

TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Town Hall Lounge-Lower Level
Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Committee:

Present: Michael S. Mason, Chairman; William R. Finger, Laurence B. Simon,
Robert S. Stone

Board: Nancy Barton, James Campbell, Art Norton, Leslie Tarkington, Stephen
Walko

Ex-Officio

Board Member: First Selectman Peter Tesei

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director
John Crary, Town Administrator
Amy Siebert, Commissioner; Joseph Roberto, Superintendent, Highway,
DPW
Sidney Freund, Superintendent; Ellen Flanagan, Deputy Superintendent;
Susan Wallerstein, Assistant Superintendent; Regina Williams, Interim
Director, Human Resources, Board of Education

Other: David Demchak; Gary Pompa, CIRMA
Nancy Weissler, Chairman; Leslie Moriarty, Vice-Chairman, Board of
Education

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

Mr. Mason welcomed new member to the Budget Committee Mr. Finger, who replaced long-time committee member Mr. Krumeich.

Requests for Budget Adjustments

ED-1 Board of Education – Transfer - \$10,000

Dr. Wallerstein explained that this request is to transfer funds to pay for professional learning that was provided internally instead of the presumed external conferences and workshops.

Transfer:

\$ 10,000	to	A6200468-51060	Teachers – Regular Wages
\$ 10,000	from	A6200468-52090	Tuition

The Committee voted 4-0-0 to approve the transfer under the authority delegated to it by the BET.

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

Mr. Gieger explained that this request is to use funds from a Grant and will be used to purchase equipment for fishway monitoring. In response to Mr. Finger, Mr. Gieger stated that he will obtain written confirmation from the Atlantic Center for the Environment that the grant funds may be used for this purpose.

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 500 to A174-53010 Supplies

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

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

Ms. Siebert explained that this request is to purchase a second Vac-All unit, to be used to clean storm drains. Mr. Roberto gave an overview of the condition and upkeep of the Town's Vac-All equipment. In response to Mr. Mason, Mr. Roberto stated that the goal is to clean all 10,000 drains and catch basins each year. Ms. Siebert stated that they are continually tracking data, using asset management software to determine needs, costs, and cost-effectiveness of rental vs. owned.

In response to Mr. Stone, Ms. Siebert stated that this expenditure will eliminate the DPW capital request for this item in FY11. DPW will also be returning \$127,325 to Capital Non-Recurring previously budget for this item and the additional cost to CNR will be \$88,002. A discussion followed regarding timing, accounts used, rental equipment, repairs, out-sourcing, and long-range planning.

Additional Appropriation:

\$ 215,327 to Z312-59120-219xx Vac-All
\$ 215,327 from Capital Non-Recurring Fund Balance

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

NEW BUSINESS

Workers Compensation Discussion

Upon a motion by Mr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Simon, the committee voted unanimously to enter into executive session at 6:55 P.M. to discuss litigation matters.

In attendance were:

BET Members: Mason, Finger, Stone, Simon, Barton, Campbell, Norton, Tarkington, and Walko
Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director

Sidney Freund, Ellen Flanagan, Susan Wallerstein, Regina Williams, Board of Education
David Demchak, Gary Pompa, CIRMA

The committee voted unanimously to leave executive session at 7:23 P.M. to discuss litigation matters.

Mr. Demchak of Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) gave a lengthy presentation and explanation of Workers' Compensation Loss Analysis for the five year period from FY05 – FY09.

Report on Status of Current Economic Conditions

Mr. Gieger gave an explanation and overview of current spending rates and revenues. A discussion followed regarding the importance of monitoring the spending rates in order to achieve an acceptable fund balance on June 30, 2010. A further discussion was held on the impact of the early retirement incentive program.

Accrued Sick/Vacation Payout Policy Discussion

Mr. Mason gave an overview of the accrued sick/vacation payout funding process for retirees. A discussion followed regarding the retirement incentive program. At the moment, sick and vacation payouts for those individuals in the early retirement incentive program are being paid from the department from which they retired.

Senior Tax Deferral Program Discussion

Mr. Crary explained that after reviewing the Senior Tax Credit Program, the Board of Selectmen suggested developing a Senior Tax Deferral Program as a supplement, and Mr. Crary gave an overview of the initial proposal. Mr. Finger requested of John Crary that he present the final tax deferral proposal to the BET prior to it being voted on by the Selectmen. A brief discussion followed.

Review Draft Budget Guidelines for 2010-2011

A FY 2011 Budget Guidelines draft was circulated. Mr. Mason stated that all comments regarding the FY 2011 Guidelines be sent to Mr. Gieger within the next fourteen days after which the committee will schedule a daytime work session. Mr. Stone stated that the document should not to be considered the committee's draft. He pointed out that he had received the draft only several hours earlier, and had not had an opportunity to provide input.

A discussion followed regarding the Board of Education's enrollment.

Upon a motion by Mr. Mason, seconded by Mr. Simon, the committee voted 4-0 to approve the FY11 Budget Schedule as presented as Appendix B in the FY2011 Budget Guidelines.

Approval of 2010 BET Budget Meeting Schedule

Upon a motion by Mr. Mason, seconded by Mr. Simon, the committee voted 4-0 to approve the Budget Committee Meeting Schedule for CY2010.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Mr. Simon, seconded by Mr. Stone, the committee voted 3-0-1 (Mr. Finger abstained) to approve the minutes from the July 14, 2009, Regular Budget Committee Meeting.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Bocchino, Recording Secretary

Michael S. Mason, Chairman

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL