TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
Cone Meeting Room
MINUTES - Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Committee Present: Leslie Moriarty, Chair; Michael Mason, Jeffrey S. Ramer, Leslie L. Tarkington

Staff: Roland Gieger, Budget Director; Peter Mynarski, Comptroller

Board: Jill K. Oberlander, BET Chair; Elizabeth K. Krumeich, David Weisbrud

TNW: Alan Brown, Director; Tom Ellis, Finance Director; Jack Hornak, Director of Operations

Other: Francis J. (Kip) Burgweger, Commissioner, Commission on Aging; Lori Contadino, Director, Commission on Aging; Drew Marzullo, GCTV; Michael Miller, Treasurer, Transportation Association of Greenwich

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 A.M.

Ms. Moriarty welcomed Committee members and thanked attendees for accommodating the early hour of the rescheduled meeting.

REQUESTS FOR BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

**SE-2**
First Selectman Approval to Use
$2,870.00 A440 57222 Contribution to Channel 79

Mr. Marzullo requested approval to accept and use a Grant from Area Nine Cable Council of $2,870 to upgrade the video monitor in the Town Hall lobby. He noted that the older monitor will be relocated.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the use of $2,870 for a new monitor and recommend the Application to the full BET as a Routine Application. Motion carried.

**ED-10**
BOE Transfer
$58,500 A62017 53 52080 Tuition Payments

The BOE requested approval to transfer funds to cover Special Education out-of-district tuition settlements. In a written response to a question, Ms. O'Donnell, BOE, Chief Operations Officer, provided information that indicated tuition and settlements occurred throughout the year, are impacted by new students enrolling in the district, the experience this year has been greater than prior years, Greenwich has smaller percentage of outplaced students than other CT districts. She also indicated that Greenwich has filed its special education costs with the State and is eligible for the Excess Cost grant, although the State does not always provide the full eligible amount.

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Committee
voted 3-0-1 (Abstain: Mason) to approve the transfer of $58,500 for Special Education Out-of-District tuition and settlements.

**ED-11**

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<th>BOE</th>
<th>Transfer</th>
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<td>$73,375</td>
<td>A60017 80 51440 Traffic Study GHS</td>
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Ms. Moriarty explained that the request to transfer funds for a traffic study at Greenwich High School is to meet a Planning & Zoning stipulation in the approval of GHS Music Instructional Space and Auditorium (MISA) for a review of the traffic plan once the project has been completed. The BOE is requesting a transfer of funds to provide a budget for the study.

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the transfer of $73,375 to execute a traffic study. Motion carried.

**NW-3**

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<th>Nathaniel Witherell</th>
<th>Additional Appropriation</th>
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<td>$255,000</td>
<td>Domestic Hot Water System Replacement</td>
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Mr. Brown explained that this request is to replace a failing hot water system. The project was requested in the FY20 budget currently under consideration but there is increasing concern about an imminent failure. The current hot water boiler system was installed during Project Renew, but it has been problematic resulting in two replacements since its installation. Members of the Committee asked about recourse to the design engineers, installment trade contractor, the manufacturer, and whether the warranty for the equipment remains valid. Engineering schematics for the proposed system did not accompany the application, but were requested for the BET meeting.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Mr. Mason, the Committee voted 3-1-0 (Opposed: Tarkington) to approve the additional appropriation of $255,000, and recommend the Application to the full BET as a Non-Routine Application. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS** - (none)

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Senior Property Tax Relief Ordinance** - Ms. Contadino and Mr. Burgweger presented the proposed ordinance for a Senior Property Tax Relief which is necessary as the current ordinance expires on June 30, 2019. The proposed ordinance has added additional income levels, expanded eligibility to include the fully disabled, and would expire after 10 years. The Committee discussed the budget impact of the current ordinance, financial impact of the expanded eligibility and income levels, and comparative data from other communities.

Ms. Tarkington made a motion to approve the proposed Senior Property Tax Relief Ordinance. Motion was seconded by Mr. Ramer.

Upon a motion to amend by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to substitute a revised income schedule chart updated for inflation since 2009 prepared by the Tax Assessor and to update the references to the year to be 2019 in six locations within the
ordinance. Motion carried.

Upon a motion to amend by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to increase the residency requirement from one year to five years. Motion carried.

Upon a motion to amend by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Mr. Mason, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to reduce the term of the Ordinance from ten years to five years. Motion carried.

The vote on the motion as amended was 4-0-0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL of THE BET BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 11, 2018, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 15, 2019, the Minutes of the Budget Presentation and Public Hearing for FY2019-2020 Budget of January 24, 2019, and the Minutes of BOE Budget Review Meeting for the FY2019-2020 Budget of January 31, 2019. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 9:59 A.M. Motion carried.

Next Regular Meeting of the BET Budget Committee is scheduled for March 19, 2019 at 5:00 P.M. in the Cone Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary

Leslie Moriarty, Chair