

TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Cone Room
Tuesday, July 14, 2009

Committee:

Present: Michael S. Mason, Chairman; Laurence B. Simon, Robert S. Stone, Edward T. Krumeich, Jr.

Board: Nancy Barton, William Finger, William Kelly, Art Norton, Jeffrey Ramer, Leslie Tarkington, Stephen Walko

Ex-Officio

Board Member: First Selectman Peter Tesei

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director
John Crary, Town Administrator
Caroline Baisley, Director; Deborah Flynn, Business Office Manager, Health Dept.
Amy Siebert, Commissioner, DPW
Tom Greco, Manager, Business Services Operations; Fred Walters, Superintendent, Marine and Facility Operations, Parks & Recreation
Raymond Augustine, Director of Financial Operations; Lynn Bausch, Acting Executive Director, Nathaniel Witherell

Others: Jonathan Asch, Harbormaster
Leslie Moriarty, Board of Education

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Requests for Budget Adjustments

PR-1 Parks & Recreation – Additional Appropriation - \$24,692

Mr. Greco explained that this request is to replace the inoperable marine sewage disposal facility, which is the only pump-out in Greenwich Harbor. Mr. Greco stated that the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, under the Connecticut Clean Vessel Act, will reimburse seventy-five percent of the cost of the project, and has issued a purchase order for the amount of \$18,519.00 in a show of good faith. A discussion followed regarding the approval process, the impact of potential cost over-runs, and installation.

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 24,692	to	Z834-5970-20961	Marine Sewage Disposal Facility
\$ 24,692	from		Capital Non Recurring

The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

HD-1 Health – Approval to Use - \$61,030

Ms. Baisley explained that this request is to run two Flu Vaccine programs, one for seasonal and one for H1N1. A discussion followed regarding timing, distribution of vaccine, unused funds, and any unemployment liability to the Town when the grant ends.

Approval to Use:

\$ 56,593	to	F4034-51300	Temporary Salaries
\$ 4,337	to	F4034-57050	Social Security
\$ 61,030	from		Emergency Preparedness Grant

The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

PW-1 DPW – Interim Appropriation - \$40,000

Ms. Siebert explained that this request is for additional funds needed for design scope, since that bridge started out as a repair in 2007 and then became eligible for federal funding from the State as a major rehabilitation. A brief discussion followed regarding the timeline, design process, construction, location of the bridge, and reimbursement.

Interim Appropriation:

\$ 40,000	to	Z312-59620-28007	Round Hill Road Bridge Repair
\$ 40,000	from		Capital Non Recurring Fund Balance

The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

PW-2 DPW – Release of Conditions - \$250,000

Ms. Siebert explained that this request is to start the design of two critical projects, Brothers Brook restriction south of Rt. 1 and Church Street. Ms. Siebert provided the committee with a spreadsheet, developed by the DPW and the Flood Erosion Control Board, identifying proposed drainage projects in rank order. Ms. Siebert explained that some of the issues that influence the priority of a project are emergency access routes, major arteries, safety, and/or possible structural failure. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the master plan, public and agency input, prioritizing, the different types of projects, data collection and documentation, drainage rights, and identification of the source of the problems.

Release of Conditions:

\$ 250,000	to	Z312-59660-29032	Drainage
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The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a non-routine application.

NW-4 Nathaniel Witherell – Transfer - \$120,000

Mr. Augustine explained that this request was for FY 2008-2009 close-out. Mr. Augustine gave a brief overview of revenues and expenditures.

Transfer:
\$ 120,000 to A450-51420 Prof Medical Dental
\$ 100,000 from A450-53250 Medical Surgical Lab
\$ 10,000 from A450-52220 Electric Service
\$ 10,000 from A450-54050 Maint Building Supplies

The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

FI-2 Finance – Administration – Transfer - \$25,000

Mr. Mynarski explained that this request was for FY 2008-2009 close-out. Mr. Mynarski gave a brief overview of the accounts involved. A brief discussion followed regarding fee comparison surveys and the costs of changing banks.

Transfer:
\$ 25,000 to A130-52030 Bank Fees
\$ 25,000 from A130-51010 Regular Salaries

The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

SE-3 First Selectman – Approval to Use - \$20,370

Mr. Mason stated for clarification of the Harbormaster, new this year, and that there has been a miscommunication. This item was postponed from June because the BET did not have the authority to appropriate the funds until the new fiscal year begins on July 1, 2009.

Mr. Tesei gave an overview of the items requested and stated that the Harbormaster is a State appointed official through the town and the funding control will continue through the Selectman's office. Mr. Cray stated that this budget is for Coastal Resources, of which the Harbormaster is but one element and the Harbormaster is also member of the Coastal Resources Committee, which is an advisory body to the First Selectman. Mr. Mason stated that the BET can only release the funds to a Town entity. Mr. Tesei then gave an overview of the Coastal Resources Advisory Committee's focus.

Mr. Walko stated, for clarification, that the citizens of the town are taxed, through the mooring fees and the like. Money then is appropriated through both the BET and the RTM budget process and not until those monies are appropriated, which in future years will be done through the regular budget process, will then monies will be afforded to be used by the Harbormaster.

Because this was the first year, this sequence of events that did not occur until after July 1st. This will not be an ongoing problem.

A brief discussion followed regarding moorings.

Approval to Use:

\$ 1,500	to	F834-51300	Temp Salaries
\$ 250	to	F834-52110	Mileage
\$ 3,500	to	F834-52360	Software Maintenance/Rental
\$ 1,000	to	F834-53010	Office Supplies
\$ 3,000	to	F834-53500	Fuel
\$ 3,000	to	F834-53520	Boat Parts
\$ 8,000	to	F834-54300	Maint of Boats & Marinas
\$ 120	to	F834-57050	FICA
\$ 20,370	from	F834-35005	RRR Coastal Resources

The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

NEW BUSINESS

Report on Status of Current Economic Conditions

Mr. Gieger gave an explanation and overview of current fund balance and revenues. A discussion followed regarding expenditures, retiree benefits, fund balance including cash and accruals, salary savings, and the review and re-authorization of positions.

2010-2011 Budget

Mr. Gieger gave an explanation and overview of budget projections. A brief discussion followed regarding salary savings, bond and note rates, revenues, and BOE enrollment projections.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2009, Regular Budget Committee Meeting.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Maria Bocchino, Recording Secretary


Michael S. Mason, Chairman