

TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Cone Room
Tuesday, January 20, 2009

Committee:

Present: Michael S. Mason, Chairman; Laurence B. Simon, Edward T. Krumeich, Jr. (5:54 P.M. arrival), Robert S. Stone (6:10 P.M. arrival)

Board: Jim Campbell, Steve Walko, Bill Finger, Art Norton, Leslie Tarkington, Jeff Ramer, Bill Kelly

Ex-Officio

Board Member: First Selectman Peter Tesei

Staff:

Roland Gieger, Budget Director; Peter Mynarski, Comptroller
Peter Siecienski, Fire Chief; Robert Kick, Asst. Fire Chief; Larry Roberts, Inspector; James McDonald, Deputy Fire Marshall, Fire Department
Susan Wallerstein, Asst. Superintendent, Board of Education
Sgt. Timothy Berry, Police Department
David Hopper, Judge, Probate court
Alan Corry, Director, Parking Services
John Crary, Town Administrator
Maureen Kast, Director, Human Resources
Valerie Maze Keeney, Asst. Town Attorney

Other:

Nancy Weissler, Chairman; Leslie Moriarty, Vice-Chairman, Board of Education
William J. Kupinse, Jr, Outside Counsel for the Town of Greenwich

The meeting was called to order at 5:42 P.M.

Fire Department – Fire Response volunteer and paid

At the request of Mr. Mason, Chief Siecienski gave a presentation showing the Fire Department's challenges, the need for a King Street Fire Station, and the need to increase professional paid staff. Mr. Mason asked that any comments concerning the issues of Fire Departments station houses, personnel deployment as well as equipment utilization be sent to Mr. Gieger for distribution.

Requests for Budget Adjustments

ED-5 Board of Education – Approval to Use - \$5,000

Dr. Wallerstein stated that both ED-5 and ED-7 are being set up as segregated grants.

Approval to Use:

\$ 5,000	to	F6011207-51490	Riverside School
\$ 5,000	from		NEA Learning & Leadership Grant

In response to Mr. Stone, Dr. Wallerstein explained that several teachers at Riverside School took the initiative to pursue a funding stream, after being trained in the Universal Design for Learning Initiative.

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

ED-6 Board of Education – Approval to Use - \$107,102

Approval to Use:

\$ 107,102	to	A6401789-52260	Fuel/Heat
\$ 107,102	from		Heating Assistance Grant

In response to Mr. Krumeich, Dr. Wallerstein stated that this State grant will allow the return of already appropriated funds to the Town.

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

ED-7 Board of Education – Approval to Use - \$5,000

Approval to Use:

\$ 1,550	to	F6010208-53100	Supplies
\$ 2,000	to	F6010208-53070	DP Equipment
\$ 1,450	to	F6010208-53101	Furniture, Non-Capital
\$ 5,000	from		Lone Pine Foundation Grant

This grant to Hamilton Avenue School will support the development of a Community/Parent Resource Room.

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

LU-1 Land Use Admin/Conservation – Approval to Use - \$2,000

Approval to Use:

\$ 2,000	to	A174-53550	Eel Survey Byram River
\$ 2,000	from		National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Grant

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

PD-1 Police – Approval to Use - \$34,200

Approval to Use:

\$ 33,704	to	F217-51100	Overtime Services
\$ 496	to	F217-57050	Benefits
\$ 34,200	from		DUI Enforcement Program Grant

Sgt. Berry gave an explanation for the request which is to provide a Comprehensive DUI Enforcement Program. The State grant of \$34,200 represents 75% of the total cost of the program and The Police Dept. has committed \$11,400 of its own money to match the grant, assuming that all the proposed dates are fulfilled. In response to Mr. Simon, Sgt. Berry stated that the Police Dept. sets the dates to initiate the program, and then applies for reimbursement after the enforcement has occurred and the costs have been incurred.

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

PB-1 Probate Court – Additional Appropriation - \$12,000

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 12,000 to A111-52190 Document Imaging
\$ 12,000 from Contingency Fund

Judge Hopper explained that this request is for unforeseen micro-filming expenses incurred, due to Tax changes that occurred in 2005, which required micro-filming all the tax returns that are non-taxable. Judge Hopper stated that, as of today, the State of CT has offered sale of a scanner, computer and software for \$6,000 that will be put in the request for FY 2010, which will alleviate the cost of micro-filming in the future. In response to Mr. Simon, Judge Hopper said that he will look into the requirements of the State for these types of documents.

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

PS-1 Parking Services – Release of Conditions - \$50,000

Release of Conditions:

\$ 50,000 to G219-59300-29092 Three Multi Space Pay Stations

Mr. Corry gave an explanation for the request to release funds, originally appropriated in FY 2009 for the Byram Community, which decided against the program. The Multi-Space Pay Stations would be installed at the Island Beach (2) and Horseneck Lane parking lots to manage non-resident beach parking in the summer. In response to Mr. Mason, Mr. Gieger stated that the capital project had identified a number a places to install meters where there currently were none. Mr. Corry stated that the current Island Beach parking meters are in need of replacement. A discussion followed regarding the need for Multi-Space meters in these areas, parking issues, and enforcement. It was decided that more information was needed particularly with regard to the enforcement of non-resident parking while there are events at Roger Sherman Baldwin Park.

The Committee voted 4-0 to postpone the request for one month.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Upon a motion by Mr. Krumeich, seconded by Mr. Simon, the committee voted unanimously to enter into executive session at 7:05 P.M. to discuss litigation matters.

In attendance were:

Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director
Peter Tesei, First Selectman
Maureen Kast, Director, Human Resources
Valerie Maze Keeny, Asst. Town Attorney; William J. Kupinse, Jr, Ouside Counsel
BET Members: Mason, Krumeich, Stone, Simon, Campbell, Finger, Walko, Norton, Tarkington, Ramer and Kelly

The committee voted unanimously to leave executive session at 7:35 P.M.

SE-16 First Selectman – Additional Appropriation - XXX

Additional Appropriation:

\$	to	P935-57350	Settlement – Welch vs. TOG
\$	from		Risk Fund Balance

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

Report on Status of Current Economic Conditions

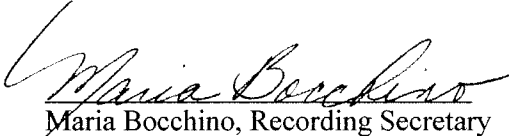
Mr. Gieger gave an explanation and overview of the current revenues and expenditures. He also presented several different revenue scenarios. A discussion followed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

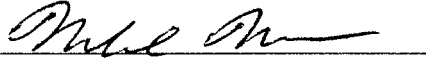
The Committee postponed approval of the minutes from the December 9, 2008, Regular Budget Committee Meeting.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Maria Bocchino, Recording Secretary



Michael S. Mason, Chairman