MINUTES of the regular meeting of the Board of Estimate and Taxation held on Monday, May 16, 2016 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, Greenwich, CT.

Chairman Michael Mason called the meeting to order at 6:38 P.M., after which the members pledged allegiance to the flag.

Board members in attendance:

- Michael S. Mason, Chairman
- Arthur D. Norton, Vice Chairman
- William Drake, Clerk
- John Blankley
- Mary Lee A. Kiernan
- Elizabeth K. Krumeich
- James A. Lash
- Leslie Moriarty
- Jill K. Oberlander
- Jeffrey S. Ramer
- Leslie L. Tarkington
- Nancy Weissler

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

Other: Laura Erickson, Chairman, Board of Education; Barbara O'Neill, Vice Chairman, Board of Education; Debbie Appelbaum, Secretary, Board of Education; Jim Hricay, BOE Managing Director of Operations; John Hopkins, BOE Director of Food Services; Ron Matten, BOE Director of Facilities; Laurence Simon, Chairman, Nathaniel Witherell Board of Directors; Lloyd Bankson, Member, Nathaniel Witherell Board of Directors; Ken Borsuk, Reporter, Greenwich Time

Mr. Mason opened the meeting by welcoming Board members and asked Mr. Drake to present the Routine Applications for Budget Adjustments.

**ROUTINE APPLICATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HD-5</th>
<th>Health – Grant Fund</th>
<th>Approval to Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$5,500</td>
<td>F40339 51300 &amp; 57050</td>
<td>Temporary Salaries &amp; Social Security</td>
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</table>

Upon a motion by Mr. Lash, seconded by Ms. Kiernan, the Board of Estimate and Taxation voted 12-0-0 to approve the application.

**NON-ROUTINE APPLICATIONS**

Upon a motion by Mr. Lash, seconded by Ms. Kiernan, the Board of
Estimate and Taxation voted 12-0-0 to change the order of the Agenda to move item NW-4 forward.

NW-4  Nathaniel Witherell  Release of Conditions
$1,800,000  H450 57100  Fringe Benefits

Mr. Simon requested that the label for this Agenda item be changed to reflect that the Release of Conditions was placed on "Fringe Benefits" not "Temporary Salaries".

Upon a motion by Mr. Lash, seconded by Ms. Kiernan, the Board of Estimate and Taxation voted 12-0-0 to approve the application to release the condition on Fringe Benefits.

ED-9  BOE School Lunch Fund  Additional Appropriation
$120,000  S670 53400  Food Supplies

Mr. Lash commented that the Budget Committee was not satisfied with the Food Service’s progress to control food and supply costs although the Budget Committee had voted 4-0 to approve the application. Ms. Weissler remarked that she would reluctantly support the application but asked that the Board of Education reinvestigate outsourcing food service. She noted that Stamford, Westport, Fairfield, Wilton and Weston outsource food service. Ms. Tarkington also suggested that she would reluctantly support the application but asked that the BOE School Lunch Fund Committee with a BET member(s) be re-formed to prepare new School Lunch Program guidelines for presentation to the BET September meeting. Mr. Blankley noted that he would enthusiastically support the application because of the successful progress that had been made increasing sales and revenue. Ms. Moriarty expressed the opinion that the BOE was doing all it could to meet the needs of the children and minimize the cost to the taxpayer. Ms. Kiernan noted that revenues were moving in the right direction and asked the BOE Committee to develop a plan for the coming school year with greater attention to expenses. Mr. Mason suggested that he could not support the application because even if the BET approved the interim appropriation and it was included in the RTM June call, the funds would not be available for this school year ending in June. Ms. Erickson responded that the BOE was committed to improving the performance of the School Lunch Fund.

Upon a motion by Ms. Kiernan, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted 11-1-0 to approve the application. (Opposed: Mason)

ED-11  BOE  Release of Conditions
$850,000  Z680 59560  Cardinal Stadium Turf Replacement

Mr. Lash reported that the Budget Committee had approved the Release of Conditions with a vote of 4-0.

Mr. Mason reiterated that the conditions were that the Board of Health, Department of Parks & Recreation and the BOE “consider and agree on the product to be used”. He felt the conditions were clear and encouraged the BOE to identify the person with the authority to approve the product for the Board of Health. Ms. Oberlander, who had authored the subject to release condition, clarified that the intent of the condition was to ensure coordination among the Boards and departments with potential jurisdiction and agreement on the product to be used. The intent was not to dictate how each Board and department satisfied the condition. Thus, each of the Board of Health, the Department of Parks & Recreation and the Board of Education could either
take action or delegate decision making to its administration, explicitly or through normal operating procedure, provided that such Board and Department supplied the BET with evidence that the condition was satisfied.

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Ramer the Board voted 11-1-0 to postpone the vote until the Board of Health or its designee agreed to the selected turf product. (Opposed: Moriarty)

Upon a motion by Mr. Drake, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted 12-0-0 to delegate the approval of Release of Conditions to the Budget Committee at its June 2016 meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ED-12</th>
<th>BOE School Lunch Fund</th>
<th>Release of Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$664,770</td>
<td>S670 51300</td>
<td>Temporary Salaries</td>
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Upon a motion by Ms. Kiernan, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the application.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Ms. Elliot presented the Assessor's Report updating the Board on the Board of Assessment Appeals decisions. She noted that Appeal Hearings were held on 1,003 parcels of which 593 received favorable decisions; the impact on the Grand List is a reduction of $100.070 million. Ms. Elliot remarked that approximately the same number of Appeals were heard and resolved in 2005 as in 2015. She commented that once the Mill Rate was set, the Assessor's Office would be working on the Senior Tax Relief requests.

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted 12-0-0 to accept the Assessor's Report.

COMPTROLLER'S REPORT

Mr. Mynarski noted that the BET's FY 2016-2017 RTM Budget was reduced by the RTM based on their review of 30 Town departments' accounts; $608,009 was cut from the Operating Budget and $3,240,000 from the Capital Budget. He commented on a sequence of changes that would be taking place in Finance Department's personnel over the next several months, which would include the departure of the Internal Auditor, Assistant to the Treasurer, the Risk Manager, a Senior Accountant and the Treasurer. Mr. Mynarski indicated that the process of evaluating healthcare broker services would be completed within the week. Ms. Weissler, Ms. Krumeich and Mr. Geiger had participated as non-voting members during the Evaluation Committee process and agreed that opportunities for savings had been identified. A new outside Counsel had been selected by the Retirement Board and would begin when his engagement letter was approved. The Parsonage Cottage Committee's work was officially concluded with the Board of Selectmen, Town Law Department and the Housing Authority approving the Agreement; it no longer would appear on the monthly Comptroller's Report. The re-funding of the Bond issues authorized by the BET in April had been executed and a savings of $2,000,000 is expected.

Upon a motion by Mr. Norton, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Board voted 12-0-0 to accept the Comptroller's Report.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT SHOWING INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

BET Meeting Minutes May 16, 2016 – Approved
ACTIVITY FOR FEBRUARY 2016

Upon a motion by Mr. Norton, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Board voted 12-0-0 to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Standing Committee Reports

None

BET Liaison Reports

Education – Mr. Mason reported that he and Ms. Krumeich would be attending the BOE teachers' contract negotiation sessions.

Special Project Team Reports

None

NEW BUSINESS

• Review and Approval of Resolution for the Registrars of Voters Salaries
  Ms. Weissler reported that the HR Committee had reviewed the Registrar of Voters Salaries in January and had voted 3-1 (Opposed: Oberlander) to recommend to the BET an increase in the salaries according to the following Resolution:

  Resolved, that the Registrars of Voters’ Salaries will be set at $35,741 (a 2% increase) for calendar 2017 and $36,456 (a 2% increase) for calendar 2018. In addition to their salary, both Registrars of Voters will receive a stipend of $1,500 each for a primary. In the event of a single party primary, both Registrars will receive the $1,500 stipend. In the event of a Republican and Democratic primary being held on the same day, the stipend will be a single $1,500 payment to each registrar.

  Ms. Oberlander explained that the Greenwich Registrar of Voters are compensated comparably to peer communities and that no evidence was provided indicating that salary was a deterrent to those seeking the position.

  Upon a motion by Mr. Lash, seconded by Ms. Weissler, the Board voted 11-1-0 to approve the Resolution. (Opposed: Oberlander)

• Approval of Mill Rates for the 2016 – 2017 Fiscal Year

  General Fund

  • Resolved, that a tax at the rate of 11.202 Mills on the dollar be and the same is hereby levied and laid upon the Assessment List of the Town of Greenwich last completed, as the Tax for said Town’s General Fund for the succeeding Fiscal Year to wit: for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2017.

  • Resolved that the Chairman and Clerk of the Board of Estimate and Taxation
shall forthwith file a certificate of the levying and laying of such tax with the Town Clerk, who shall record such certificate in the Town Meeting record book, and obtain a receipt from the Town Clerk that this has been done.

Upon a motion by Mr. Drake, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the above Resolutions.

**Sewer Maintenance Fund**

- **Resolved**, that a tax at the rate of 0.595 Mills on the dollar be and the same is hereby levied and laid upon the Assessment List of the Town of Greenwich last completed, as the Tax for said Town’s Sewer Maintenance Fund for the succeeding Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

- **Resolved** that the Chairman and Clerk of the Board of Estimate and Taxation shall forthwith file a certificate of the levying and laying of such tax with the Town Clerk, who shall record such certificate in the Town Meeting record book, and obtain a receipt from the Town Clerk that this has been done.

Upon a motion by Mr. Drake, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the above Resolutions.

**Sewer Improvement Fund**

- **Resolved**, that a tax at the rate of 0.034 Mills on the dollar be and the same is hereby levied and laid upon the Assessment List of the Town of Greenwich last completed, as the Tax for said Town’s Sewer Improvement Fund for the succeeding Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

- **Resolved** that the Chairman and Clerk of the Board of Estimate and Taxation shall forthwith file a certificate of the levying and laying of such tax with the Town Clerk, who shall record such certificate in the Town Meeting record book, and obtain a receipt from the Town Clerk that this has been done.

Upon a motion by Mr. Drake, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the above Resolutions.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- July Meeting – scheduling still under consideration.

- September – Guidelines for the FY 2017-2018 Budget would be developed for the BET September Meeting after Town departments had presented their year-end project carry-over requests and close-outs.

- Ms. Weissler commented that the BET votes on a resolution pertaining to M&C salaries at its July meeting so that M&C salary adjustments can be effective for the new fiscal year.

- Ms. Kiernan asked if interviews of OPEB Trust members and the election of the FY17
Trust Chairman would take place in June. Mr. Drake responded that that could be accomplished.

Approval of the BET Meeting Minutes

Approval of the BET Meeting Minutes of the Regular BET Meeting of April 18, 2016

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the Minutes of April 18, 2016 Regular Monthly Meeting.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Mr. Mason expressed his thanks to members of the BET for attending many overlapping meeting with the various RTM Committees and Districts and responding to their questions about the Budget. He suggested that the RTM Budget vote was an opportunity to develop new ways to inform RTM members during the Budget process and prepare for the next Budget cycle. He remarked that July might be an opportunity for a party to mark the end of the year’s cycle.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Ms. Krumeich, seconded by Ms. Oberlander, the Board voted 12-0-0 to adjourn at 7:43 P.M.

The next Regular Meeting of the BET is scheduled on Monday, June 13, 2016 in the Town Hall Meeting Room at 5:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary

William Drake, Clerk of the Board

Michael S. Mason, Chairman