

**TOWN OF GREENWICH  
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION  
BUDGET COMMITTEE  
CONSOLIDATION DAY 2009 - 2010 BUDGET  
MINUTES  
Cone Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor - 1:00 P.M.  
Wednesday, February 18, 2009**

Present:

Committee: Michael S. Mason, Chairman  
Edward T. Krumeich, Laurence B. Simon, Robert S. Stone

Board: Nancy Barton, Jeff Ramer, Arthur Norton, William Kelly,  
Leslie Tarkington, Stephen Walko, William Finger

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller; Roland Gieger, Budget Director;  
John Crary, Town Administrator, Amy Siebert, DPW Commissioner;  
David Thompson, Deputy Commissioner, DPW; Peter Tesei, First  
Selectman; Lou Caravella, Tax Collector; Police Chief David  
Ridberg; Police Lieutenant Mark Kordick; Director of Police  
Administration, Greg Hannigan

Other: Nancy Weissler, Chairman, Board of Education; Leslie Moriarty,  
Vice-Chairman, Board of Education, Genny Krob, RTM member.

Mr. Mason called the meeting to order at 1: 07 P.M.

**TOPICS**

The BET Budget Committee and BET members in attendance were provided with an list of consolidation topics for discussion purposes prepared by Mr. Simon which was a consolidated list of all members thoughts. Mr. Mason then opened up the meeting and proceeded to lead the Committee through each topic with applicable questions and answers addressed accordingly. The topics in their order of appearance basically covered the following areas:

- Grand List value
- Calculation of FY09 Fund Balance for budgetary purposes
- Final revenue calculations for FY 09
- Tax Relief for the Elderly amount to be included in the Budget
- Fixed Charges:
  - FY10 Health Care Budget
  - Funding of OPEB
  - New Unemployment figures for both Fiscal Years

- The effects on fixed charges due to layoffs
- Reducing the Risk Fund contribution
- Property and Casualty insurance rate increases
- Sick and Vacation payouts
- Capital Items
  - Eastern Greenwich Civic Center roof
  - Organic turf program
  - Asphalt paving
  - King Street Fire Station
  - Drainage and Storm Water Master Planning
  - Multi-station Parking Meters
  - Replacement Vehicles
  - Capital Funding models – different scenarios

The BET Budget Committee, at this point, recognized the presence of Police Department personnel and turned the discussion over to Chief David Ridberg, Lieutenant Mark Kordick and Director Greg Hannigan.

Chief Ridberg opened the discussions with a power point presentation, assisted by Lt. Kordick. Chief Ridberg began by explaining the staffing impacts of moving police personnel from the Greenwich Avenue, Lewis Street location to other deployment. Chief Ridberg described staffing the midnight shift and their impacts on overtime.

Chief Ridberg briefly described the impact of civilian dispatching on his operations.

Chief Ridberg responded to questions about the settlement of the Honulik v. Town of Greenwich lawsuit and its impact on his operations. Chief Ridberg and Lt. Kordick demonstrated and detailed their desires to reorganize the Police force relative to the table of organization.

Town Attorney John Wayne Fox and Tax Collector Louis Caravella explained to the BET Budget Committee the possibility of charging a different tax rate for automobiles registered in the Town of Greenwich. There were a number of questions and Town Attorney Fox promised to get back to the Committee with an answer about the legality of taxing Town of Greenwich vehicles differently from real estate, commercial properties and business personal property. Mr. Gieger stated that Munis can only handle two different tax rates. Greenwich has one tax rate for Sewer District and one for non-sewer district. This would be a major software challenge.

The BET Budget Committee returned to coverage of the consolidation day topics as follows:

- Operating
  - Emergency operations
  - First Selectman staffing levels
  - Human Resources staffing levels

- Finance Department lapsing of the Nathaniel Witherell business plan encumbrance
- Information Technology adjustment of the Lightpath Contract
- Assessor's postponement of the revaluation
- Tax Collector staffing levels
- Law Department reduction of outside counsel expenses
- Law Department staffing levels
- Fire Department Volunteers discussion of healthcare costs
- Fleet review of in house versus out sourcing of labor repair costs
- Emergency Grant Coordinator retention for FY 2009-2010
- Health Department staffing reductions
- Nathaniel Witherell agreement with the Teamsters concerning subcontracting
- Nathaniel Witherell usage of a Revolving Fund
- Social Services reductions to external entities
- Board of Education discussion of budgetary reductions with Chairwoman Nancy Weissler
- Eastern Greenwich Civic Center Operational Plan
- The production of exhibits from the Comptroller and the Budget Director

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 P.M.

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Respectfully submitted,

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Peter Mynarski, Recording Secretary

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Michael S. Mason, Chairman