

**TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Cone Meeting Room
MINUTES – Tuesday, April 18, 2017

Committee

Present: James A. Lash, Chairman; Leslie Moriarty, Jeffrey S. Ramer, Leslie L. Tarkington

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director; J. W. Fox, Town Attorney; Aamina Ahmad, Assistant Town Attorney; James Heavey, Chief, Police Department

Board: Michael Mason, BET Chairman; John Blankley, William Drake, Elizabeth K. Krumeich, Arthur Norton, Nancy Weissler

BOE: James Hricay, Managing Director of Operations; Irene Parisi, Director of Curriculum and Professional Development

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M.

Mr. Lash welcomed Committee members and attendees.

Requests for Budget Adjustments

ROUTINE APPLICATIONS

<u>ED-7</u>	<u>BOE</u>	<u>Approval to Use</u>
\$13,500.00	F6071641 53100	Asia Society Grant

Ms. Tarkington made a motion to approve the use of the \$13,500 grant, seconded by Mr. Ramer. The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a Routine Application.

<u>ED-8</u>	<u>BOE</u>	<u>Transfer</u>
\$30,000	A6201770 & various object codes	Out of District Prof. Learning

A correction of a typographical error changed the amount requested on the posted Meeting Agenda from \$13,500 to \$30,000. Ms. Parisi explained that the transfer was being requested for registration and training for International Baccalaureate teachers due to turnover and methodology updating. Travel between Columbia University Teachers College in NYC and Greenwich for Greenwich teachers and visiting teachers in included in the transfer amount. The total budget for the program is \$140,000; the transfer will contribute to the program's total budget.

Ms. Tarkington motioned to approve the transfer of \$30,000, seconded by Mr. Ramer. The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the transfer request. Since this was an internal transfer, approval of the Board of Estimate and Taxation is not required.

PD-6	Police Department	Approval to Use
\$29,625	F21717 511& 57050	Distracted Driving Enforcement

Chief Heavey explained the grant required a 25% match by TOG similar to other grants received in the past.

Ms. Tarkington motioned to approve the use of the \$29,625 grant, seconded by Mr. Ramer. The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a Routine Application.

Executive Session- Discussion of Pending Litigation

Mr. Lash called for an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Committee voted 4-0 to enter Executive Session at 5:14 P.M.

The Committee exited Executive Session at 5:46 P.M.

Mr. Ramer made a motion to take a formal vote on the settlement of the Luciano litigation, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 4- to approve the motion.

Mr. Ramer made a motion to recommend a settlement of \$25,000 in the Luciano litigation, seconded by Ms. Moriarty. The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the settlement for \$25,000 and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a Non-Routine Application.

Old Business

None

New Business

Budget Discussion in preparation for RTM meeting – Mr. Lash prefaced the discussion with an overview of the BET Budget submitted to the RTM for its approval. He remarked that the Budget Committee was satisfied with the smaller Mill Rate increase; concerned about possible additional State program cost-sharing implications; and, cautiously prepared to offset potential unfunded State mandates by increasing the Capital Tax Levy by \$3 million, and the Fund Balance.

Mr. Lash remarked that the RTM Budget Overview Committee had prepared a handout suggesting Budget reductions, and offsets for the BET’s \$3 million increase in the Capital Tax Levy, and lowered use of Fund Balance. Mr. Gieger and Mr. Mynarski then met with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Budget Overview Committee and thereafter marked up the BOC PowerPoint handout with redlining. Mr. Geiger was asked to explain his notations that responded to points on the BOC’s handout and provide an interpretation that reconciled the proposed reductions to the BET Budget.

Mr. Gieger commenced his remarks by noting that the BOC handout did not adhere strictly to comparing a FY17 Budget to FY18 Budget in calculating their recommendations. Mr. Lash

requested a one-page Budget-to-Budget comparison be prepared for BET members to bring with them to RTM Committee and District meetings to explain the BET's response to the BOC's document. He suggested that the confusion arising from the terminology of one-time savings be clarified; that the structural changes" in the TOG budget be identified including the headcount reduction with no level-of-service reduction. He asked that the State cuts in aid be demonstrated; the OFS budget reduction of \$8.89 million of capital requests be prominently displayed to dispel the suggestion that BET guidelines had been unmet, and, to demonstrate that the TOG's debt-level was not growing. He noted that the BET FY18 Budget Guidelines had been prepared in October and did not reflect the impact of the Governor's proposed Budget recommendations, recently negotiated TOG labor contracts, reduction in the capital plan, or the BET's replacement in dollar equivalent of the \$2.3 million New Lebanon School appropriation approved in the FY17 Budget, which would be lapsed upon approval of the revised temporary student housing appropriation for the New Lebanon School project.

Mr. Mynarski added that the RTM Finance Committee is considering \$10 million in cuts to the Budget.

Mr. Gieger was asked to update the redlined rebuttal to the power point presentation where updates were needed. Ms. Moriarty offered to prepare a memorandum to provide talking points that reflected the BET's Budget philosophy and project the consequence of the BOC's reductions. Mr. Mason said that he planned to email the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the BOC Committee and other RTM members the redlined BOC power point presentation with the BET Budget Committee and Finance Department's comments.

Approval of BET Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Mr. Ramer made a motion to approve the following BET Budget Committee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the following Meeting Minutes.

- February 2, 2017 – Day 2 Departmental Reviews as amended for typographical changes.
- February 6, 2017 – Day 3 Departmental Reviews as amended for typographical changes.
- February 8, 2017 – Day 4 Departmental Reviews
- February 15, 2017 – Day 5 Departmental Reviews
- February 21, 2017 - Consolidation Day
- February 23, 2017 - Decision Day

Mr. Ramer made a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 20, 2017 Regular BET Budget Committee Monthly Meeting, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the motion.

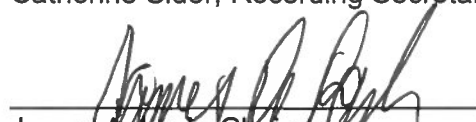
Adjournment

Mr. Ramer made a motion to adjourn the Meeting at 7:42 P.M., seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Committee voted 4-0-0 to adjourn.

Next regular meeting will be May 9, 2017 at 5:00 P.M. in the Cone Room.

Respectfully submitted,


Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary


James A. Lash, Chairman.