

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF ESTIMATE & TAXATION
AUGUST 7, 2017**

ATTENDANCE: Gregory Burnett, Chairman, Mayor Harry Rilling; Anne Yang-Dwyer; James Feigenbaum; Edwin Camacho

STAFF: Robert Barron, Finance Director; Lunda Asmani, Director of Management and Budgets; Donna King, City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Burnett called the meeting to order at 6:37 p. m. A quorum was present.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 10, 2017 – Regular Meeting

**** MS. YANG-DWYER MOVED TO APPROVE THE JULY 10, 2017 MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS AGENDA (SECTION A)

**List of Resolutions
Advertised Items -
Report on Special Appropriations
Justification/Back-up material**

No items were brought forward.

3. TRANSFER AGENDA (SECTION B)

Fire Department

Mr. Asmani stated that the transfer is to cover salary for two Part-Time Fire Inspectors for six months.

**** MAYOR RILLING MOVED TO APPROVE THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TRANSFER FROM WAGES & SALARIES – REGULAR ACCOUNT TO THE WAGES & SALARIES – PART TIME ACCOUNT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,145.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Department Transfers

Mr. Barron stated reviewed the transfers in each department that were made for FY 2016-17. The transfers were covered by surpluses within each department or paid from surplus in the Finance

Department. He stated that the Finance Department transferred \$434,209.45 to cover deficits in other departments. He stated that the sum of all of the negatives and positives of the transfers is \$0.00.

- ** MR. CAMACHO MOVED TO APPROVE ALL OF THE TRANSFERS AS PRESENTED BY THE FINANCE DIRECTOR.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Camacho exited the meeting at 7:21 p. m.

4. OTHER BUSINESS (SECTION C)

1. RESOLUTION amending the August 25, 2015, resolution which appropriated \$1,200,000 for the payment of an inverse condemnation settlement relating to the construction of a new Police Headquarters and authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds of the city to meet said appropriation, to an amended appropriation of \$1,650,000 for the costs associated with the judgement and authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds of the city to meet said amended appropriation.

Mr. Barron stated that in 2002, the city acquired property via eminent domain for the construction of the new Police Headquarters located at 1 Monroe Street. The city recently lost an appeal that obligated the city to pay \$1,626,838 to the plaintiff. He stated that in August of 2015, the Common Council appropriated \$1,200,000 for the settlement of this claim, and this resolution seeks to modify that resolution to \$1,650,000 for the costs associated with the judgment, as well as for administrative, legal and other professional services and financing costs.

- ** MS. YANG-DWYER MOVED TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AMENDING THE AUGUST 25, 2015, RESOLUTION WHICH APPROPRIATED \$1,200,000 FOR THE PAYMENT OF AN INVERSE CONDEMNATION SETTLEMENT RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW POLICE HEADQUARTERS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, TO AN AMENDED APPROPRIATION OF \$1,650,000 FOR THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE JUDGEMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY TO MEET SAID AMENDED APPROPRIATION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. Approval of FY 2016-17 Reserve for Encumbrances.

Mr. Barron stated that at the end of each year, the Finance Department reviews departments' requests to encumber General Fund surpluses from the recently ended fiscal year. He stated that the amounts become part of the General Fund's assigned fund balance in the prior year's audited financials and are not part of the audited unassigned fund balance. He recommended that a total of \$3,714,096.88 of the recently ended fiscal year 2016-17 to be encumbered.

Mr. Barron stated that an approved \$25,680 Brien McMahon purchase of MacBooks was not made and the Board of Education is requesting that the amount be carried over so that the MacBooks can still be purchased.

Mayor Rilling stated that Ben Barnes, the Director of OPM sent a letter asking for our Grand List and our Fund Balance. He stated that the cities that have been successful at managing their budgets and growing their Grand List are now going to be punished by having the largest amount of cuts from the State. We may be losing 39% or more of our ECS funding. He stated that he would like to go with Mr. Barron's recommendation of \$3,714,096 but would like the \$25,680 to be added onto the \$3,714,096 so that the students will have the MacBooks.

**** MAYOR RILLING MOVED TO APPROVE THE FY 2016-17 RESERVE FOR ENCUMBRANCES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,739,776.88 INCLUDING ALL OF THE FINANCE DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,714,096 WITH THE ADDITION OF \$25,680 IN ORDER TO PROVIDE MACBOOKS FOR BRIEN MCMAHON HIGH SCHOOL.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Camacho returned to the meeting at 8:02 p. m.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (SECTION D)

Summary of Special Appropriations

Status of Contingency

Financial reports

FY 2016-17 Year End Review

Year-to-date Capital Budget Report – FY 2017-18

Year-to-date Operating Revenues Report – FY 2017-18

Year-to-date Operating Expenditure Report – FY 2017-18

Year-to-date BOE Operating Expenditure Report – FY 2017-18

Tax Collector's Narrative – June 2017

Tax Collector's Report – June 2017

Mr. Asmani stated we are a month into the new year so the Year-to-Date variances do not tell us much. So far, on the revenue side, we have brought in more revenue than what was budgeted for the year. On the Tax Revenue side, there is some potential of more revenue. Property tax revenues are about \$1.2 million above what was budgeted for the year. There were good results in License & Permits. Code Enforcement was \$1.3 million above budget. Mr. Barron stated that our State Income is \$1.5 million less than expected. He stated that there are still bills coming in for both the Board of Education and City.

Oak Hills Financial Status – June 2017

Mr. Barron stated that he recommends that Oak Hills Park Authority have equal revenues and expenses for this fiscal year. Mayor Rilling stated that the Authority is making good progress and turning things around rather nicely. Mr. Feigenbaum stated that the revenues were affected by the construction that they have done. Mr. Burnett stated in the last presentation from the Authority, they forewarned us that this would not be a great year. Because of the construction. Mayor Rilling stated that some of the Capital Projects can be closed out.

City of Norwalk

Board of Estimate & Taxation

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Salary accounts

Police

Fire

Public Works

ADJOURNMENT

** MR. CAMACHO MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Blaney
Telesco Secretarial Services