

TOWN OF GREENWICH  
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION  
LAW COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018  
Law Department Conference Room

Committee: Elizabeth K. Krumeich, Chair; Karen Fassuliotis

Law: John Wayne Fox, Town Attorney; Aamina Ahmad, Assistant Town Attorney

BET: Jill Oberlander, BET Chair

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 AM.

**1. Discussion in Executive Session of Pending Cases in Litigation**

The Committee voted 2-0 to go into Executive Session at 10:10 AM to discuss pending cases in litigation.

After some discussion, the Committee voted 2-0 to come out of Executive Session at 11:09 AM.

**2. Review and Approval of Budget Resolutions**

The Committee reviewed the FY18-19 Budget Resolutions against the FY17-18 Budget Resolutions to determine whether the new Resolutions were identified for the Committee's review. The Committee noted several scrivener's errors that were related to Attorney Ahmad for correction.

Ms. Krumeich informed the Committee that there will be a proposal to revise the Bond Resolution to increase borrowing up to 20 years (from 5 years) in the event that there are projects warranting such long-term financing. Additionally, the Committee will be requesting further information from Bill McCormick, DPW Business Service Manager, for additional information on the DPW Resolution (currently #36) that would allow DPW to charge organizations holding weekend events additional fees for inspection costs relating to special events and to have those fees placed in the appropriate account by the Comptroller.

The Committee deferred voting on the Resolutions pending the receipt of additional Resolutions and information to assess the purpose of each Resolution.

**3. Review of Law Department Budget**

Attorney Fox reviewed the Law Department's proposed budget with the Committee. He noted an increase in the full-time headcount by one that will be filled by an attorney who is currently half-time. This increase in headcount will allow the Law Department to better address

governance issues raised by the RTM and other departments to review proposed ordinances, research law and render opinions. Attorney Fox also noted that the line item for outside counsel expenses is being increased by 10.7% to \$1 million. He felt it was likely that this fiscal year 2018, the Department will have to apply to the BET and RTM for an interim appropriation to cover outside legal fees. He noted that the Risk Fund account pays only for settlements, not outside counsel fees.

Upon motion by Ms. Fassuliotis, seconded by Ms. Krumeich, the Committee voted 2-0-0 to recommend the Law Department Budget for FY18-19 to the BET Budget Committee. Motion carried.

#### **4. New Business**

Ms. Krumeich asked for an update on the issue of lights at Greenwich High School. Attorney Fox stated that there is a joint Executive Session scheduled with the Selectmen, Law Department and BOE on February 27, 2018, so he will have an update after that date.

It was also noted that a Plastic Bag Ordinance imposing a \$0.25 per bag fee on plastic bags will be before the RTM at its March 2018 meeting.

#### **5. Review and Approval of the January 10, 2018, Minutes**

Upon motion by Ms. Fassuliotis, seconded by Ms. Krumeich, the Committee voted 2-0-0 to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2018 meeting of the Law Committee. Motion carried.

#### **Adjournment**

Upon motion by Ms. Fassuliotis, seconded by Ms. Krumeich, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 A.M.



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Karen Fassuliotis, Recording Secretary



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Elizabeth K. Krumeich, BET Law Committee Chair