

TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Cone Room
Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Committee:

Present: Michael S. Mason, Chairman; Laurence B. Simon, Robert S. Stone, Edward T. Krumeich, Jr.

Board: Nancy Barton, Art Norton, Leslie Tarkington, Jeffrey Ramer, Bill Finger

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director
John Crary, Town Administrator
Samuel Deibler, Director, Commission on Aging
Raymond Augustine, Director of Financial Operations, Nathaniel Witherell
Betty Linck, Director, Fleet Department
David Thompson, Chief Engineer, Public Works Department
J. Wayne Fox, Town Attorney; Fred de Arango, Law Department

Other: Lloyd Bankson, Nathaniel Witherell Board of Directors

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

Requests for Budget Adjustments

AG-1 Aging Commission – Transfer - \$11,000

Mr. Deibler gave an explanation for the request, providing a chart which displayed increases in participation in the meal program. A brief discussion followed.

Transfer:

\$ 10,000	to	A196-53400	Food
\$ 1,000	to	A196-53350	Custodial
\$ 10,000	from	A196-51300	Temporary Services
\$ 1,000	from	A196-54150	Maintenance of Furniture

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

PW-7 DPW – Transfer - \$300,000

Mr. Thompson explained that the request was to pay for snow and ice control, using savings from salaries. A brief discussion followed concerning increased costs of salt and projections for FY 2009-2010.

Transfer:

\$ 125,000	to	A312-51920	Work Transfer To/From
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\$ 175,000	to	A312-53920	Work Transfer To/From
\$ 75,000	from	A301-51010	Regular Salaries-Administration
\$ 75,000	from	A321-52510	Cleaning Services-Waste Disposal
\$ 75,000	from	A345-51010	Regular Salaries-BC & M
\$ 75,000	from	A351-51010	Regular Salaries-Building Inspection

The Committee asked that the correct codes be added for 51920 and 5392 and that a new Blue Sheet be submitted in time for the BET meeting on Monday May 18, 2009.

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

FL-1 Fleet Department – Transfer - \$137,000

Ms. Linck explained that the request was for the cost of fuel through the end of the fiscal year and repairs costs incurred during snow removal.

In response to Mr. Stone, Mr. Crary stated that a consortium of municipalities in the area meets on a regular basis to discuss purchasing and one of the major areas is fuels. However, the market is so disrupted, that it is very hard to predict. In response to Mr. Mason, Ms. Linck stated that the fuel contract price is for all town departments. A discussion followed regarding fluctuating fuel costs and funding for snow removal.

Transfer:

\$ 126,000	to	A380-53500	Fuels/Oils/Lubes
\$ 11,000	to	A380-53510	Parts-Auto Equipment
\$ 36,000	from	A380-51010	Regular Salaries
\$ 5,000	from	A380-52500	Cleaning Services
\$ 4,000	from	A380-52100	Travel Expense
\$ 30,000	from	A380-54250	Maint Auto Equipment
\$ 62,000	from	A380-54920	Less JV Credits

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

FL-2 Fleet Department – Additional Appropriation - \$5,000

Ms. Linck gave an explanation that the request was to release grant money received for the purchase of two hybrid vehicles. Mr. Mason stated that the transfer of funds from the operating budget to the capital budget by a department is unacceptable. A discussion followed regarding proper procedures.

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 5,000	to	A380-53510	Parts-Auto Equipment
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The budget committee approved the transfer of \$5,525 to capital account Z 380 59120-29045 and not this transfer. The committee asked that a new Blue Sheet be submitted in time for the BET meeting on Monday May 18, 2009.

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, 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 Geiger, Budget Director; J. Wayne Fox, Town Attorney; Fred de Arango, Law Department; John Crary, Town Administrator

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

The committee voted unanimously to leave executive session at 7:30 P.M. to discuss litigation matters.

BOE Fiscal 2009-2010 Budget Revisions

The BOE will return in June for discussion with the committee of the BOE FY2009-2010 Budget revisions.

Recommended Mill Rate and Elderly Tax Review

A discussion ensued regarding participation and the number of applicants for elderly tax relief, its effect on the mill rate and contingency funds.

Capital Spending Review

Mr. Mason stated that in June any item that was a FY 2007-2008 appropriation, would either have to have a contract in force or the project will be closed out and the funds will lapse. A discussion followed regarding contingency funds, student enrollment and BOE staffing, pension, interim requests, employee concessions due to budget constraints, and the impact of mill rate increases.

Nathaniel Witherell Revolving Fund Resolution

Mr. Bankson presented the proposed Nathaniel Witherell Revolving Fund Resolution to the Committee. In response to Mr. Simon, Mr. Augustine stated that the purpose of the revolving fund was to report and track fund balance and cash flow. Comparisons were made to the golf course and school lunch revolving funds and Mr. Mason gave an overview of the golf course

revolving fund. A discussion followed regarding the current system, fund balance, and governance. The Committee asked Mr. Geiger to prepare additional material showing the impact on the General Fund of a NW Revolving Fund.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Committee voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2009, Regular Budget Committee Meeting.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Bocchino, Recording Secretary

Michael S. Mason, Chairman

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL