

BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION
Audit Committee Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 20, 2012 – 8:00 A.M.
Gisborne Conference Room

Present:

Committee: Arthur Norton, Chairman
Greg Bedrosian, Robert Brady, Sean Goldrick

Attendees: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Jim Lash, Former First
Selectman, Mary Lee Kiernan, BET Member

Greenwich Library Working Group Attendees: Nancy Better, President of
Greenwich Library Board, Haley Rockwell Elminger, Chip Haslin, Jenny
Baldock, Carol Mahoney, Director of Greenwich Library, Barbara
Ormerod-Glynn Deputy Director of Greenwich Library

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 A.M.

**1. Greenwich Library Sources of Financing Support Agreement – aka Stowell
Memorandum of Understanding, Governance**

The Meeting began with introductions of all in attendance. Mr. Norton offered opening remarks that included a history of the Greenwich Library from inception to date. In addition, Mr. Norton also stated that current economic conditions on the Town's annual budget was creating a strain on the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) process and the Board of Estimate and Taxation (BET) was more closely scrutinizing all capital projects.

Ms. Baldock distributed copies of The Greenwich Library Bylaws and offered that the Town's libraries are considered Town departments and with the exception of two employees, all library employees are Town employees. Ms. Baldock stated that for years there was always the issue of the Greenwich Library keeping the monies received from book fees. However, Ms. Baldock conceded that the Town would probably make up the difference of allowing the library to keep the fees with a reduction in budgeted expenditures.

There was an extended discussion whereas Mr. Norton stressed the importance of more BET oversight in the CIP process over library capital expenditures. Members of the Greenwich Library Working Group continually stressed that there is adequate BET oversight and, in their opinion, they were in complete compliance with the Town's budgetary process and the Stowell Memorandum of Understanding.


Mr. Goldrick asked for comparisons to the Darien, CT library system with that of the Greenwich Library system. Ms. Baldock provided comparisons and Ms. Mahoney stated the Greenwich Library continuously benchmarks their system against others providing several examples.

Mr. Norton concluded the topic discussions by recognizing that the Greenwich Library Working Group felt there were no need for immediate changes. However, Mr. Norton stated he would explore the concept of instituting a liaison between the BET and the Greenwich Library with the BET Chairman, Michael Mason.

In addition to the topic covered above, Mr. Norton brought up the fact that the Greenwich Library was in the process of being audited by the Town's Internal Auditor and Greenwich Library officials noted that they were aware of the ongoing audit.

2. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mr. Goldrick, seconded by Mr. Brady, the Committee voted 4 - 0 to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 A.M.



Arthur D. Norton, BET Audit Committee Chairman



Peter Mynarski, Recording Secretary