



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

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 14, 2021
Town Hall Meeting Room

Committee

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

Staff:

Lu Ann Bellantoni, Business Services Manager, Parking Services; Robert Berry, Deputy Chief, Police Department (Dept); Sarah Cocco, Conservation Resource Manager, Conservation; Roland Gieger, Director, Budget & Systems Management, Finance Dept; Kraig Gray, Deputy Chief, Professional Standards, Police Dept; Alan Monelli, Superintendent of Building Construction and Maintenance, Public Works; Peter Mynarski, Comptroller, Finance Dept; Barbara M. Schellenberg, Town Attorney, Law Dept; Patricia Sesto, Director of Environmental Affairs, Inland Wetlands, Watercourses Agency; Abby Wadler, Assistant Town Attorney, Law Department

Board:

Karen Fassuliotis, Chair; David Weisbrod, Harry Fisher, Miriam Kreuzer, Elizabeth K. Krumeich, Laura Erickson

RTM:

Danyal Ozizmir, District 5, Vice Chair, Budget Overview, Chair, Labor Contracts

Other:

Ken Borsuk, Reporter, *Greenwich Time*; Andy Fox, Project Manager, Greenwich Emergency Management Service (GEMS), Michael Miller, Acting President, Transportation Association of Greenwich (TAG); Robert B. Mitchell, Esq., Mitchell and Sheahan, P.C.; Tracy Schietinger, Executive Director, GEMS; Horst Tebbe, GCTV

Ms. Tarkington welcomed meeting attendees and commented that is good to be back from the summer break.

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION

On a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Mr. Duus, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to go into Executive Session at 1:07 P.M. to discuss litigation matters.

On a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Duus, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to come out of Executive Session at 2:30 P.M.

2. REQUESTS FOR BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

<u>Number</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
SE-1	LAW	Settlement
\$11,554.33	P935 57350	Century-National Ins. vs. TOG

To settle a case of a Town truck backing into a legally parked car.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to approve the settlement of \$11,554.33 in the litigation of Century-National vs. Town of Greenwich, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to recommend the application to the full BET as a Routine application. Motion carried.

SE-2	LAW	Settlement
\$10,120.63	P935 57350	Cincinnati Ins. vs. TOG

To settle a lawsuit of a Town Bob Cat driver misjudging the distance of a legally parked car.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to approve the settlement of \$10,120.63 in the litigation of Cincinnati Ins. vs. Town of Greenwich, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to recommend the application to the full BET as a Routine application. Motion carried.

SE-3	LAW	Settlement
\$16,050.90	P935 57350	AIG Property vs. TOG

To settle a lawsuit of a Town snow plow truck in poor road conditions striking another vehicle.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to approve the settlement of \$16,050.90 in the litigation of AIG Property vs. Town of Greenwich, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to recommend the application to the full BET as a Routine application. Motion carried.

SE-4	LAW	Settlement
\$24,370.10	P935 57350	Mill Pond Co. vs. TOG

To settle a lawsuit of a Town dump truck backing up in a private parking lot striking a stone island bearing a sign.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to approve the settlement of \$24,370.10 in the litigation of Mill Pond Co. vs. Town of Greenwich, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to recommend the application to the full BET as a Routine application. Motion carried.

SE-5	LAW	Settlement
\$90,000.00	P935 57350	3 Ledge Rd – FEMA Disallowance vs. TOG

To reimburse FEMA for a disallowed grant awarded to the Town, as applicant on behalf of a Town resident, who did not elevate his home in compliance with a Super Storm Sandy FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to approve the

payment of \$90,000.00 for 3 Ledge Road - FEMA Disallowance vs. Town of Greenwich, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to recommend the application to the full BET as a Routine application and to request the Law Department to pursue restitution from the previous homeowner. Motion carried.

SE-6	LAW	Settlement
\$8,334.25	P935 57350	Allstate vs. Vincole & TOG

To settle two lawsuits the first resulting from a Town sweeper backing into a legally parked vehicle and the second the vehicle owner's insurance company filing a subrogation claim.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to approve the settlement of \$7,491.63 to Allstate Insurance Company and \$842.62 to Ms. Baca in the litigation of Allstate vs. Vincole & Town of Greenwich. The Committee voted 4-0-0 to recommend the application to the full BET as a Routine application. Motion carried.

GM-2	GEMS	Additional Appropriation
\$358,000	B440 59560	GEMS Station 4

The item was presented by Andy Fox and Alan Monelli. It was explained that the request for an additional \$358,000 for GEMS Station 4 was needed because the four responsive bids were all above the budget amount of \$1.41 million dollars. Mr. Monelli explained that because it was a Request for Bid process, all the bids were final and could not be negotiated. It was further explained that the Town would need \$127,179 to cover the lowest bid and add a contingency amount of 15% or \$230,577 bringing the project cost to \$1,768,000. The bids are good for 120 days.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Ms. Moriarty, to approve the additional appropriation of \$358,000, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to recommend the application to the full BET as a Non-Routine application. Motion carried.

IT-1	Info. Technology	Transfers
\$307,000	A134 51460, 51950	Professional Services

Mr. Gieger explained that during the budget process, certain capital items were moved from the capital budget to operating expenses and put into a separate line item. Mr. Gieger said this transfer would place this project in the appropriate line items.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Ms. Moriarty, to approve the transfer of \$307,000 to cover increase the cost of Professional Services and the Committee voted 4-0-0 to recommend the application to the full BET as a Routine application. Motion carried.

PD-1	Police Department	Additional Appropriation
\$9,600	F213 51490	Forensic Testing

Deputy Chief Berry explained that an additional appropriation of \$9,600 was needed to use Asset Forfeiture funds to allow the Greenwich Police Department to send forensic evidence to an outside lab for open and ongoing cases. He added that this unique testing will aid investigations by providing newly available DNA results not currently available through the State of Connecticut

laboratories.

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Ramer, to approve the additional appropriation of \$9,600 for Forensic Testing from the Federal Asset Forfeiture Fund, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to recommend the application to the full BET as a Routine application. Motion carried.

TAG	TAG	Acceptance of Semi-Annual Report
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Mr. Miller presented the Transportation Association of Greenwich (TAG) semi-annual report to the Committee. Mr. Miller spoke at length on program services and community fundraising and pandemic support. Mr. Miller answered a variety financial related questions contained within the report. When asked about the status of the TAG Board members, Mr. Miller announced that the previous Board President had left and that he was now the Acting President of the TAG Board.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Mr. Duus, to accept the semi-annual report of the TAG, the Committee voted 4-0-0 to recommend the application to the full BET as a Routine application. Motion carried.

3. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moriarty to take the Update on Parking Fund Operations out of order. The motion passed 4-0-0.

- **Update Parking Fund Operations – Deputy Police Chief**

Deputy Chief Gray gave an extensive update on Parking Services matters. The report included a variety of subjects: meters, parking permits, the waiting list and Greenwich Avenue parking changes. In addition, he distributed an update to the Committee on a number of Parking Services Capital Projects.

On a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Ms. Moriarty, the Committee voted to accept the Parking Services Report 4-0-0. Motion carried.

- **Economic Conditions Report**

Mr. Gieger reported that revenue for conveyance taxes and building permits continue to be strong for FY22. He added that tax collections are up substantially as compared to last year, but that can be attributed to the lack of a tax deferral program this year.

- **Budget Guidelines – First Read**

Ms. Tarkington went through the proposed first draft of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Guidelines, including Exhibit 1, Budget Estimate, and highlighted notable changes in certain categories. Mr. Geiger added details on how the Budget Estimate was prepared. Mr. Ramer indicated that this draft included several aspirational figures in his view and proposed scheduling a workshop to continue the process. The Committee members discussed the need for an opportunity to review the proposed document covering the text and schedules.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Ms. Moriarty, seconded by Mr. Duus, to approve the Minutes of the BET Budget Committee Regular meeting held on July 13, 2021, the Committee voted 4-0-0. Ms. Moriarty identified a scrivener's error to be changed. Motion carried.

The next Regular Meeting of the BET Budget Committee will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at 1:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

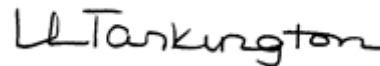
5. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Mr. Duus, to adjourn the meeting at 4:19 P.M., the Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter Mynarski, Comptroller, Recording
Secretary



Leslie L. Tarkington, Budget Cmte Chair