

TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Cone Room
Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Committee:
Present: Michael S. Mason, Chairman; William R. Finger, Laurence B. Simon, Leslie L. Tarkington
Board: Jim Campbell, Randall Huffman, Joe Pellegrino, Jeffrey Ramer, Stephen Walko
Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director
Richard Calcavecchio, Director of Budgets, Board of Education;
John Wayne Fox, Town Attorney; Aamina Ahmad, Assistant Town Attorney;
Sgt. Timothy Hilderbrand, Police Department;
Amy Siebert, Commissioner; David Thompson, Chief Engineer, Public Works
Other: Steven Anderson, Chairman; Leslie Moriarty, Vice Chairman, Board of Education; Gary Pompa, CIRMA

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. Mr. Mason welcomed, new committee member Leslie Tarkington.

Requests for Budget Adjustments

ED-6 Board of Education – Transfer - \$12,300

Mr. Calcavecchio explained that this request is for reading books lost during the Glenville School move.

Transfer:
\$ 12,300 to A6200368-53100 Teaching Supplies
\$ 12,300 from A6200332-52130 Transportation

The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the transfer under the authority delegated to it by the BET.

ED-7 Board of Education – Approval to Use - \$4,880

Mr. Calcavecchio explained that these funds will be used for video recording equipment to be used at the schools.

\$ 4,880 to F6021709-53141 Audio/Visual Equipment
\$ 4,880 from Grant

The Committee voted 4-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

SE-7 First Selectman – Additional Appropriation - \$39,188

Mr. Fox explained that this request is for damages awarded for a case handled by in-house staff and the judgment was greater than anticipated.

\$ 39,188	to	P935-57350	Judgment
\$ 39,188	from		Risk Fund Balance

The Committee voted 4-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

PD-2 Police – Acceptance of Forfeiture Assets

Sgt. Hilderbrand explained that the property in this case has been transferred by the Court as part of a disposition of a criminal case. A brief discussion followed regarding use of the property and how the value was determined. The Police Department has agreed to sell the vehicle and buy a replacement undercover vehicle.

The Committee voted 4-0 to approve the Acceptance of Forfeiture Assets and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

PW-4 DPW – Additional Appropriation - \$45,000

Mr. Thompson explained that this request is for unanticipated costs that came up during the project development phase of the project. Because the bridge is on the State of Connecticut's historical list of important structures, it was necessary to do alternative studies for repair and rehabilitation, as opposed to replacement, of the structure. Addressing the extensive presence of utilities and increased State requirements for a more detailed hydraulic analysis added to the costs. In response to Mr. Finger, Mr. Thompson stated that typically the design phase is a five year process and gave an overview of the process. Construction is planned for spring 2012.

\$ 45,000	to	Z312-59620-26032	Shore Road Bridge Rehab
\$ 45,000	from		Capital Non-Recurring Fund Balance

The Committee voted 4-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

PW-5 DPW – Additional Appropriation - \$1,458,764

Ms. Siebert explained that this request is the next step in pursuit of Stimulus Funds, which only allows for paving of federally funded roads. The Town is eligible for a Grant of \$1,300,000 and in order to receive the funds, the project is bid, goes to contract, and as the contractor does the

work, the bills are sent to the Connecticut DOT for reimbursement. This will result in a \$1 million reduction in FY11 asphalt/paving budget.

\$1,458,764	to	Z312-59600-219xx	ARRA Pavement Restoration Project
\$1,458,764	from		Capital Non-Recurring Fund Balance

The Committee voted 4-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

NEW BUSINESS

Pension Fund Contribution Discussion

Mr. Mason requested this item be taken out of order of the Agenda. The Committee approved this request unanimously. Mr. Mason gave an overview of the request for information from the Town Attorney regarding the amount of discretion the BET and RTM may have regarding the Pension Fund Contribution.

Mr. Fox explained his findings in reviewing the Town Charter, in particular Sections 206 and 207, and documentation regarding the request for information and stated that, as he interprets it, this is not something that would be open to discussion or discretion and it is a funding mechanism that must be met. However, the set up of the retirement system is a debatable policy and changing that policy is doable by initiation of the process to modify the Town Charter. Mr. Fox will review Section 208 further and submit a report to the BET regarding binding recommendations.

Report of Status of Current Economic Conditions

Mr. Gieger gave an explanation of the updated report regarding spending rates and revenues. A brief discussion followed.

BET Budget Committee Monthly Topics

The Committee reviewed and made recommendations concerning the schedule of monthly Budget Committee topics for 2010. A final list will be distributed in February.

OLD BUSINESS

Review and Approve Actuarial Report for OPEB

Mr. Simon stated that the goal over the next six months is to put together the analysis to make sure that all the assumptions in the OPEB Report have been validated by the Town and are correct in next year's actuarial report.

Upon a motion by Mr. Simon, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Committee voted 4-0 to approve the Actuarial Report for OPEB and forward it to the BET.

Discussion of Workers' Compensation

Mr. Mynarski and Mr. Pompa gave a lengthy PowerPoint presentation regarding Workers Compensation to the Committee. A discussion followed regarding settlements, safety improvements, safety committees, costs and savings.

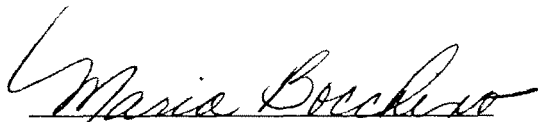
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Budget Committee Regular Meeting, December 15, 2009


Upon a motion by Mr. Simon, seconded by Mr. Finger, the committee voted 3-0-1 (Ms. Tarkington abstained) to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2009, Regular Budget Committee Meeting.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Maria Bocchino, Recording Secretary



Michael S. Mason, Chairman