



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

Wednesday, February 17, 2021  
Virtual Meeting

Committee: Karen Fassuliotis, Chair; Elizabeth K. Krumeich

Legal Staff: Aamina Ahmad, Assistant Town Attorney

BET: Leslie Moriarty; Miriam Kreuzer; Michael Mason

Outside counsel: Timothy Herbst, Member, Marino, Zabel & Schellenberg, LLP (MZS);  
Dennis Kokenos, Member, MZS

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:18 p.m.

1. Law Department Budget

As the Town Attorney is on medical leave, Attorney Herbst presented the year-to-date FY20-21 Budget for the Law Department, reviewing budget to actual and noting that the year-to-date actual was 51% of the budget. Attorney Herbst discussed the fees for outside counsel and the objective of staying within the budget. The Committee discussed the finances of the Law Department under the First Selectman's FY21-22 Operating Budget. Committee members discussed the proposed removal of a Staff attorney and paralegal position from the Table of Organization for the Law Department as well as the engagement of attorneys in the Town Attorneys' firm, Marino, Zabel & Schellenberg (MZS), including the hiring by MZS of an attorney to handle tax appeals with Attorney Kokenos, as well as the attorneys at Cohen & Wolf who are currently representing the Town on various tax appeals. Attorney Herbst also updated the Committee as to the fees of MZS billed pursuant to the retainer agreement between the First Selectman and the Town Attorney and those non-retainer fees billed by MZS to the Town.

2. COVID-19 Report

Attorney Kokenos reported that the Connecticut Judiciary System was not operating normally due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Court hearings and depositions were being scheduled, but trials were being postponed for a year and more. The Chair requested that the COVID-19-related legal expenses be tracked for possible reimbursement under Federal or State grants.

### 3. Budget Resolutions

The Committee discussed a proposed budget resolution submitted by Greenwich Medical Emergency Services (GEMS) in order to allow GEMS to donate architectural and engineering costs for the construction of Station 4 upon the approval of the Board of Estimate and Taxation. A discussion as to whether this should appear as a separate resolution to the Representative Town Meeting ensued.

Upon a motion by Ms. Krumeich, seconded by Ms. Fassuliotis, the Committee approved by a 2-0-0 vote to return the proposed GEMS Resolution to the Office of the First Selectman with a recommendation that the resolution be placed before the RTM separately from the BET recommended budget resolutions. Motion carried.

The Committee discussed the section of the Budget Resolutions which addresses the Table of Organization (TOO) of the Town employees and the impact on the Town Operating Budget when positions are changed or left vacant under the TOO. It was agreed that the Committee members with Attorney Ahmad would develop a draft to revise this section of the Budget Resolutions for consideration by the Committee prior to the BET Budget Committee's Decision Day on March 4, 2021.

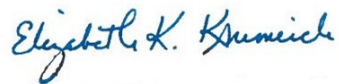
### 4. Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion made by Ms. Fassuliotis, seconded by Ms. Krumeich, the Committee voted 2-0-0 to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Law Committee held virtually at 3:02 p.m.(Executive Session) and continued at 4:03 p.m. on January 11, 2021. Motion carried.

### 5. Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Ms. Krumeich, seconded by Ms. Fassuliotis, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



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Elizabeth K. Krumeich  
Recording Secretary



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Karen Fassuliotis  
Chair, Law Committee