



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

BUDGET COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 8, 2020

Virtual Meeting

Committee

Present: Leslie L. Tarkington, Chair; Debra Hess, Leslie Moriarty, Jeffrey S. Ramer

Staff:

Kimberly Ambrosecchia, Business Operations Supervisor, Parks and Recreation Department (P&R); LuAnn Bellantoni, Business Manager, Parking Services; Jay Domeseck, Director, Fleet Department; Roland Gieger, Director, Budget & Systems Management, Finance Department; Jenny Larkin, Information Technology Department; Blaize Levitan, Assistant Director, P&R; Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Demetria Nelson, Commissioner, Human Services Department; Barbara Ormerod-Glynn, Director, Greenwich Public Library

Board:

Michael Mason, Chairman; Andreas Duus, Laura Erickson, Karen Fassuliotis, Miriam Kreuzer, Beth Krumeich, David Weisbrod

Selectmen:

Jill K. Oberlander, Select-person

RTM:

Lucia Jansen, (D-7), Chair, Budget Overview Committee (BOC), Labor Contracts Committee (LCC); Danyal Ozizmir, (D-5) Vice Chair BOC, Chair LCC; Lucy Von Brachel, (D-4)

BOE/GPS:

Peter Bernstein, Chair, Board of Education (BOE); Christine Downey, BOE; Dr. Toni Jones, Superintendent, Greenwich Public Schools (GPS); Sean O'Keefe, Chief Operating Officer (GPS)

Public:

Ken Borsuk, Reporter, *Greenwich Time*; Claire Kilgallen, New Lebanon School PTA; Barbara O'Neill; Horst Tebbe, GCTV

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 A.M.

First Read and Discussion of Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget Guidelines

Ms. Tarkington, BET Budget Committee Chair, introduced the draft Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (FY22) Guidelines and an Estimate to show projected spending-levels for the Town and the BOE/Schools. The Estimate includes projected operating costs, fixed charges, capital, and revenues that the BET anticipates would be approved based on current economic and other factors. Ms. Tarkington noted the budget assumptions used to prepare the Estimate and

highlighted factors that would impact planning such as: labor relations salary negotiations, increased benefit costs, capital projects, anticipated State revenue, grants, and payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT), and potential Grand List growth.

The Committee discussed revenue sources and income, debt service, the projected size of Town contributions to risk, retirement and OPEB funds, subsidies to The Nathaniel Witherell and the School Lunch Fund and potential use of Fund Balance from the General Fund and Capital Nonrecurring Fund to arrive at a projected FY22 Mill Rate.

Members of the Committee questioned if adequate information had been obtained from Town departments; if sufficient funding was planned to meet the Town services level expected by residents; and, whether savings from consolidation of Town departments were reflected. Concern was expressed about the shortened time and lack of dialogue allowed for discussion of the Guidelines.

Ms. Tarkington commented that the FY22 Budget Guidelines were presented as a first read and requested that written suggestions for changes be submitted prior to the Budget Committee October 13, 2020 meeting. Further dialogue about the impact of possible COVID-19 economic conditions or return to normalcy will be better understood when responses to recently issued Budget Committee questions are received and during the period leading up to the February Budget Hearings. Budget Committee approval of the Budget Guidelines at the October meeting would provide an opportunity for BET discussion during their October meeting and distribution to Town Departments while their budgets were being planned.

ADJOURNMENT

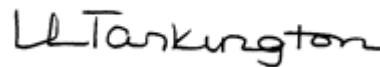
Mr. Ramer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hess, to adjourn the Meeting at 9:46 A.M. The Committee voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

Next Regular Meeting of the BET Budget Committee is scheduled for October 13, 2020 at 11:00 A.M. The Meeting is scheduled a virtual webinar meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary



Leslie Tarkington, Budget Committee Chair