chairman Ozizmir explained for the new Board members that the report was 220-pages filled with information required by the State about the Town's budget activities. It was suggested that comments, grammatical changes or substantive questions should be forwarded to Ms. Davis, the Comptroller's Executive Assistant, to be aggregated and circulated prior to a vote. A Board member commented that the BET responsibility was to compile and publish the document, but not necessarily responsible for its accuracy; it was proposed that a DRAFT copy be posted on the Town website while clarification is sought as to whether the BET vote would be whether to approve or accept the document prior to turning it over to the RTM.

Approval of BET Meeting Minutes

Ms. Fassuliotis recommended changes prior to voting on Minutes to be Accepted as well as those to be Approved. She commented that all members of the new term's BET were able to vote on Accepting Minutes. Ms. Moriarty also proposed a change which she had already made in the One Drive posted version.

Upon a motion by Ms. Fassuliotis, seconded by Mr. Drake, to approve the Minutes of the Regular BET Meeting held on December 16, 2021 as amended, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the BET held on December 23, 2021 as amended, and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the BET held on January 4, 2022 as amended, the Board voted 12-0-0. Motion carried.

Upon a motion by Ms. Fassuliotis, seconded by Mr. Ozizmir, to approve the Minutes of the BET Organizational Meeting held on January 5, 2022 as amended, the Board voted 12-0-0. Motion carried.

Chairs Report

Chairman Ozizmir thanked the Board members and professional staff in advance for their contribution for this fiscal year. He noted that incorporating the American Rescue Plan grants and ESSER Funding would be a new challenge as the FY2023 Budget is prepared.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Ms. Kreuzer, seconded by Ms. Moriarty, the Board voted 12-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 P.M. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary



Nisha Arora, Clerk of the Board



Dan Ozizmir, Chairman

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Estimate and Taxation is on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 6:30 P.M. and will be either virtual, a hybrid or in-person meeting depending on COVID-19 status.