



MINUTES of the regular meeting of the Board of Estimate and Taxation held on Monday, February 19, 2013 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, Greenwich, CT.

Chairman Michael Mason called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M., after which the members pledged allegiance to the flag.

Board members in attendance:

Michael S. Mason, Chairman
Mary Lee A. Kiernan, Clerk
Gregory Bedrosian
Robert Brady
William R. Finger
Sean Goldrick
Randall Huffman
Marc V. Johnson
Joseph L. Pellegrino
Jeffrey S. Ramer
Leslie L. Tarkington

Absent: Arthur D. Norton, Vice Chairman

Selectmen: Peter Tesei, First Selectman

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director; Lauren Elliott, Assessor; Robert Shipman, Assistant Assessor

ROUTINE APPLICATIONS

PD-4 Police – Additional Appropriation \$155,272

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 155,272	to	A217-51101	Overtime Services
\$ 155,272	from		General Fund Balance

PW-5 Public Works – Additional Appropriation \$20,000

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 20,000	to	J361-59120-13192	Crane Truck
\$ 20,000	from		Capital Non-Recurring

Upon a motion by Ms. Kiernan, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the applications.

NON-ROUTINE APPLICATIONS

ED-4 Board of Education – Approval to Use \$11,000

Approval to Use:

\$ 10,000	to	F6051641-53100	Teaching Supplies
\$ 1,000	to	F6051641-52100	Travel Expense
\$ 11,000	from		Asia Society Grant

Mr. Pellegrino explained that this application is a grant from the Asia Society to support Chinese learning and travel. Greenwich High School was chosen as a Confucius Classroom Site in recognition of its achievements in the field of Chinese education. The Budget Committee approved this application 4-0.

Upon a motion by Mr. Pellegrino, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the application.

GM-3 GEMS – Additional Appropriation \$47,111

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 47,111	to	A440-57225	Contribution to GEMS
\$ 47,111	from		General Fund Balance

Mr. Pellegrino explained that this request is for funds to purchase a temporary trailer to house GEMS Station 4 at 1327 King Street, and he gave an overview of the cost breakdown. The Budget Committee approved this application 4-0.

Upon a motion by Mr. Pellegrino, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the application.

PW-4 Public Works – Additional Appropriation \$100,000

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 100,000	to	Z345-59560-13211	1327 King Street Demolition
\$ 100,000	from		Capital Non-Recurring

Mr. Pellegrino explained that this request is for demolition of the existing structure at 1327 King Street, and he gave an overview of the cost breakdown. Mr. Pellegrino explained that the existing structure is in extremely poor condition and would require major rehabilitation in order to be functional and meet code requirements. The Budget Committee approved this application 4-0.

A brief discussion followed concerning the building's condition, P&Z requirements, and the impact of the demolition on the property's value.

Upon a motion by Mr. Pellegrino, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the application.

PW-6 Public Works – Additional Appropriation \$1,945,000

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 375,000	to	A312-51100	Overtime Services
\$ 40,000	to	A321-51100	Overtime Services
\$ 15,000	to	A345-51100	Overtime Services
\$ 15,000	to	A351-51100	Overtime Services
\$ 55,000	to	J361-51100	Overtime Services
\$ 60,000	to	A312-51300	Temporary Services
\$ 20,000	to	A312-52300	Equipment Rental
\$ 810,000	to	A321-52510	Waste Removal Services
\$ 25,000	to	A345-53700	Building Materials
\$ 25,000	to	A312-53750	Highway Materials
\$ 30,000	to	G318-53750	Highway Materials
\$ 50,000	to	A302-54350	Bridge Repair
\$ 20,000	to	A312-54350	Roadway Repair
\$ 400,000	to	A345-54050	Building Repair
\$ 5,000	to	G315-54200	Traffic Equipment Repair
\$1,945,000	from		General Fund Balance

Mr. Pellegrino explained that this request is for expenses incurred due to Hurricane Sandy, and he gave a breakdown of the costs, highlighting waste removal \$810,000; overtime \$500,000; various repairs (roadways, buildings, bridges, equipment) \$475,000; and materials approximately \$80,000. Mr. Pellegrino also reported that there was damage to 40 Town-owned buildings, and over 4,400 tons of organic debris was handled by the Town in connection with this hurricane. It is anticipated that FEMA will reimburse the Town for \$1,627,500, which is approximately 83.7%. The Budget Committee approved this application 4-0.

Upon a motion by Mr. Pellegrino, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the application.

PW-7 Public Works – Additional Appropriation \$220,000

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 220,000	to	Z345-59560-13212	Generator Program
\$ 220,000	from		General Fund Balance

Mr. Pellegrino gave an overview of this request for generators at the North Street Animal Shelter and the Holly Hill Transfer Station. A discussion followed regarding the need to power the scale at Holly Hill in order to get FEMA reimbursements, and the acceleration of the generator program from FY14 into FY13. The Budget Committee approved this application 4-0.

Upon a motion by Mr. Pellegrino, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the application.

PR-5 Parks & Recreation – Release of Conditions \$785,810

Release of Conditions:

\$ 785,810	to	Z809-59840	Storm Sandy – Infrastructure
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Mr. Pellegrino explained that after a lengthy discussion, the Budget Committee voted 4-0 to approve the Release of the Conditions, which were: receipt and approval of respective bids addressing the damages from Hurricane Sandy, and flexibility in prioritizing all projects required for Hurricane repair. Mr. Mason shared comments regarding FEMA and insurance reimbursements, as well as the Town's ability to accelerate the appropriations in order to begin the work. Mr. Mynarski reviewed the FEMA reimbursements received to date (\$450,000) and expected this year (\$800,000-\$1,000,000).

Upon a motion by Mr. Pellegrino, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the application.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Ms. Elliott presented the Assessor's Report, highlighting the signing of the 2012 Grand List, with an increase of taxable assessments of approximately \$133 million. Ms Elliott also reviewed the Assessment Appeals process and the RFP for an alternative Assessor/Tax Collector Administrative System.

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 11-0-0 to accept the Assessor's Report.

COMPTROLLER'S REPORT

Mr. Mynarski presented the Comptroller's Report, highlighting preparation of the FY 2014 Operating and Capital Budgets and insurance submissions for reimbursement of \$7.5 million due to Hurricane Sandy. A discussion followed regarding Conveyance Tax receipts and real estate market trends.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 11-0-0 to accept the Comptroller's report.

ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER'S REPORT SHOWING INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD OF January 1, 2013 – January 31, 2013

Upon a motion by Mr. Finger, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Board voted 11-0-0 to accept the Treasurer's Report.

BET Standing Committee Reports

Human Resources Committee Report

Mr. Johnson reported that the HR Committee met today, February 19, 2013, to review recommended increases for M&C and Elected Officials' Salaries. After reviewing comparison and historic data, consultant's recommendations, and the budget guidelines, the Committee's recommendations are as follows: M&C Employees 2.0% increase for FY 2014, voting 3-1 (Ms. Kiernan opposed), and the Selectmen 2.25% increase for FY 2014 and 2.0% increase for FY 2015, voting 4-0. A motion was made for the Tax Collector and Town Clerk 2.0% increase for FY 2014 and 2.0% increase for FY 2015, and the Committee voted 2-2 (Mr. Huffman and Ms. Kiernan opposed). Mr. Mason stated that the Tax Collector and Town Clerk salary question now

goes to the Budget Committee, and he encouraged a review of the Charter and procedures on this issue.

Audit Committee Report

Mr. Brady moved to strike a sentence from the Audit Committee Report, which was seconded by Mr. Huffman. A discussion followed regarding appropriate content for committee reports. The motion was withdrawn and the Board postponed discussion and acceptance of the Audit Committee Report until the next meeting, upon Mr. Norton's return.

BET Liaison Reports

Revaluation Team Report

The Revaluation Team Report was provided in the agenda packet.

BET Special Project Team Reports

GHS MISA / Remediation Report

Ms. Tarkington reported that the MISA project was out to bid and that bids are due back on March 5th. Ms. Tarkington also reported that a Soil Remediation Public Open House will be held on March 6, 2013, from 6:00-9:00 PM, at Central Middle School.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Private Advisors Fund V

Mr. Bedrosian described the Retirement Board's review process for this investment, including the number of managers interviewed and the selection criteria. He further reviewed the past performance, ownership, experience, strategies and target returns for this manager. Mr. Bedrosian also noted that this investment falls within the Retirement Board's allocation for private equity investments, that this investment is a fund of funds, similar to the recent HarbourVest investment, and that Private Advisors complements the HarbourVest investment by focusing on smaller domestic opportunities. The Investment Advisory Committee voted 4-0 in favor of this investment.

Mr. Ramer shared comments regarding the Law Committee's review of the documents related to this investment. The Law Committee voted as follows on the documents in respect of this investment:

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Law Committee of the Board of Estimate and Taxation, members Tarkington and Ramer present, voted 2-0 to find that the Law Department has reviewed the relevant legal documents, including the Limited Partnership Agreement, the Private Placement Memorandum, the letter from NEPC, and the side letter with Private Advisors Fund. The Law Committee finds that the documents are in legal order for the agreement by the Retirement Board to invest as a limited partner in the Private Advisors Small Company Buyout Fund V, in an amount not to exceed \$10 million.

Mr. Ramer expressed concern regarding the potential risk from the increasing cumulative commitment of the Retirement Fund to alternative investments.

Upon a motion by Mr. Bedrosian, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 10-1-0 (Mr. Ramer opposed) to approve a Retirement Board commitment in an amount not to exceed \$10 million of capital to the Private Advisors Fund V.

Bonding for Sewer Reconstruction

Mr. Mason distributed a letter from the Law Department, dated February 13, 2013, regarding Bonding for Sewer Reconstruction, noting that some projects could be moved from the sewer maintenance category to the sewer improvement category, which is financed differently. A lengthy discussion followed regarding pay-as-you-go versus long-term bond financing, the importance of including outside bond counsel in the discussion, the burdens of sewer projects on sewer and non-sewer districts within the Town, the logic of matching financing with the life of the asset, and the inclusion of this specific topic in the long-term financing study being conducted by the BET and due at the April BET meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Review of 2013 BET Calendar

The Board briefly reviewed the BET Calendar for the remainder of Budget process.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BET Regular Meeting, January 23, 2013

Upon a motion by Ms. Kiernan, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the BET from January 23, 2013.

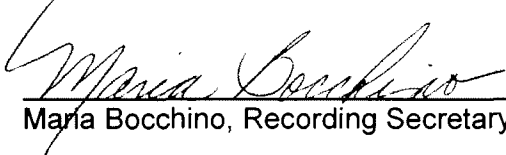
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Mason shared comments regarding a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, 2013, the budget decision meetings, and the Capital and Fixed Budget Presentation. Mr. Mason also expressed gratitude to all for their continued efforts.


ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Mr. Goldrick, seconded by Mr. Brady, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Maria Bocchino, Recording Secretary



Mary Lee A. Kiernan, Clerk of the Board



Michael S. Mason, Chairman