

TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Cone Room
Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Committee:

Present: Michael Mason, Chairman; Larry Simon, Robert Stone, Edward Krumeich
Board: Nancy Barton, Leslie Tarkington, Art Norton, Jeff Ramer, Bill Finger, Jim
Campbell, Steve Walko,

Ex-Officio Board Member: First Selectman Peter Tesei, Selectman Lin Lavery

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller

Also Present: Nancy Weissler, Chairman, Board of Education; Aamina Ahmad, Law
Department; Caroline Baisley and Debby Flynn Health Department;
Veronica Baron Musca, Registrars of Voters; Pamela Frame;

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

Requests for Budget Adjustments

HD-6 Health Department – Approval to Use - \$18,800

Approval to Use:

\$7,000	to	F187-51300	Temp Salaries
\$9,000	to	F187-51490	Prof & Other Serv NOC
\$500	to	F187-52010	Advertising
\$500	to	F187-53010	Office Supplies
\$800	to	F187-53550	Mech Supplies & Small Tools
\$500	to	F187-53950	Supplies NOC
\$500	to	F187-57050	Social Security
\$18,800	from	F187-35024	RRR-Shellfish Permits

Ms. Baisley reported that the approval to use is from the Shellfish Commission's restricted revenue account. She stated that all object codes are routine, with the exception of 51490 which will be used for a seasonal study of hard clams in Greenwich Cove, a project proposed by the Greenwich Shellfish Commission.

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

RV-1 Registrars of Voters – Additional Appropriation - \$57,089

Additional Appropriation:

\$45,415	to	A120-51450	2 nd Primary Personnel
\$7,000	to	A120-54200	Transport set-up
\$150	to	A120-53010	Office Supplies
\$4,524	to	A120-51100	Police Officers
\$57,089	from		General Fund Balance

Ms. Musca reported that the additional appropriation was used for the 2nd Presidential Preference Primary. The Registrar budget included funds for only one primary with the condition, should the need arise they are to request an additional appropriation. The committee requested a revised blue sheet and back up pages for the BET.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Upon a motion by Mr. Krumeich, seconded by Mr. Simon, the committee voted unanimously to enter into executive session at 6:44 P.M. to discuss settlement of legal claims.

In attendance were:

Peter Mynarski, Comptroller,

Peter Tesei, First Selectman, Lin Lavery, Selectman

BET Members: Mason, Krumeich, Stone, Simon, Campbell, Finger, Norton, Ramer, Walko, Barton and Tarkington:

The committee voted unanimously to leave executive session at 6:56 P.M. to discuss settlement of legal claims.

SE-16 First Selectman – Additional Appropriation - \$70,000

Additional Appropriation:

\$70,000	to	F935-57350	Creamer, et al vs. Town of Greenwich
\$70,000	from		Risk Fund Balance

The Committee voted 3-0-1 to approve the request and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

SE-22 First Selectman – Additional Appropriation - \$55,000

Accept Gift:

\$100,000 to Z345-59830 28137 Community Pool - Byram
\$100,000 from Capital non-recurring

Ms. Lavery introduced the project manager, Pamela Frame. The RTM has accepted a gift in an amount up to \$100,000. The committee explained to Ms. Frame that the application should be changed to request the funds needed to be used from the gift. The application was changed to:

Appropriation:

\$55,000 to Z345-59830 28137 Community Pool – Byram
\$55,000 from Capital Non-Recurring Fund

Ms. Frame explained that the intention is to create a public/private partnership and according to their research the cost of the pool will be from 5 to 7 million dollars. These initial funds are to be used for research and site development to understand exactly how much the pool will cost.

The Committee voted 4-0 to approve the appropriation as amended subject to condition upon receipt of cash and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a routine application.

Mr. Walko requested that the Budget Committee draft a policy regarding gifts and how they get approved through the Town.

Tax Abatement Ordinance

Ms. Ahmad reported that after meeting with the Law Committee, the Ordinance has been re-drafted as requested by the Budget Committee at the February 2008 meeting. Ms. Barton stated that the Law Committee voted 2-0 to recommend it to the Budget Committee. Mr. Campbell noted one minor grammatical change that needs to be made. The committee requested that Mr. Gwartney present examples of the impact of this ordinance to the BET on Monday.

The Committee voted 4-0 to approve the document and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation.

Release of Conditions – Channel 79 Appropriations- \$45,500

Mr. Crary clarified the status of Channel 79 as a non-profit entity. Discussion followed regarding use of funds. The Law Department has reviewed the incorporation papers and has approved the entity as non-profit.

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

Commission on Aging – Space Analysis Havemeyer Building – Phase I – Acceptance of Report

Mr. Tesei read the condition and gave an explanation of the study.

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

Commission on Aging – Phase II – Release of Conditions

Discussion followed about needs assessment for the Senior Center not being completed and a suggested re-purposing of funds for a study of the Havemeyer building from the BOE to the Commission on Aging. The Budget Committee or the BET cannot re-purpose funds already appropriated by the RTM. Mr. Tesei expressed his concerns about time constraints.

The Committee voted 4-0 to accept the report and release the condition on the appropriation and forward it to the Board of Estimate and Taxation as a non-routine application.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Mason explained the purpose and the process of the minutes. A discussion followed regarding the contents of the minutes. In the event that a member would like a certain point reflected in the minutes, the request should be made at that time, during the meeting.

Upon a motion by Mr. Simon, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2008, Regular Budget Committee Meeting as amended with the transcript attached.

Upon a motion by Mr. Simon, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from the February 7, 2008, Capital Budget Review – Day 1 as amended.

Upon a motion by Mr. Simon, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2008, Capital Budget Review – Day 2 as amended.

Upon a motion by Mr. Krumeich, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2008, Departmental Review – Day 1 as amended.

Upon a motion by Mr. Simon, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2008, Departmental Review – Day 2 as amended.

Budget Committee 02/04/08 – Budget Comm. Public Hearing, vote postponed.

Budget Committee 02/21/08 Meeting – Consolidation Day, vote postponed.

Budget Committee 02/27/08 Meeting – Decision Day, vote postponed.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Bocchino, Recording Secretary

Michael S.Mason, Chairman