

TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION
NATHANIEL WITHERELL STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
MINUTES – Mazza Conference Room, Town Hall

Thursday, February 22, 2018

Committee: Arthur D. Norton, Chair; William Drake, Andreas Duus, Elizabeth K. Krumeich, Jeffrey Ramer, Nancy Weissler

BET: Jill Oberlander, Chairman

Others: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Laurence Simon, Chairman, TNW Board of Directors

The meeting was called to order at 11:48 P.M.

1. Approval of the BET Nathaniel Witherell Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes: January 5, 2018 (approved as amended at February 8, 2018 meeting)

Approval of the BET Nathaniel Witherell Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2018:

Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Mr. Drake, the Committee voted 4-0 to approve the Minutes of the February 8, 2018 Meeting as amended.

Mr. Norton commented that the State's preference and encouragement of an "at home" healthcare model and its Medicare and Medicaid funding changes, the ongoing work of the Committee was better reflected by the name BET Nathaniel Witherell Strategic Planning Committee.

2. Discussion – Consultant/Auditor Scope of Service

- **Nathaniel Witherell Financial Statements (historic)** - Mr. Norton suggested that the Committee establish goals for its work and define what it wanted to accomplish and how it would be done. He proposed following the model set by the Committee during its previous term, where the work had been divided and individual members researched and reported their findings to the full committee. Ms. Weissler noted that two RFPs might be needed to hire consultants with different skill-sets. Mr. Mynarski suggested that there might be economy finding both skills in a firm such as Health Dimensions which had provided audit services to TNW in the past.

The Committee then discussed the type of audit that should be sought: 1) Audit & Opinion; 2) Audit Review; or 3) an Audit within Agreed parameter. Ms. Krumeich asked what type of historic financial data was available from previous Town audits and if Medicare/Medicaid cost reports might also be available. Ms. Weissler asked that fixed and variable costs for each payer class should be sought for future decision-making for the facility. Mr. Ramer proposed that the scope of work could be accomplished with Review-level audits: a financial audit to examine TNW as a business, and an operational audit to

develop an ideal staffing model that would reflect future nursing home trends and the Greenwich marketplace.

- 5-10 Year Financial Projections - To prepare for developing an RFP, it was decided to ask Mr. Brown, TNW Director, for the appropriate national association to find like nursing homes; research potential consultants and seek Medicare/Medicaid Cost Report from O'Conner Davis, Stamford accountants.

3. Next Steps

- RTM Health & Human Services Committee Meeting – Mr. Norton is scheduled to make a presentation of the TNW Strategic Planning Committee Report on the RTM H&H Committee at its March 6, 2018 meeting in the Evaristo Conference Room. An email copy of the TNW Strategic Planning Committee report and transmittal letter will be sent to the RTM H&H Committee prior to the meeting date.
- Board of Selectmen – The Committee agreed that it would invite the Board of Selectmen to an informal meeting to present and explain its Report as well as request that it be placed on a BOS meeting Agenda. Mr. Norton will follow-up with the OFS to arrange a date.
- Nathaniel Witherell Board – date to be scheduled during the RFP development process.
- Public presentation of the Committee Report – It was decided that it would to delay direct contact with the RTM, except meeting with the HHS Committee, until the audit process is completed.

4. Continue discussion of the Nathaniel Witherell Business Models suggested in the Committee Report – The goal of the Consulting RFPs is to seek professional information to explore the options for future ownership of TNW, while allowing time to educate stakeholders, the BOS, TNW Board of Directors, RTM and the Public.

5. 2018 Committee Meeting Schedule – The Committee decided that it would be premature to establish the frequency of Committee meetings because it would be dependent on the time needed by the topic teams' research to develop the RFPs.

Next Meetings:

- March 14, 2018 at 12:00 P.M.
- March 29, 2018 at 1:00 P.M.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 P.M.



Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary



Arthur D. Norton, Chairman