



MINUTES of the regular meeting of the Board of Estimate and Taxation held on Tuesday, September 22, 2009 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, Greenwich, CT.

Chairman Stephen Walko called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m., after which the members pledged allegiance to the flag.

Board members in attendance:

Stephen G. Walko, Chairman  
Robert S. Stone, Vice Chairman  
Leslie L. Tarkington, Clerk  
Nancy E. Barton  
James S. Campbell  
William R. Finger  
Edward T. Krumeich, Jr.  
Michael S. Mason  
Arthur D. Norton  
Jeffrey S. Ramer  
Laurence B. Simon

Absent: William G. Kelly

Selectmen: Peter Tesei, First Selectman; Peter Crumbine; Lin Lavery

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director; Ted Gwartney, Assessor; John Crary, Town Administrator; Sidney Freund, Superintendent, Board of Education; Amy Siebert, Commissioner and Joseph Roberto, Superintendent, Highway, Public Works Department; John Wayne Fox, Town Attorney

Other: Frank Mazza, Chairman, Hamilton Avenue Building Committee; Erf Porter, Vice Chairman, Eastern Greenwich Civic Center Committee

Mr. Walko introduced Dr. Freund, Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Freund commented briefly on working together with the BET during the budget process with regard to education.

**ROUTINE APPLICATIONS – from Budget Committee:**

**CC-1 Conservation – Additional Appropriation - \$500**

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 500 to A174-53010 Supplies

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Mason, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the routine application from the Budget Committee.

**NON-ROUTINE APPLICATIONS – from Budget Committee:**

PW-3 DPW – Additional Appropriation - \$215,327

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 215,327	to	Z312-59120	Vac-All
\$ 215,327	from		Fund Balance

Mr. Mason explained that this request is to replace the second Vac-All vehicle, which is used to clean out storm drains. Currently there are two units, one purchased in 1992 and one purchased in 1993. Both of these two units have exceeded their routine ten-year replacement cycle. A replacement for one arrived this summer. During the past nine months a vehicle has been rented on a monthly basis, and some large drain cleaning work was outsourced. The town has approximately 10,000 catch basins, which should be cleaned annually. A discussion followed concerning reevaluation of the units and replacement cycles.

Upon a motion by Mr. Mason, seconded by Mr. Simon, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the application.

**ASSESSOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Gwartney presented the Assessor's Report to the Board. A discussion followed regarding the Senior Tax Deferral study, documentation, timing, the approval process, and comparable programs. Both Ms. Barton and Mr. Cray provided information on the study. In response to Mr. Stone, Mr. Gwartney stated that the decision regarding the revaluation will be made at the October 2009 BET meeting. A brief discussion followed regarding market trends and the completion of the 2009 Grand List.

Upon a motion by Ms. Tarkington, seconded by Mr. Mason, the Board voted 11-0-0 to accept the Assessor's Report.

**BET COMMITTEES' and SPECIAL PROJECT TEAMS' REPORTS**

- Audit Committee, September 14, 2009 – Mr. Norton*
- Glenville School Building Committee, September 2009 – Mr. Norton*
- Human Resources Committee, September 2009 – Ms. Tarkington*
- Nathaniel Witherell Town Building Committee, September 2009 – Ms. Tarkington*
- OPEB Trust Board and Ad-Hoc OPEB Committee, September 14, 2009 – Mr. Stone*

In response to Mr. Walko, Mr. Norton stated that once the photovoltaic roof system is installed on Glenville School at the end of November, the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy may be granted. The Building Committee has promised the school for occupancy in January 2010.

## **COMPTROLLER'S REPORT**

Mr. Mynarski presented the Comptroller's Report to the Board. Mr. Mynarski distributed a chart displaying the Retirement System monthly investment performance. A discussion followed regarding cash management, ACH transfers, money market rates, and the STIF fund.

In response to Mr. Walko, Mr. Mynarski gave an update on the Nathaniel Witherell Long Range Business Plan review and feasibility study for Project Renew by HDG. A discussion followed regarding the timeline, funding, and pre-construction expenditures. Mr. Walko stated that Mr. Ormsby, Board Chairman of the Nathaniel Witherell will be asked to attend the BET October 19, 2009 meeting to present an update.

Upon a motion by Mr. Norton, seconded by Mr. Finger, the Board voted 11-0-0 to accept the Comptroller's Report.

## **ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER'S REPORT SHOWING INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIODS OF AUGUST 1, 2009 – AUGUST 31, 2009**

Upon a motion by Mr. Norton, seconded by Mr. Simon, the Board voted 11-0-0 to accept the Treasurer's Report.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

BET Regular Meeting, July 20, 2009

Upon a motion by Mr. Mason, seconded by Mr. Simon, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the BET from July 20, 2009.

## **OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mr. Walko stated that invitations have been sent from the Department of Social Services celebrating "A Century of Service – Providing Hope for Those in Need" on October 16, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. Also, a response to the Registrar of Voters is required from those wishing to attend the review of the voting machines.

Mr. Simon stated that invitations will be going out to all members of the BET to celebrate the BET 100 Year Anniversary at the bi-annual dinner on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 at 6:00 p.m., at the Burning Tree Country Club.

Mr. Walko stated the addition of GCTV to the Cone Room will add an element of public participation to the Budget Committee discussions. Comments and/or questions regarding the Budget Guidelines from the public and members of other Boards should be sent to Mr. Mason or the Budget Committee members.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Approval of 2010 BET Meeting Schedule**

Upon a motion by Mr. Simon, seconded by Mr. Mason, the Board voted 11-0-0 to approve the 2010 BET Meeting Schedule.

The 2010 BET Meeting Schedule with location of meetings will be posted on the Town website.

### **Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget Guidelines Schedule**

Mr. Mason stated, regarding the Budget Guidelines, that comments are to be sent to the Finance Department by Friday, September 25, 2009. These comments will be shared with all members of the Board. The Budget Committee will have a special work session on Tuesday, September 29, 2009 at 4:00 p.m., in the Parks & Recreation Conference Room, to prepare a draft for presentation at the October regularly scheduled Budget Committee and BET meetings.

### **Law Department Report - Executive Session**

#### **To Discuss Hamilton Avenue School Litigation and Police Department Injunction**

Upon a motion by Mr. Krumeich, seconded by Mr. Mason, the Board voted 11-0-0 to enter into Executive Session at 7:43 p.m. to discuss pending litigation matters.

In attendance were:

BET Members: Barton, Campbell, Finger, Krumeich, Mason, Norton, Ramer, Stone, Simon, Tarkington, and Walko  
Peter Tesei, First Selectman; Peter Crumbine; Lin Lavery  
Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director; John Wayne Fox, Town Attorney; Frank Mazza, Chairman, Hamilton Avenue Building Committee (for Hamilton Avenue School litigation discussion only)

The Board voted to exit Executive Session at 8:21 p.m.

### **Presentation on Status of Eastern Greenwich Civic Center**

Mr. Porter presented a Request for Endorsement to the Board. A lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. Walko stated that although the presentation has been helpful, the BET is a Finance Board that only acts upon requests from Town Departments. The BET does not vote on endorsements or sense-of-the-meeting resolutions. Accordingly, no action will be taken on this issue.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Mr. Krumeich, seconded by Mr. Ramer, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Maria Bocchino, Recording Secretary

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Leslie L. Tarkington, Clerk of the Board

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Stephen G. Walko, Chairman

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL