



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

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Hybrid Virtual & Town Hall Meeting Room

Committee

Present: Leslie L. Tarkington, Chair; Andy Duus, Leslie Moriarty, Jeffrey S. Ramer

Staff: Roland Gieger, Director, Budget & Systems Management; Jenny Larkin, IT Department; Peter Mynarski, Comptroller

Board: Michael Mason, Chairman; Laura Erickson, Karen Fassuliotis, Elizabeth K. Krumeich

Other: Ken Borsuk, Reporter, *Greenwich Time*; Thomas Miserendino, Chief Financial Officer, Greenwich Emergency Medical Service (GEMS); Tracy Schietinger, Executive Director, GEMS; Lawrence Simon, Chairman, Board of Directors, The Nathaniel Witherell; Horst Tebbe, GCTV

Ms. Tarkington called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

REQUESTS FOR BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

<u>Number</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
FI-8	Finance Department	\$75,000	Transfer
	A908 56130, A901 57010		Insurance Claims

Mr. Mynarski explained the request to transfer \$75,000 for insurance costs to cover overruns of the original insurance budget. Funds for this transfer come from budgeted healthcare savings.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Duus, to approve the transfer of \$75,000 to Fixed Charges from Healthcare, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the application and recommend it to the full BET as a Routine Application. Motion carried.

GM-2	GEMS	\$2,391,152	Release of Conditions
	A440 57225		1 st Installment for FY21/22

Ms. Schietinger provided an overview of GEMS financial position at the close of its fiscal year, April 30, 2021. She compared revenue and expenses of pre and post COVID-19 disruption of calls for service and event standby income; new workers' compensation legislation that would

include GEMS personnel as first responders; grant application results; volunteer support to Town Health Department vaccination clinics; successful fund raising and donations exceeding budgeted goal, and, provided an update on the upcoming RFB for construction of Station #4. The completion of construction of the new GEMS station is projected to be mid-April 2022 if construction begins in mid-August on plan. Mr. Miserendino provided financial details of GEMS' fiscal yearend, comparing the net revenues and expenses of \$422,027 to budgeted projections (revenues under budget by \$212,467 and expenses under budget by \$634,000). The Committee thanked GEMS for its pro-active management and asked to receive a copy of the Annual Audited Financial Statement when it is completed.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Ms. Moriarty, the Budget Committee recommends to the full BET that it acknowledges and accepts the semiannual report from GEMS respecting its operations, personnel, and finances, including a semiannual report on construction progress at GEMS Station 4, 1237 King Street and acknowledges the release of the first half funding of \$2,391,152. The Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

NW-4	The Nathaniel Witherell (TNW)	\$240,000	Transfer
	H45070 57100, 51010		COVID Expenses

Mr. Simon explained the request to transfer \$240,000 within object codes for COVID-19 related activities and visitation expenses including PPE equipment, cleaning expenses, and rental and installation of visitation pods. He commented that TNW's budget had sufficient funds to complete the fiscal year.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Ms. Moriarty, to approve the transfer of \$240,000 between accounts within TNW budget for COVID-19 related expenses from healthcare and regular salaries, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the application and recommend it to the full BET as a Routine Application. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Economic Conditions Report**

The Committee thanked Mr. Gieger for preparing the month-end May calculations to share the Town's Economic Conditions in time for the early in the month meeting date. Mr. Gieger reported that at the end of May, revenue exceeded the budget by \$4.2 million attributable to increased revenue from conveyance taxes, building permits, payment of delinquent taxes and no court settlements. Commenting that FY21 had been budgeted for \$8 million in new spending, he expects a potential surplus of \$3 million, or less than budgeted increase in expenditures.

- **Town Clerk Human Resources Request**

Ms. Tarkington commented that the addition to headcount in the Town Clerk Office was for discussion purposes; due to a retirement, two part-time positions could be combined into one full time (FT) position without additional costs for salary. Ms. Fassuliotis explained that the candidate for the FT position is participating in her spouse's health benefit program so there would be no additional cost to the FY22 Budget. The Committee was reminded that healthcare was only a portion of employee benefits, retirement cost would still be incurred and healthcare cost may be taken by this or a future employee in this position. The position is being requested to prepare for the

Office's increased volume of work including possible primaries and/or special elections, regular elections, absentee ballots and increased RTM responsibilities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to approve the Minutes of the following seven Meetings of BET Budget Committee held on:

May 24, 2021 – Special Meeting

May 13, 2021 – Regular Meeting

February 18, 2021 – Department Hearing Day 6

February 16, 2021 – Department Hearing Day 5

February 10, 2021 – Department Hearing Day 4

February 8, 2021 – Department Hearing Day 3

February 5, 2021 – Department Hearing Day 2

The Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

The next Regular Meeting of the BET Budget Committee will be held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 1:00 P.M.

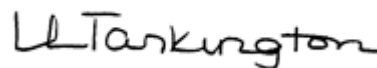
ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to adjourn the meeting at 2:23 P.M., the Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary



Leslie L. Tarkington, Budget Cmte Chair