MINUTES of the regular meeting of the Board of Estimate and Taxation held on Monday, June 16, 2008 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, Greenwich, CT.

Chairman Stephen Walko called the meeting to order at 6:33 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; Peter Crumbine, Selectman

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director; John Crary, Town Administrator; Maureen Kast, Director of Human Resources; Ted Gwartney, Assessor; Dan Warzoha, Emergency Management Director; Al Cava, Director of Labor Relations

Also Present: Frank Mazza, Chairman, Hamilton Avenue School Building Committee

ROUTINE APPLICATIONS – from Budget Committee:

CD-3 Community Development – Additional Appropriation - $5,000

Additional Appropriation:

$ 5,000 to Q19707-59900-27212 Family Centers Rehab  
$ 5,000 from Q19708-59900-28223 2008 CDBG Contingency

PD-3 Police Department – Approval to Use - $8,000

Approval to Use:

$ 8,000 to F2131-53520 Hydraulic Marine Davit  
$ 8,000 from Gift from GEMS
PD-4  Police Department – Transfer - $550,000

Transfer:

$400,000  to  A217-51010  Regular Salaries
$150,000  to  A216-51010  Regular Salaries

$300,000  from  A211-51010  Regular Salaries
$ 50,000  from  A213-51300  Temporary Salaries
$ 50,000  from  A213-51490  Professional Fees
$150,000  from  A213-51980  New Positions

SE-28  First Selectman - Transfer - 2004 Grant Homeland Security - $208,185

Transfer:

$146,851  to  F105-53950  Supplies & Materials NOC
$ 61,334  to  F105-59250-25113  Communication & Broadcasting

$168,185  from  F105-51490  Professional Serv. NOC
$ 40,000  from  F105-59200-25111

SE-29  First Selectman - Transfer – 2005 Grant Homeland Security - $167,090

Transfer:

$151,259  to  F105-53950  Supplies & Materials NOC
$ 15,831  to  F105-59250-25113  Communication & Broadcasting

$ 83,545  from  F105-51100
$ 82,301  from  F105-51490  Professional Serv. NOC
$  1,244  from  F105-57050

PR-3  Parks & Recreation – Continue in Force - $275,000

Continue in Force:

$275,000  Z822-59830-28039  Playground Replacement Program

PR-4  Parks & Recreation – Continue in Force - $200,000

Continue in Force:

$200,000  Z822-59820-28054  Park Lighting Upgrade

PR-5  Parks & Recreation – Continue in Force - $80,000

Continue in Force:

$ 80,000  Z823-59830-28077  Byram School Field Reconstruction

PW-11  DPW – Continue in Force - $50,000

Continue in Force:

$50,000  Z345-59560-28028  Fire Training Tower

PW-12  DPW – Continue in Force - $300,000
Continue in Force:
$300,000 Z345-59560-28052 Town-wide Restroom Rehabilitation

PW-13 DPW – Continue in Force - $25,000
Continue in Force:
$25,000 Z345-59560-28070 Hamill Skating Rink Upgrade Design

PW-14 DPW – Continue in Force - $140,000
Continue in Force:
$140,000 Z312-59610-28071 Tomac Lane Retaining Wall

PW-15 DPW – Continue in Force - $1,160,000
Continue in Force:
$1,160,000 Z312-59660-28038 Old Field Point Road Drainage

PW-16 DPW – Continue in Force - $934,000
Continue in Force:
$934,000 Z312-59620-28008 Porchuck Road Bridge Replacement

PW-17 DPW – Continue in Force - $135,000
Continue in Force:
$135,000 Z312-59620-28007 Round Hill Road Bridge Rehab

PW-18 DPW – Continue in Force - $1,500,000
Continue in Force:
$1,500,000 Z361-59560-28099 Phase 2 SSES/Storm Drainage

Mr. Mason stated that the “Continue in Force” items have not been spent within the fiscal year for which they are appropriated. According to the Town Charter, the BET has the authority to continue the appropriation in force for an additional fiscal year, with some exceptions. Most of these requests are in the bid or contract process.

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Mason, the Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the applications.

NON-Routine APPLICATIONS – from Budget Committee:

ED-14 Board of Education – Release of Condition - $125,000
Release of Condition:
$125,000 to Z6801792-59550-25110 Hamilton Avenue School
Mr. Mason explained that after a lengthy discussion at the Budget Committee Meeting, they voted not to release the entire $200,000 appropriation at this time. Mr. Mazza gave an update on the status of the project. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the change orders and what is required to complete the project.

Upon a motion by Ms. Barton, seconded by Mr. Kelly, the Board voted 2-10-0 against the amendment to increase the Release of Condition to $200,000 (Ms. Tarkington, Mssr. Walko, Stone, Mason, Campbell, Norton, Simon, Finger, Ramer, and Kelly voted against).

Upon a motion by Mr. Mason, seconded by Mr. Simon, the Board voted 12-0-0 to approve the Release of Condition for $125,000.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Mr. Gwartney presented the Assessor’s Report to the Board. Mr. Gwartney stated a correction will be made in next month’s report to Item 6. Litigation – 2005 Revaluation on page 6. At the request of Ms. Tarkington, Mr. Gwartney will provide the differential in value to the 939 parcels due to completed building permit work, and share the increase in the value of the land on the 66 property "splits and mergers" as reported in Item 2 – Normal Workload. At the request of Ms. Tarkington, Mr. Gwartney will report at the next meeting on real properties held and transferred by corporate entities and the impact on the conveyance tax. In response to Mr. Walko, Mr. Gwartney stated that the Law Department is reviewing the online information contract.

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

BET COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS and SPECIAL PROJECT TEAMS’ REPORTS

Audit Committee - Arthur Norton
Human Resources Committee – Leslie Tarkington
OPEB Ad Hoc and OPEB Trust Advisory Committee - Robert Stone

Havemeyer and Old Town Hall Study Team – Mr. Stone, Ms. Barton

Mr. Walko requested, that beginning next month, the special project teams file written reports to build a portfolio of their work done outside of the budget process. Also, some goals and objectives of the Comptroller and Assessor are relative to the success of these teams.

COMPTROLLER’S REPORT

Mr. Mynarski presented the Comptroller’s report to the Board. In response to Mr. Simon, Mr. Mynarski gave an update and explanation of reimbursements being reviewed by the Internal Auditor. Ms. Tarkington stated that the Elderly Tax Relief Committee has not yet submitted a report to the First Selectman. Mr. Norton commended the Comptroller and Internal Auditor on their efforts for recovery of the LoCIP funds.
Upon a motion by Mr. Norton, seconded by Mr. Simon, the Board voted 12-0-0 to accept the Comptroller's Report.

**ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER’S REPORT SHOWING INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIODS OF MAY 1, 2008 – MAY 31, 2008**

Mr. Mynarski presented the Treasurer’s report to the Board.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regular Meeting, May 19, 2008

Upon a motion by Mr. Finger, seconded by Mr. Mason, the Board voted 11-0-1, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the BET from May 19, 2008 (Mr. Kelly abstained).

**OFFICER’S REPORT**

Mr. Walko requested that the Finance Department review items for the July meeting, as well as anticipate items for an August meeting, if needed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Approval of Annual GWI (General Wage Increase) for M/C (Managerial Confidential) Employees for the Fiscal Year 7/1/08 – 6/30/09 per M/C Compensation Plan

Ms. Tarkington gave an overview of the proposal and the HR Committee discussion. The cost differential between a 3.25% increase, which is in the Budget, and the proposed 3.50%, which the Committee recommends, is an approximate $13,000 increase. In response to Mr. Simon, Mr. Tesei gave an explanation of the role of the First Selectman in the process. In response to Mr. Simon, Ms. Kast clarified which changes to the M/C Compensation Plan are brought before the Board.

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Ms. Barton, the Board voted 12-0-0, that the Resolution that a M/C General Wage Increase for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 of 3.5% be approved.

Discussion of Financial Review of Nathaniel Witherell Business Plan

Mr. Walko explained the request for an independent review of the business plan that was developed in 2006 and revised in early 2007, was to ensure that the proposed building project is
consistent with that business plan. Mr. Mynarski gave an update of the process and an explanation of the current situation concerning the RFP. Ms. Tarkington gave an overview of the plan and documentation, and voiced her concerns regarding the stalling of the building project. A discussion followed and will continue at the Budget Committee and BET in the coming months. Mr. Walko directed that any questions or concerns be emailed to Peter Mynarski.

**M/C Study – Hay Group**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Norton, the Board voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. to discuss the M/C Study.

Upon a motion by Mr. Krumeich, seconded by Ms. Barton the Board voted unanimously to leave Executive Session at 9:43 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Ms. Barton, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Bocchino, Recording Secretary

Leslie L. Tarkington, Clerk of the Board

Stephen G. Walko, Chairman