



MINUTES of the regular meeting of the Board of Estimate and Taxation held on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, Greenwich, CT.

Chairman Michael Mason called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M., after which the members pledged allegiance to the flag.

Board members in attendance:

Michael S. Mason, Chairman
Arthur D. Norton, Vice Chairman
William Drake, Clerk
John Blankley
William R. Finger
Sean Goldrick
Randall Huffman
Marc Johnson
Mary Lee Kiernan
Jeffrey S. Ramer
Leslie L. Tarkington
Nancy Weissler

Selectmen: Peter Tesei, First Selectman; Drew Marzullo, Selectman

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director; Lauren Elliott, Assessor; Robert Shipman, Assistant Assessor; Diane Fox, Director of Planning & Zoning, Allen Brown, Nathaniel Witherell Executive Director; Raymond Augustine, Director of Financial Operations; David Ormsby, Nathaniel Witherell Board; Lloyd Bankson, Member Nathaniel Witherell Board, Andrew Fox, Nathaniel Witherell; Laurie Jackson, Chairperson Commission on Aging, Lori Contadino, Director Commission on Aging

ROUTINE APPLICATIONS

Executive Session

Mr. Mason called for an Executive Session to discuss an additional appropriation of a legal settlement at 6:39 P.M.

Upon a motion by Mr. Drake, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted 12-0-0 to enter Executive Session at 6:39 P.M.

The Board exited Executive Session at 6:45 P.M.

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the Board voted 12-0-0 to end the Executive Session.

<u>SE-2</u>	<u>First Selectman</u>	<u>Additional Appropriation</u>
\$50,000	P935 – 57350	Settlement–Silonova v. TOG

Upon a motion by Mr. Drake, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the settlement.

<u>ED-6</u>	<u>BOE</u>	<u>Approval to Use</u>
\$ 90,246	E 0414 50530	Communication

Upon a motion by Mr. Drake, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the item ED-6.

NON ROUTINE APPLICATIONS

<u>PZ-1</u>	<u>Planning & Zoning</u>	<u>Additional Appropriation</u>
\$20,000	to A17151430	Traffic Engineering

Upon a motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the application.

<u>LU-1</u>	<u>Land Use Administration</u>	<u>Additional Appropriation</u>
\$20,000	to A 17452190	Microfilming

Upon a motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the additional appropriation.

Mr. Ramer made a motion to amend the Approval Motion stipulating that any balance of funds beyond what was required for already incurred expenditure be reserved subject to receiving advice from the State of CT or TOG of Law Department on the acceptable standard for Land Use record duplication. The motion seconded by Ms. Kiernan. The Board voted 12-0-0 to amend.

<u>NW-2</u>	<u>Nathaniel Witherell</u>	<u>Additional Appropriation</u>
\$950,000	to Z 450 59560 12201	Project Renew

Mr. Johnson reported that the Budget Committee recommended the approval of the additional appropriation because it covered the cost of four small projects in the original scope of the work to have been accomplished through the original budget's contingency fund. Due to unforeseen costs for rock removal, HVAC requirements and elevator modification, there is not enough money left in the contingency fund.

Upon a motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the BET voted 12-0-0 to approve the additional appropriation.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Ms. Elliott presented the Assessor's Report and advised the Board that final Totals for the Grand List were ready. She noted that 86 residential, 11 commercial and 6 personal property

assessment appeals had been received. She also reported that the Senior Tax Credit program materials had been mailed and were due to be returned by May 15, 2014.

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

COMPTROLLER'S REPORT

Mr. Mynarski presented the Comptroller's Report, noting the recent consolidation of the Risk Management and Internal Audit office space and its positive potential for efficiency. Mr. Norton commented that collections by Risk Management had been very strong.

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

ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER'S REPORT SHOWING INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD OF January 1, 2014 – January 31, 2014

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

BET Standing Committee Reports

Ms. Weissler reported highlights of the summary prepared after February 11, 2014 Human Resources Committee meeting that reviewed all the requests for new positions. A rationale for each of the Committee's recommendations is recorded in the Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2014.

BET Liaison Reports

No reports presented.

BET Special Project Team Reports

Mr. Norton and Ms. Kiernan reported that the Parsonage Cottage meeting date was rescheduled due to weather conditions and would be taking place February 21, 2014.

Ms. Tarkington reported on the progress of the MISA project noting that weather conditions were delaying its implementation schedule. She noted that 22% of the work had been completed and that the commencement of the steel phase was 5 months behind schedule. She also warned that an application for increasing funding in the FY2014-2015 budget to replace construction contingency that was used for environmental contamination was probable.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Auditor for Nathaniel Witherell Tax Credit Process

The Board asked Mr. Mynarski to comment on the timing of appointing an Auditor to provide the State with the information needed to pursue the Historic Building tax credit. Mr. Mynarski noted

that the process could not begin until all the costs and expenses for Project Renew were available for an Auditor to review. He explained that TOG currently is working with McGladry as its external auditor and that it would be efficient for the firm to be given an extension of their contract for this project because they would eventually be auditing it as part of Greenwich's total economic activity. Since the scope of the work was still unknown and the guidelines for the degree of testing were not available on the State's website, the Board considered postponing an appointment.

On a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 9-3-0 to postpone selection of an Auditor. (Opposed: Tarkington, Norton and Mason)

On a motion by Mr. Ramer to postpone the selection of an Auditor until the Comptroller provided a cost quote from McGladry rather than develop an RFP, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 12-0-0.

Senior Tax Program

Mr. Cray addressed the Board on the process of the Senior Tax program's approval to date. He commented on the renewal of the sunset clause in the legislation which was then addressed by First Selectman Tesei and Selectman Marzullo as well as Ms. Jackson speaking on behalf of the Commission on Aging. The Board considered deleting the sunset clause from its recommendation of the continuation of the Senior Tax Program to the RTM but decided to review any modification of the instrument at some time in the future rather than possibly jeopardize its favorable renewal.

On a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 12-0-0 to recommend the Senior Tax Program as is to the RTM.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Goldrick commented that extensive use of the Routine Applications category should be discouraged.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BET Regular Meeting, January 22, 2014

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the Board voted 12-0-0 to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of the BET from January 22, 2014.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

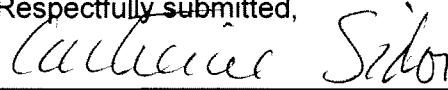
Mr. Mason thanked the BET members for their commitment and diligence with their assignments.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Mr. Blankley, seconded by Ms. Weissler, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:10 P.M.

The next Regular Meeting of the BET is scheduled on Monday, March 17, 2014 in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

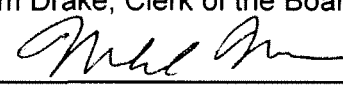
Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary



William Drake, Clerk of the Board



Michael S. Mason, Chairman