

**TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE & TAXATION
LAW COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting Held on
September 20, 2007**

The meeting began at 12:00 P.M. Attendance:

Committee Members: Mason, Barton

Other BET Members: Norton, Tarkington (part of the meeting)

Law Department: Fox and, for parts of the meeting, McLaughlin, de Arango, Keeney

Finance: Mynarski

1. Approval of June 20, 2007 Minutes: The draft minutes of the Committee's meeting held on June 20, 2007, were approved.
2. The Committee reviewed the history of the proposed Ordinance concerning purchases, sales, acquisitions, or leases of realty. There was extended discussion of alternative methods of clarifying the BET's role in this area: (a) the existing Charter language specifying the powers of the BET, (b) an Ordinance specifying particular powers, or (c) a Charter amendment, if necessary to add particular powers. The Committee members expressed their view that the purchase, sale, acquisition, or lease of property was already within the BET's powers under Section 1 of the Charter, although the Town currently lacks a process for bringing such matters to the BET. Some additional avenues of legal research were suggested. This matter will be reviewed again at the next meeting of the Law Committee, to be scheduled for early October.
3. The Committee voted 2-0 to take up the Review of Pending Claims out of order and in executive session. Following review, the Committee voted 2-0 to return to regular session, and approved the proposed settlement of the claim captioned Lipow v. Town of Greenwich for \$4,500, as a routine item for the October meeting of the BET.
4. There was a preliminary discussion of potential approaches to the Law Department's outside counsel budget, to avoid the necessity of one or more requests for additional appropriations during the year 2008-09. This matter will be reviewed further as the budget process goes forward.

5. The item relating to the bonding resolutions for the 2008-09 budget was deferred until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.