TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Cone Meeting Room
Tuesday, October 22, 2013

Committee:
Present: Joseph L. Pellegrino, Chairman; William R. Finger, Jeffrey S. Ramer, Leslie L. Tarkington
Board: Sean Goldrick, Randall Huffman, Marc Johnson, Mary Lee Kiernan, Art Norton
Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director; Caroline Baisley, Director; Deborah Flynn, Business Office Manager, Health Department; Mark Kordick, Captain, Operations, Police Department; Tom Greco, Assistant Director, Parks & Recreation Department

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 P.M.

REQUESTS FOR BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, the Committee voted unanimously to take up the request for budget adjustments out of order of the Agenda.

HD-5 Health – Approval to Use $72,902.76

Approval to Use:
$20,000.00 to F403-52010 Advertising
$7,902.76 to F403-52020 Printing & Binding
$5,000.00 to F403-52150 Office Services
$14,500.00 to F403-54200 Maintenance Machinery, Tools
$25,500.00 to F403-59100-14216 Laboratory Equipment
$72,902.76 from Public Act Grant

Ms. Baisley gave an overview of the annual Grant, highlighting new equipment acquisitions. A discussion followed regarding radon testing and remediation requirements.

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

HD-6 Health – Approval to Use $43,035.79

Approval to Use:
$6,000.00 to F187-51300 Temporary Services
$200.00 to F187-51420 Prof. Medical & Dental
$8,000.00 to F187-51490 Prof. & Other NOC
$1,000.00 to F187-51970 Prior Year Expense
$10,000.00 to F187-52010 Advertising
$290.98 to F187-52100 Travel Expense Employees
$1,500.00 to F187-52110 Mileage Allowance
PD-1 Police – Approval to Use $68,025

Approval to Use:
$ 67,039 to F217-51100 Overtime Services
$ 986 to F217-57050 Benefits
$ 68,025 from F217-51100 Overtime Services

Captain Kordick gave a brief summary of the annual DUI Enforcement Program, highlighting statistics and procedures. This grant funds 75% of the program’s expenses.

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

PR-1 Parks & Recreation – Additional Appropriation $60,000

Additional Appropriation:
$ 60,000 to Z816-59300 Compressor Unit
$ 60,000 from Capital Non Recurring

Mr. Greco gave background information and a detailed description of the equipment failure at the Dorothy Hamill Skating Rink. The Committee briefly discussed materials, equipment, and cost.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of the Budget Guidelines FY2014-2015

The Committee reviewed the Budget Guidelines 10-22-2013 Draft and proposed revisions. Mr. Pellegrino shared background information and comments concerning mill rate increases. Mr.
Finger shared comments concerning a mill rates range proposal, the guidelines intent and relevance, labor contracts and pension fund rate of return. Mr. Ramer shared comments concerning mill rates range, department’s budget decrease comparisons and funding choices, capital expenditures, issues concerning the Board of Education, and the pension fund. Ms. Tarkington shared comments supporting a mill rate cap, labor contract negotiations, impact of the 2015 revaluation, and sewer tax.

Mr. Pellegrino also shared comments concerning a mill rate cap, increasing reserves, upcoming expenses and management of tax dollars, inflationary trends, and the cost of government.

The Committee proceeded to take three votes. The first vote was on a motion by Mr. Ramer that the Departments, Appointing Authorities and BOE prepare three budgets; the second vote was on a motion by Mr. Finger that a range of 2.5% to 3.5% be substituted for 3.0% or less; and the final vote was on the guideline as presented by the Chair. The results of the votes were as follows:

Upon a motion by Mr. Ramer, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Committee voted 2-2 and the motion to amend Budget Guidelines 10-22-2013 to have three budgets prepared by the Departments failed.

Upon a motion by Mr. Finger, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Committee voted 2-2 and the motion to amend paragraph 3 of Budget Guidelines 10-22-2013 failed.

Upon a motion by Mr. Pellegrino, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Committee voted 2-2 and the motion to approve the Budget Guidelines 10-22-13 failed.

Report of Status of Current Economic Conditions

Mr. Gieger gave a report of the status of current economic conditions, highlighting revenues and increased building permits.

A brief discussion followed regarding revenue projections, and Mr. Pellegrino highlighted the Nathaniel Witherell Statement of Operations showing decreases in spending.

Approval of 2014 BET Budget Committee Meeting Calendar

Upon a motion by Mr. Finger, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Committee voted 4-0 to approve the 2014 BET Budget Committee Calendar.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Budget Committee Regular Meeting, September 10, 2013

Upon a motion by Mr. Finger, seconded by Ms. Tarkington, the Committee voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2013, Budget Committee Regular Meeting.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,