MINUTES of the Public Hearing of the Board of Estimate and Taxation held on Tuesday, March 18, 2008 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, Greenwich, CT.

Chairman Stephen Walko called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M., after which the members pledged allegiance to the flag.

Board members in attendance:

Stephen G. Walko, Chairman
Robert S. Stone, Vice Chairman
Leslie L. Tarkington, Clerk
Nancy E. Barton
James S. Campbell
William R. Finger
William G. Kelly
Edward T. Krumeich, Jr.
Michael S. Mason
Arthur D. Norton
Jeffrey S. Ramer
Laurence B. Simon

Ex-Officio Board Members: Peter Tesei, First Selectman; Lin Lavery, Selectman; Peter Crumbine, Selectman
Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Geiger, Budget Director, Lloyd Hubbs, Commissioner

Mr. Walko explained the format of the Public Hearing and then provided an overview of the Budget process. Mr. Walko thanked the Budget Committee, Michael Mason, Robert Stone, Larry Simon, and Ed Krumeich, for their excellent work putting together the proposed 2008-2009 Budget.

Mr. Walko explained the changes and deletions to the capital budget concerning Sidewalks/Safe Routes, the Glenville School relocation, and the Storm Water flood erosion control issues. Mr. Walko thanked the First Selectman, Department Heads, Peter Mynarski, Roland Geiger, Elaine Brown, and Maria Bocchino.

Public Hearing

Bob Tuthill – General comments about the budget and Glenville and Hamilton Avenue Schools.

Capital

Arlene Lomazzo – Capital Budget – public works. In favor of sidewalks, safe routes.
Debra Sacks – (Shawn Asselin, Mary Wissman) – Installation of sidewalk on Split Timber.

Lindy Lilien – In favor of sidewalks, Riverside Ave. between Spring/Western Hill.

Lloyd Hull – Requested reinstatement of $225,000 for Round Hill Road and John Street traffic island. In response, Lloyd Hubbs, Commissioner, DPW said this was not submitted to the BET this year, because of the need to reduce the parking fund projects, after a preliminary review. In response to Mr. Kelly, Mr. Hubbs said this cannot be part of sidewalks, safe routes funds.

Vince DiMarco – In favor of bicycle master plan (Greenwich safe cycling), and safe routes and sidewalks. Avoid delays. Mr. Mason explained sidewalks, safe routes projects in the budget process. Mr. Krumeich said that there was money in this year’s budget to fund those projects and they did not want to delay those projects by putting them off until next year.

Janet Lockton – Several issues about CIP projects, focused on projects that were funded last year and did not request appropriation continuing (BOE in particular) and project discrepancies.

Erf Porter – In favor of storm water master plan and drainage plans. Support DPW and Planning and Zoning by adding staff. At Mr. Walko’s request, Mr. Mynarski described the bonding process.

Julie Faryniarz (PTA Council) – In support of BOE capital and operating budget; and GHS Auditorium project.

Rick Kral – Comment on capital project process and requests a return to the true CIP from 3-years ago. Questions and confusion about the parking fund and its future capital projects in the 15 year plan. Mr. Walko stated that it is anticipated that future parking fund capital projects will be ranked against other projects in the General Fund.

Upon a motion by Mr. Norton, seconded by Mr. Mason, the Board voted 12-0-0 to close the public hearing.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Bocchino, Recording Secretary

Leslie L. Tarkington, Clerk of the Board

Stephen G. Walko, Chairman