



MINUTES of the Meeting of the Board of Estimate and Taxation held on Monday, April 27, 2020, in a virtual Zoom webinar teleconference, Greenwich, CT.

Chairman Michael S. Mason called the meeting to order at 9:08 A.M., after which the members pledged allegiance to the flag.

Board members in attendance:

Michael S. Mason, Chairman  
Karen Fassuliotis, Vice Chairman  
William Drake, Clerk  
Andreas Duus III  
Laura Erickson  
Debra Hess  
Miriam L. Kreuzer  
Elizabeth K. Krumeich  
Leslie Moriarty  
Jeffrey S. Ramer  
Leslie L. Tarkington  
David Weisbrod

Selectmen: Jill K. Oberlander, Select-person; Lauren Rabin, Selectwoman

Staff: Angela Gencarelli, Ass't Budget & Systems Manager, Finance Department (Dept.); GCTV representative; Roland Gieger, Director, Budget & Systems, Finance; Craig Jones, Information Technology (IT) Consultant; Jenny Larkin, IT Consultant; Peter Mynarski, Comptroller

BOE/GPS: Peter Bernstein, Chairman, Board of Education (BOE); Dr. Toni Jones, Superintendent, Greenwich Public Schools (GPS); Sean O'Keefe, Chief Operating Officer, GPS

Other: Webinar attendees ranged between 220 to 267 people during the meeting; Ken Borsuk, Reporter, *Greenwich Time*; Jo Kroeker, Reporter, *Greenwich Time*; Leslie Yaeger, Editor, *Greenwich Free Press*

Mr. Mason welcomed the members of the Board and guests to the FY 2020-2021 Operating and Capital Budget (the Budget) Decision Day, the first in a webinar format. He acknowledged the traditional spreadsheet presentation would be cumbersome, but the goal is to recommend a level of spending to the RTM. Mr. Mason thanked the staffs of the Finance Department and the IT Department for their efforts to prepare for virtual meetings. He complimented BET members for sharing ideas and working toward a compromise to balance the Operating and Capital Budget revenue and expenses in the uncertain economic environment due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Mason then presented a brief explanation of the budget process to date and commented that Decision Day was a day to make choices and votes, and in many cases, people want to express their rationale for their voting choice on the record.

*Note: The link to the Decision Day webinar on GCTV is in two parts.*

*The link to Part I is: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHLd\\_4WwQNA&t=7339s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHLd_4WwQNA&t=7339s)*

The Chairman then asked Mr. Ramer for a motion to suspend the rules.

- **Motion:** Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Krumeich, to suspend the rules to provide that when individual appropriations are grouped into one larger motion, any member can move for separate reconsideration of any such individual appropriation: that there is no requirement that a prevailing voter make such motion for reconsideration; and, no second should be required to allow for such reconsideration. The Board voted 12-0-0. Motion carried.

### **PROPOSED FY 2020-2021 BUDGET**

**Mr. Mason moved the FY21 Recommended Budget “Recommended Budget” as voted by the BET Budget Committee, seconded by Ms. Tarkington.**

### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATING with FIXED CHARGES**

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Fassuliotis, to reduce the recommended budget in Department codes 109 thru 901, and Other Funds 450, 670, 219, and 824, by \$5,923,265 which brings the Operating Budgets approximately to the level of FY2019-2020’s operating budget. The amendment noted that reductions were taken in salary lines with the understanding that transfers between major object codes can be made as appropriate.

| Dept         | Object | Department                   | 2019-2020 Budget | 2020-2021 Recommended Budget | Change      | 2020-2021 Proposed Budget |
|--------------|--------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| General Fund |        |                              |                  |                              |             |                           |
| 109          | 51010  | Human Resources              | 3,136,458        | 3,173,847                    | (37,389)    | 3,136,458                 |
| 134          | 51010  | Information Technology       | 4,226,690        | 4,247,797                    | (21,107)    | 4,226,690                 |
| 135          | 51010  | Assessor                     | 1,174,425        | 1,194,117                    | (19,692)    | 1,174,425                 |
| 139          | 51010  | Tax Collector                | 462,042          | 466,270                      | (4,228)     | 462,042                   |
| 171          | 51010  | P & Z Commission             | 1,049,935        | 1,086,465                    | (36,530)    | 1,049,935                 |
| 172          | 51010  | Conservation Comm            | 332,531          | 338,772                      | (6,241)     | 332,531                   |
| 173          | 51010  | IWWA                         | 483,313          | 489,823                      | (6,510)     | 483,313                   |
| 174          | 51010  | Land Use Administration      | 360,746          | 366,194                      | (5,448)     | 360,746                   |
| 195          | 51010  | Commission on Aging          | 218,085          | 232,648                      | (14,563)    | 218,085                   |
| 196          | 51010  | Senior Center                | 732,355          | 745,255                      | (12,900)    | 732,355                   |
| 205          | 51010  | Fire Fighting Force          | 11,785,792       | 11,896,398                   | (143,011)   | 11,753,387                |
| 217          | 51010  | Uniformed Patrol             | 13,418,179       | 13,631,987                   | (367,471)   | 13,264,516                |
| 312          | 51010  | Highway                      | 6,564,185        | 6,597,906                    | (501,128)   | 6,096,778                 |
| 405          | 51010  | Environmental Health         | 731,251          | 753,209                      | (46,070)    | 707,139                   |
| 440          | 57221  | TAG                          | 277,000          | 279,000                      | (2,000)     | 277,000                   |
| 440          | 57223  | Bruce Museum                 | 874,459          | 888,792                      | (15,303)    | 873,489                   |
| 440          | 57225  | GEMS                         | 4,700,000        | 4,748,152                    | (48,152)    | 4,700,000                 |
| 440          | 57226  | SWRCC and CCM                | 109,165          | 111,440                      | (2,275)     | 109,165                   |
| 502          | 51010  | Adult and Family Services    | 1,933,283        | 1,965,620                    | (70,719)    | 1,894,901                 |
| 600          | 51010  | Administration               | 5,753,827        | 5,901,560                    | (3,068,784) | 2,832,776                 |
| 701          | 51010  | Greenwich Library            | 8,557,939        | 8,703,221                    | (145,283)   | 8,557,938                 |
| 710          | 51010  | Perrot Memorial Library      | 1,747,798        | 1,778,303                    | (30,505)    | 1,747,798                 |
| 822          | 51010  | P & R, Playground            | 3,531,816        | 3,580,232                    | (153,283)   | 3,426,949                 |
| 901          | 57090  | Healthcare                   | 50,862,000       | 54,448,000                   | (900,000)   | 53,548,000                |
|              |        |                              |                  |                              | (5,658,592) |                           |
| Other Funds  |        |                              |                  |                              |             |                           |
| 450          | 51010  | Nathaniel Witherell Salaries | 31,357,569       | 31,465,000                   | (108,000)   | 31,357,000                |
| 670          | 51010  | School Lunch Salaries        | 4,294,103        | 4,374,528                    | (80,425)    | 4,294,103                 |
| 219          | 51010  | Parking Service Salaries     | 2,873,150        | 3,133,681                    | (64,531)    | 3,069,150                 |
| 824          | 51010  | Golf Course Salaries         | 1,892,559        | 1,904,276                    | (11,717)    | 1,892,559                 |
|              |        |                              |                  |                              | (5,923,265) |                           |

## Discussion

Mr. Mason commented that the revised Budget responded to the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic upon the national and local economies. The amendment reflects adjusted revenue, operating and capital expenditures expected in the FY 2020-2021 Budget due to the pandemic.

As the discussion commenced, a member of the BET noticed that the Grand List needed to be modified to reflect the Assessor's certified January 2020 report to the State of Connecticut. Another suggestion was made that reduction of anticipated revenue from: State and Federal grants; conveyance taxes; building permits; interest income; recreational fees and beach card sales was too severe. A Member expressed that this amendment affected disproportionately the School operating budget. Other Members suggested that the Town's finances were able to weather the next several months of uncertainty as the majority of the year's revenues had been collected, expenses were running below budget, and the Fund Balance of \$63 million expected at FYE6/30/20 (*i.e.*, the "rainy day fund") was above the BET's policy range. Other Members differed with a long-term perspective on the cost of healthcare and pension benefits and preferred a comprehensive and more fiscally conservative budget in this uncertain economic environment. The Chair noted that the use of interim appropriations may be utilized in the coming budget year as events develop and more information becomes available.

- **Vote on this amendment:** Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty and seconded by Mr. Weisbrod, the Board voted 7-6-0 (Opposed: Erickson, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Moriarty, Ramer, Weisbrod). The Chairman cast a tie-breaking vote. Motion carried.

Board of Education 600-51010 - Administration \$2,368,784

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Program: BOE Operating Budget

Reason: To restore the BOE/GPS budget by \$2,368,784. This proposed restoration would represent a \$700,000 reduction from the Recommended Budget, which reflected a 1.9% increase, within BET budget guidelines. It was noted the issues that presented challenges to the BOE budget achieving the guideline were contractual teacher salary increases of 3.2% and increased special education out of district tuition costs. The memo provided by the Superintendent to the BET with initial thoughts on possible cost savings expressed concern with the impact of a \$3 million budget reduction on educational programs and services. The challenges posed by the pandemic due to distance learning and possible scenarios for reopening schools were additional considerations.

**Motion to restore:** Upon a motion made by Ms. Moriarty and seconded by Mr. Weisbrod the Board voted 6-6-0 to restore \$2,368,784 to the BOE operating budget (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Fassuliotis, Hess, Mason, Tarkington). Motion failed.

Department of Health 405-51010 – Administration – Environmental Health \$46,070

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Reason: To restore \$46,070 to fund at the Recommended Budget level to continue Dept. of Health activities such as clean air and clean water testing, waste disposal sanitation and food service licensing.

- **Motion:** Ms. Krumeich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to restore \$46,070 to the Health Department Environmental Testing budget. The Board voted 6-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Fassuliotis, Hess, Mason, Tarkington). Motion failed.

Dept of Human Services 502-51010 – Family Services \$70,719

Reason: To restore \$70,719 to fund at the Recommended Budget level from \$1,894,901 to \$1,965,620 to acknowledge and address human service needs resulting from the pandemic emergency.

- **Motion:** Ms. Krumeich made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to restore \$70,719 to the Department of Human Services budget. The Board voted 6-6-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Fassuliotis, Hess, Mason, Tarkington). Motion failed.

External Entities - Transportation Association of Greenwich (TAG) 440-956-51010 \$2,000

Reason: Restore \$2,000 to fund at the Recommended Budget level because TAG is providing an essential service of food delivery to seniors, public school students and disabled residents during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Motion:** Ms. Krumeich made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to restore \$2,000 to the Transportation Association of Greenwich's budget. The Board voted 12-0-0. Motion carried.

DPW - 312-51010 Highway – Waste Disposal \$335,395

Reason: To restore \$335,395 of the \$501,128 reduction to fund the Waste Disposal division of DPW at the Recommended Budget level, \$6,524,441. It was decided to wait until the RTM made a decision on Tipping Fees.

- **Motion:** Ms. Erickson made a motion to restore \$335,395, seconded by Mr. Ramer. This motion was withdrawn.

Board of Education (BOE) 670-51050 School Lunch Fund \$80,425

Reason: To restore \$80,425 to the recommended budget level of FY20 of \$4,374,528.

- **Motion:** Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Krumeich, to restore \$80,425 to the School Lunch Fund budget, bringing it to the Budget Committee's Recommended FY 2021 level. The Board voted 6-6-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Fassuliotis, Hess, Mason, Tarkington). Motion failed.

Law Department –140-51010 – Professional Services - Budget Neutral

Reason: To divide the Professional Services budget of \$950,000 into two accounts, to reflect the Town Attorney’s compensation separately from expenses for Services of Outside Counsel.

- **Motion:** Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Krumeich, to divide a salary item to separate the compensation of Town Attorney from Outside Counsel compensation. The Board voted 6-6-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Fassuliotis, Hess, Mason, Tarkington). Motion failed.

**PROPOSED FY 2020-2021 BUDGET**

**CAPITAL BUDGET**

**Mr. Mason moved the FY21 Recommended Budget “Recommended Capital Budget” as voted by the BET Budget Committee, seconded by Ms. Tarkington.**

- **Motion:** Ms. Fassuliotis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to reduce the Capital Budget Projects by \$24,701,000.

| Department   | Org | Obj | Proj Nbr | Project Name   | Budget Committee | ALL (R-D), most T |
|--------------|-----|-----|----------|--|------------------|-------------------|
| IT           | 134 | 904 | 20204    | GIS Map Update                                       | 110,000          | (110,000)         |
| Conservation | 172 | 956 | 20209    | Open Space Plan Implementation                       | 75,000           | (75,000)          |
| Fire         | 206 | 921 | 20211    | Vehicle Extrication Equipment                        | 210,000          | (210,000)         |
| Police       | 213 | 900 | 20215    | Audio/Visual Equipment                               | 20,000           | (20,000)          |
| Highway      | 312 | 921 | 20222    | Variable Message Boards                              | 50,000           | (50,000)          |
| Highway      | 312 | 960 | 20227    | Greenwich Ave Streetscape & Repaving Implementation  | 500,000          | (500,000)         |
| Highway      | 312 | 960 | 20228    | Brookside Dr. at Glenville Rd Intersection Improvmts | 150,000          | (150,000)         |
| Highway      | 312 | 960 | 20230    | Highway Maintenance Program-Eversouce Trans          | 500,000          | (250,000)         |

|                |     |     |       |   |           |             |
|----------------|-----|-----|-------|---|-----------|-------------|
| Highway        | 312 | 960 | 20232 | Annual Paving Program                     | 4,250,000 | (750,000)   |
| Highway        | 312 | 960 | 20233 | P&R Parking Lot Maintenance Program       | 175,000   | (175,000)   |
| Highway        | 312 | 962 | 20237 | Bruce Park Bridge Replacement             | 2,000,000 | (2,000,000) |
| Highway        | 312 | 973 | 20238 | Harding Road Drainage Improvements        | 750,000   | (750,000)   |
| Highway        | 312 | 973 | 20239 | Glenville Rd Corridor Improvements        | 5,000,000 | (5,000,000) |
| Highway        | 312 | 973 | 20240 | Stormwater Drainage Maint/Imprvmt         | 750,000   | (250,000)   |
| Waste Disposal | 321 | 956 | 20245 | Holly Hill Resource Recovery Facility     | 350,000   | (350,000)   |
| Fleet          | 380 | 912 | 20255 | 312 - DPW Mini-Excavator and Roller       | 200,000   | (200,000)   |
| Fleet          | 380 | 912 | 20256 | 135 - Tax Assessor SUV                    | 33,000    | (33,000)    |
| Fleet          | 380 | 912 | 20257 | 206 - Fire Dept Rescue Pumper             | 800,000   | (800,000)   |
| Fleet          | 380 | 912 | 20258 | 206 - Fire Dept SUV w/upfitting (1)       | 54,000    | (54,000)    |
| Fleet          | 380 | 912 | 20260 | 213 - Police Motorcycles w/ upfitting (1) | 26,000    | (26,000)    |
| Fleet          | 380 | 912 | 20262 | 312 - DPW Loader                          | 400,000   | (400,000)   |
| Fleet          | 380 | 912 | 20264 | 312 - DPW SUV                             | 66,000    | (66,000)    |
| Fleet          | 380 | 912 | 20265 | 380 - Fleet SUV                           | 33,000    | (33,000)    |
| Fleet          | 380 | 912 | 20266 | 502 - Human                               | 33,000    | (33,000)    |

|                   |     |     |       |   |            |              |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-------|---|------------|--------------|
|                   |     |     |       | Services SUV                                  |            |              |
| Fleet             | 380 | 912 | 20267 | 600 - BOE Van                                 | 40,000     | (40,000)     |
| Fleet             | 380 | 912 | 20268 | 822 - Parks & Rec Pickup Truck w/upfitting    | 65,000     | (65,000)     |
| Fleet             | 380 | 922 | 20269 | 380 - Forklift                                | 45,000     | (45,000)     |
| External Entities | 440 | 956 | 20270 | Bruce Mus Bathroom Refurb                     | 30,000     | (30,000)     |
| External Entities | 440 | 956 | 20271 | Bruce Mus Lighting Upgrade                    | 125,000    | (125,000)    |
| External Entities | 440 | 956 | 20273 | GEMS Station 4                                | 250,000    | (250,000)    |
| Schools           | 680 | 930 | 20276 | Food Services Equipment Upgrades              | 175,000    | (175,000)    |
| Schools           | 680 | 956 | 20280 | Furnishings                                   | 587,000    | (587,000)    |
| Schools           | 680 | 956 | 20283 | Stage Renovation                              | 149,000    | (149,000)    |
| Schools           | 680 | 956 | 20288 | Cardinal Field Improvement                    | 4,831,000  | (1,200,000)  |
| Schools           | 680 | 956 | 20299 | HVAC  | 4,019,000  | (250,000)    |
| Schools           | 680 | 983 | 20303 | Western Middle School Field Remediation       | 8,500,000  | (8,500,000)  |
| P&R Playground    | 822 | 983 | 20315 | Park Restoration and Work Facility Relocation | 1,000,000  | (1,000,000)  |
|                   |     |     |       |   |            |              |
|                   |     |     |       |   | 36,351,000 | (24,701,000) |

Reason: The Board discussed a specified list of projects to be deferred to lessen the pressure on the FY21 Budget and in recognition of the impact of the pandemic. It was suggested that some items might be Conditioned, and others might be reconsidered individually.

- **Motion:** Ms. Fassuliotis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to reduce the Recommended Budget BET Budget Committee proposed FY21 Capital Budget of \$72,962,000 by a specified list of capital projects totaling \$24,701,000. The Board voted 11-1-0 (Opposed: Ramer). Motion carried.



- **Motion:** Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Erickson, to reinstate certain Capital Projects that were deleted in the prior motion and condition them as subject to release at the discretion of the BET. The Board voted 1-11-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Fassuliotis, Hess, Erickson, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Mason, Moriarty, Tarkington, Weisbrod). Motion failed.

Ms. Moriarty proposed to reinstate Highway Maintenance, Glenville Corridor Improvements, School Lunch Service and Western Middle School Field Remediation separately.

Highway Maintenance – 312 -960-20230 Eversource Trans \$250,000

Reason: To retain this project to ensure sufficient funds are available to complete the curb and sidewalk work concurrent with Eversource’s commitment to repave roads impacted by the Bruce Park project.

- **Motion:** Ms. Moriarty made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to restore \$250,000 to the Eversource project to fund the full Recommended Budget request of \$500,000. The Board voted 4-8-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Fassuliotis, Hess, Mason, Moriarty, Tarkington, Weisbrod). Motion failed.

Glenville Road Corridor Improvements 312-973-20239 \$100,000

Reason: To restore \$100,000 to allow this project, eligible for state reimbursement, to continue.

- **Motion:** Ms. Moriarty made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to restore \$100,000 from the eliminated \$5 million Glenville Road Corridor Improvements Project so that planning and public hearings could continue. The Board voted 10-2-0 (Opposed: Fassuliotis, Weisbrod). Motion carried.

Food Service Equipment Upgrades 680-932-20276 \$175,000

Reason: To restore funding to purchase dishwashers to minimize annual cost of disposable dishware.

- **Motion:** Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to restore \$175,000 for the installation and purchase of stainless-steel dishwashing equipment. The Board voted 3-8-1 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Erickson, Fassuliotis, Mason, Moriarty, Tarkington, Weisbrod) (Abstained: Hess). Motion failed.

Western Middle School Field Remediation 680-983-20302 \$8,500,000

Reason: To restore the funding for the Western Middle School Field Remediation project for \$8.5 million to acknowledge its high priority. BET members agree that the project is necessary but there are sufficient available funds to proceed with obtaining regulatory approvals.

Should these approvals be obtained during FY21, BET members would expect an interim appropriation request for the full project cost.

- **Motion:** Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mason, to restore the Western Middle School Field Remediation Project costing \$8,500,000. The Board voted 1-11-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Erickson, Fassuliotis, Hess, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Mason, Moriarty, Tarkington, Weisbrod). Motion failed.

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Conservation Commission 172-904-20208 (\$100,000)

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Reason: The Board considered that there was a Conservation Study underway and \$145,000 encumbered. Some members of the Board wished to restore the \$100,000 for funds to implement the Conservation Study findings.

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to delete the \$100,000 from the Conservation Commission budget. The Board voted 7-6-0 (Opposed: Erickson, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Moriarty, Ramer, Weisbrod). The Chairman cast a tie-breaking vote. Motion carried.

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Police Department 213-900-20216 (\$42,000)

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Reason: To delete funds for Camera Upgrade and Replacement

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made the motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington. The Board voted by unanimous consent to delete \$42,000 from the Police Department budget for Camera Upgrade and Replacement. Motion carried.

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Police Department 213-925-202019 (\$36,000)

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Reason: To delete funds for the replacement of Police Department's renewable battery power system (UPS System)

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to delete \$36,000 from the Police Department budget for the replacement of the UPS System. The Board voted 7-5-0 (Opposed: Erickson, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Moriarty, Ramer). Motion carried.

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Engineering 302-973-20220 (\$150,000)

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Reason: To delete \$150,000 from the Storm-Water Program Compliance because there are sufficient funds in the current Stormwater Phase 2 MS4 permit program to continue.

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to delete \$150,000 from the Stormwater Program Compliance in the DPW Engineering budget. The Board voted 7-5-0 (Opposed: Erickson, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Moriarty, Ramer). Motion carried.

Highway 312-962-20234 (\$400,000)

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Reason: To remove the Pemberwick Road Wall project for \$400,000. It was noted this is an ongoing safety enhancement project and a reduced amount was acceptable to the Town Administrator.

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to reduce the Highway Budget for the Pemberwick Road Wall by \$400,000 from \$500,000 to \$100,000. The Board voted by unanimous consent, 12-0-0. Motion carried.

Highway 312-962-20235 \$3,500,000

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Reason: To eliminate the Sound Beach Avenue Bridge Replacement, eligible for state reimbursement, in the Recommended Budget.

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to eliminate \$3,500,000 for the Sound Beach Avenue Bridge Replacement Project budget. The Board voted 5-7-0 (Opposed: Drake, Erickson, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Moriarty, Ramer, Weisbrod). Motion failed.

Highway - 312-982-20241 (\$3,000,000)

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Reason: CMAQ Arch Street Improvements

Reason: To defer the CMAQ Arch St. Improvements project, eligible for state reimbursement.

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to delete the CMAQ Arch Street Improvements Project by \$3,000,000 which would bring the Project to \$0. The Board voted 7-6-0. The Chairman cast a tie-breaking vote (Opposed: Erickson, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Moriarty, Ramer, Weisbrod.) Motion carried.

Building Construction 345-956-20249 \$450,000

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Reason: Senior Center Interior Update

Reason: To defer the Senior Center Interior project. It was noted this is a phased project over several years and the next phase corrected deficiencies in the kitchen area.

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to eliminate the Senior Center Interior Update planned under the Building Construction project. The Board voted 5-7-0 (Opposed: Erickson, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Mason, Moriarty, Ramer, Weisbrod). Motion failed.

Building Construction Town Hall Space Utilization Improvement 345-956-20252 (\$200,000)

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Reason: To defer the Town Hall Space Utilization Improvement, which was withdrawn and replaced with a motion to reduce to allow the completion of the DPW space.

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to reduce the Town Hall Space Utilization Improvement Project by \$150,000 from \$200,000 to \$50,000. The Board voted 12-0-0. Motion carried.

Schools 680-956-20287 (\$2,600,000)

Reason: Julian Curtiss Expansion/Renovation

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to delete the \$2,600,000 for the Julian Curtiss Expansion/Renovation Project in the F21 budget. The Board voted 7-6-0 (Opposed: Erickson, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Moriarty, Ramer, Weisbrod). The Chairman cast a tie-breaking vote. Motion carried.
- **Motion:** Ms. Moriarty made a motion, seconded by Ms. Erickson, to restore \$2,600,000 for the Julian Curtiss Expansion/Renovation Project and Condition the Release of the funds subject to the approval by the BOE of the educational specifications. No vote.
- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moriarty, to suspend the rules to defer the motion until later in the meeting. The Board voted 9-3-0 (Opposed: Duus, Fassuliotis, Tarkington). Motion carried.

Parks & Recreation 822-983-20314 (\$350,000)

Reason: Field Master Plan Design & Implementation

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to delete the funding for the Field Master Plan Design and Implementation of \$350,000. The Board voted 2-10-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Erickson, Hess, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Mason, Moriarty, Ramer, Weisbrod). Motion failed.

Parks & Recreation 833-981-20326 (\$70,000)

Reason: Sand Replenishment

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to delete \$70,000 for replenishment of the sand on the Town beaches. The Board voted by unanimous consent, 12-0-0. Motion carried.

END OF Part I.

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The link to Part II is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oEBd39B4wDY&t=8s>.

Highway Maintenance Program 312-960-20224 (\$250,000)

Reason: Highway Maintenance Program

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to reduce the Highway Maintenance Program budget by \$500,000 from \$2,000,000 to \$1,500,000. Motion withdrawn. No vote.
- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion to amend his original motion, seconded by Mr. Weisbrod, to reduce the Highway Maintenance Program budget by \$250,000 from \$2,000,000 to \$1,750,000. The Board voted unanimously, 12-0-0. Motion carried.

Highway 312-960-20229 (\$200,000)

Reason: Sidewalk Accessibility in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moriarty, to reduce the recommended ADA Sidewalk Accessibility Program by \$200,000, from \$400,000 to \$200,000. The Board voted unanimously 12-0-0. Motion carried.

Highway 312-962-2036 (\$125,000)

Reason: Bridge Maintenance

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to reduce the Bridge Maintenance Program budget by \$125,000 from \$275,000 to \$150,000. The Board voted 12-0-0 unanimously. Motion carried.

Building Construction 345-956-20250 (\$880,000)

Reason: Hamill Skating Rink

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to reduce the Hamill Skating Rink capital budget item by \$880,000, from \$1,030,000 to \$150,000. The Board voted 9-0-3 (Abstained: Fassuliotis, Tarkington, Weisbrod). Motion carried.
- **Motion:** Mr. Weisbrod made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mason to delete the Hamill Skating Rink capital budget item from \$150,000 to zero. The Board voted 3-7-2 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Erickson, Hess,

Kreuzer, Krumeich, Mason) (Abstained: Fassuliotis, Tarkington).  
Motion failed.

Schools 680-956-20298 (\$250,000)

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Reason: Plumbing & Electrical

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to reduce the Plumbing & Electrical capital item by \$250,000 from \$854,000 to \$604,000 as this GHS PAC repair was previously approved by the Budget Committee for FY 2020 in February 2020. The Board voted 9-2-1 (Opposed: Krumeich, Ramer) (Abstained: Erickson). Motion carried.

Parks & Recreation 822-983-203186 (\$50,000)

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Reason: Playground inspection and upgrade program

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to reduce the playground by \$50,000 from \$250,000. The Board voted 12-0-0 by unanimous consent. Motion carried.

Parks & Recreation 822-983-20317 (\$50,000)

Reason: Tennis & Basketball Maintenance Program

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to reduce the Tennis & Basketball Maintenance Budget by \$50,000, from \$125,000 to \$75,000. The Board voted 3-8-1 (Opposed: Duus, Erickson, Hess, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Moriarty, Ramer, Weisbrod) (Abstained: Mason). Motion failed.

Parks & Recreation 822-956-20320 (\$100,000)

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Reason: Island Utilities – Generator Replacement

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to reduce the Generator Replacement budget by \$100,000, from \$200,000 to \$100,000. The Board voted 10-2-0 (Opposed: Krumeich, Ramer). Motion carried.

Parks & Recreation 834-971-20329 (\$50,000)

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Reason: ADA Changes – Engineering Project

- **Motion:** Ms. Tarkington made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mason, to reduce the ADA Changes under the Engineering Project budget by \$50,000, from \$100,000 to \$50,000. The Board voted 12-0-0. Motion carried.

Schools 680-956-20287 \$2,600,000

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Reason: Julian Curtiss School Expansion/Renovation. Item taken up and deferred from earlier in the meeting.

- **Motion:** Mrs. Moriarty made a motion, seconded by Ms. Erickson, to restore the School Capital Budget for Julian Curtiss School Expansion/Renovation from \$0 to \$2,600,000 and condition the funds on the approval by the BOE of the educational specifications and report to BET. The Board voted 6-6-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Fassuliotis, Hess, Mason, Tarkington). Motion failed.

Schools Central Middle School Field Improvement 680-983-20301 \$1,100,000

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Reason: Central Middle School fields are in need of improvement. The BOE voted in favor of a hybrid option including natural grass and artificial turf fields subsequent to the First Selectman submitting the proposed FY21 budget, which included the project as a natural grass field for \$1,100,000.

- **Motion:** Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to increase the Central Middle School (CMS) Field Improvement Plan budget by \$1,165,000 to \$2,265,000 for a hybrid field to include artificial turf and natural grass. The Board voted 4-8-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Erickson, Fassuliotis, Hess, Krumeich, Mason, Tarkington). Motion failed.
- **Motion:** Ms. Erickson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to eliminate the CMS Field Improvement Project funds of \$1,100,000. The Board voted 9-3-0 (Opposed: Fassuliotis, Mason, Ramer). Motion carried.

Schools Special Education Study 680-983-59560 \$100,000

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Reason: To add discrete project funding for a Special Education Study Consultant Contract

- **Motion:** Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Krumeich, to increase the Schools Capital Budget by \$100,000 for a SpEd Consultant to assess the delivery of Special Education in the Greenwich Public Schools and recommend best practices. The Board voted 11-1-0 (Opposed: Drake). Motion carried.

Schools HVAC Projects 680-956-20299 \$250,000

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Reason: Purchase of HVAC Equipment To restore \$250,000 to the HVAC projects account.

- **Motion:** Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Krumeich, to restore \$250,000 to the \$4,019,000 budget for HVAC. The Board voted 6-6-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Fassuliotis, Hess, Mason, Tarkington). Motion failed.

IT Cyber Security 134-904 (557,000) reduction from \$1,300,000  
 Schools 680-904-55700 \$557,000

Reason: To separate IT projects under the jurisdiction of the Town Information Technology department and the BOE IT department. This action is budget neutral.

- **Motion:** Ms. Hess made a motion, seconded by Ms. Erickson, to transfer \$557,000 from the IT Cybersecurity Budget: IT 134-904-55700 into BOE 680-904-55700. The Board voted 12-0-0 by unanimous consent. Motion carried.

**MEANS OF FINANCING**

The Board reviewed the means of financing the FY21 Budget: Property Taxes; State & Federal Aid; Transfers from Other Funds; Transfer from Unrestricted Fund Balance; Borrowings and Tax Levy.

**Adjustments to Revenue**

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to reduce the Town’s revenue assumptions by \$5,937,838, as follows:

|              |      |        |                    | Recommended Budget | Adjustment  | Proposed Budget |
|--------------|------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Operating    |      |        |                    |                    |             |                 |
|              | A130 | 46110  | Interest           | 2,500,000          | (2,000,000) | 500,000         |
|              | A150 | 44180  | Conveyance         | 5,000,000          | (500,000)   | 4,500,000       |
|              | A351 | 42165  | Building Permits   | 4,260,000          | (750,000)   | 3,510,000       |
|              | A812 | 44100  | Kamp-Karefree      | 162,800            | (100,000)   | 62,800          |
|              | A812 | 44210  | Field User Fee     | 193,800            | (100,000)   | 93,800          |
|              | A812 | 434300 | Pickle Ball        | 165,032            | (100,000)   | 65,032          |
|              | A833 | 44380  | Memberships        | 1,072,000          | (750,000)   | 322,000         |
|              |      |        |                    | 13,353,632         | (4,300,000) | 9,053,632       |
| State Grants |      |        |                    |                    |             |                 |
|              | A312 | 43444  | LOCIP              | 320,381            | (320,381)   | -               |
|              | A620 | 43451  | Cost Sharing       | 378,649            | (378,649)   | -               |
|              | A997 | 43457  | Pilot              | 674,786            | (674,786)   | -               |
|              | A997 | 43482  | Telephone Access   | 175,000            | (175,000)   | -               |
|              | A997 | 53493  | Unrestricted Grant | 89,022             | (89,022)    | -               |
|              |      |        |                    | 1,637,838          | (1,637,838) | -               |
|              |      |        |                    |                    |             |                 |
|              |      |        |                    |                    |             |                 |
|              |      |        |                    | 14,991,470         | (5,937,838) | 9,053,632       |



- Vote on the Motion: The Board voted 10-2-0 (Opposed: Ramer, Weisbrod.) Motion carried.
- **Motion to Amend:** Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moriarty, to reduce the Town's anticipated revenue losses by \$250,000 to \$5,687,838. The Board voted 5-7-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Erickson, Fassuliotis, Hess, Mason, Tarkington). Motion failed.
- **Motion:** Ms. Moriarty made a motion, seconded by Ms. Erickson, to transfer Verizon's retroactive Cell Tower Lease payment of \$243,206 resulting from the new contract, to the Town's General Fund. The Board voted 8-4. (Opposed: Fassuliotis, Hess, Mason, Tarkington). Motion carried.

Schools Operating Budget 600-51010 \$2,368,704

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- **Motion:** Ms. Moriarty made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to increase the School Budget by \$2,368,784. Withdrawn.
- **Motion:** Ms. Moriarty made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to increase the School Budget by \$2,368,784, set the Capital Tax Levy at \$51 million and use additional Fund Balance to result in a 0% increase in the mill rate from the prior year. The Board voted 6-6-0 (Opposed: Drake, Duus, Fassuliotis, Hess, Mason, Tarkington). Motion failed.

OTHER FUNDS

Sewer Maintenance Fund 361 \$8,598,845

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- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to approve the Sewer Maintenance Fund budget of \$8,598,845. The Board voted 12-0-0. Motion carried.

The Nathaniel Witherell 450 \$2,329,000

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Reason: To modify the Town expenses allocated to The Nathaniel Witherell revolving fund account to restore the accounting treatment to that used in all years prior to the fiscal 2017 budget.

- **Motion:** Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Duus, to move identified operating expenses to the Nathaniel Witherell Fund from the Town General Fund. The Board voted 2-10-0 (Opposed: Erickson, Fassuliotis, Hess, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Mason, Moriarty, Ramer, Tarkington, Weisbrod). Motion failed.

School Lunch Fund 670-51010 - approved as amended.

Parking Services 219- 51010 - approved as amended

Golf Revolving Fund - approved, no change

OPEB - approved, no change

Shellfish Commission - approved, no change

**CONDITIONED- Subject to Release on review and approval of the BET**

External Entities - GEMS 440-57225 - \$4,700,000: Condition the release of the funds upon review and acceptance by the BET of a semi-annual report from GEMS with respect to its operations, personnel and finances. Motion carried.

External Entities - TAG 440-57221 & 57321 – \$277,000 and \$18,000: Condition the release of the funds upon review and acceptance by the BET of semi-annual reports from TAG and Safe Rides with respect to its operations, personnel and finances. Motion carried.

Parking Services 219-930-20344 - \$1,500,000: Condition the release of funds upon review and acceptance by the BET of a semi-annual report in June 2020 and December 2020 from the Deputy Chief of Police with respect to its operations, personnel and finances (operating and capital). Motion carried.

The Nathaniel Witherell 450 -999-57128 -\$1,500,000 Condition the release of the equivalent of the budgeted contribution to the Nathaniel Witherell Special Revenue Fund upon the BET's receipt of a report as of December 1, 2020 submitted by the Witherell Board Chair with respect to management, operations and status of capital projects. Motion carried.

The vote on the four above motions to condition was 12-0.

Greenwich Ave. 312-960-20226 - \$200,000 is subject to release by the BET upon written report including on traffic study information and description of proposed circle improvements and their costs.

Hamill Skating Rink 345-956-20250 - \$150,000 is subject to release by the BET upon review and acceptance by the BET of a report to confirm the need for additional funds for architectural and engineering services to complete Municipal Improvement and land use approvals.

Eastern Greenwich Civic Center 345-956-20251 - \$230,000 is subject to release by the BET upon review and acceptance of a report which confirms completed Municipal Improvement and site plan approvals.

Cardinal Stadium 680-59560 - \$3,631,000 is subject to release by the BET upon review and acceptance of a written report which confirms completed Municipal Improvement and site plan approvals for home side bleachers/press box, home side building below, handicap parking, entry kiosk, new light fixtures/existing poles; and information on public private partnership funds availability.

- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, to condition the four capital projects above. The Board voted 12-0-0. Motion carried.

**BUDGET RESOLUTIONS**

Ms. Fassuliotis reported that the Law Committee reviewed the FY21 Budget Resolutions and recommended changes (see attached).

Ms. Moriarty commented that Budget Resolution #9 and #12 which both reference FEMA grants and proceeds to the Town, respectively, should be reviewed to determine whether or not they were in conflict.

- **Motion:** Ms. Fassuliotis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Krumeich to approve the Resolutions on Grants and other Receipts as amended, Resolutions on Additional Provisions, and the Resolution for Issuance of \$32,973,000 Bonds. Vote was 12-0 to approve the Budget Resolutions as amended. Motion carried.

Ms. Fassuliotis proposed a text insertion into the Bonding Resolution.

- **Motion:** The Board voted unanimously to approve the Budget Resolutions including this text insertion. Motion carried.

There was discussion over the potential opportunity to refinance outstanding long-term debt. The Bonding Resolution was included with the Budget so the Town would have the option to refinance at lower interest rates if the economics are favorable.

- **Motion:** Ms. Fassuliotis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Krumeich, to approve the Finance Department Resolution to Refinance Previous Borrowings not to exceed \$25,000,000. The Board voted 12-0-0. Motion carried.

Members of the Board discussed the impact of the approved changes to the Recommended Budget as they impact the mill rate calculation. The discussion included alternatives on the amount of the capital tax levy, the use of unrestricted fund balance, the use of capital and non-recurring fund balance and the amount to be financed through property tax. There was further discussion on the consequences of the modification of the recommended BOE budget and the uncertainty of the current economic environment.

- **Motion to amend:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake to amend the FY21 Budget voted by the BET Budget Committee, to finalize these amounts in particular:
  - Total amount to be financed: \$448,379,253
  - Use of Unrestricted Fund Balance (June 30): \$15,000,000
  - Transfer from Unrestricted Fund Balance (Witherell): \$4,100,000The Board voted 7-6-0 to approve this amendment (Opposed: Erickson, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Moriarty, Ramer, Weisbrod). The Chairman cast a tie-breaking vote. Motion carried.
- **Motion:** Mr. Mason made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to approve the FY21 Budget as amended (immediately above). The Board voted 7-6-0 (Opposed: Erickson, Kreuzer, Krumeich, Moriarty, Ramer, Weisbrod). The Chairman cast a tie-breaking vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Mason suggested that each member of the BET might wish to make a final comment to conclude the BET Budget Decision Day. After all members had an opportunity to speak about this years' experience, Mr. Mason expressed his thanks to the Finance and IT Departments for their assistance and complimented the BET for its hard work.

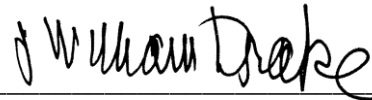
**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Erickson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 P.M. The Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the motion. Motion carried.

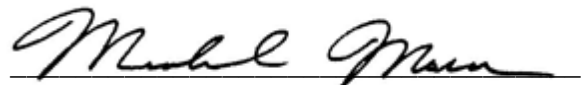
Respectfully submitted,



\_\_\_\_\_  
Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary



\_\_\_\_\_  
William Drake, Clerk of the Board



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Michael Mason, Chairman