

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 4, 2013**

ATTENDANCE: Fred Wilms, Chair; Erik Anderson; James Clark; John Federici,
Michael Kolman; Mayor Richard Moccia (7:38 p.m.)

STAFF: Thomas Hamilton, Director of Finance; Robert Barron,
Director of Management and Budgets; Erin Herring, City
Clerk; Richard Rudl,
Board of Education, Chief Financial Officer; Michael Mocciae,
Director of Parks and Recreation

OTHERS: David Westmoreland, Chair, Norwalk Historical Commission

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Wilms called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 3, 2013- Regular Meeting

The following corrections were made to the minutes:

Page 2: second paragraph, second sentence should read: He said that the authorization does not reduce the total Fund Balance

Page 2: third paragraph, second sentence should read: Mr. Wilms asked Mr. Hamilton if the surplus along with the other items would cancel out the insurance fund deficit from last year.

Page 2: fifth paragraph, first sentence should read: The Mayor said that he was pleased to hear that the BOE was able to pay the insurance fund deficit back.

Page 3: fourth paragraph, second sentence should read: He said that the changes have made the OPEB liability sustainable.

**** MR. FEDERICI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS AGENDA (Section A)

RESOLVED THAT A SUM NOT OT EXCEED \$25,000 BE AND THE SAME IS HEREBY TRANSFERRED FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT TO COVER THE COSTS OF REMOVING AND TRIMMING TREES. (ACCOUNT #01-6031-5298)

Mr. Hamilton explained the item. He said that earlier this year money was transferred to this account, but even with that it was determined that more was needed. Mr. Mocciae explained that they get a lot of activity at the City parks and are trying to be proactive. Their priorities are the trees that are dead or leaning over houses.

Mr. Barron explained that the \$25,000 will pay \$10,000 in outstanding invoices and leave \$15,000 for more tree removal.

Mayor Moccia joined the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

**** MR. ANDERSON MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEM:**

RESOLVED THAT A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000 BE AND THE SAME IS HEREBY TRANSFERRED FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT TO COVER THE COSTS OF REMOVING AND TRIMMING TREES. (ACCOUNT #01-6031-5298)

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MAYOR MOCCIA)**

TRANSFER AGENDA (Section B)

Building Management:

From	To	Amount
01-3154-5266 Buildings	01-6200-5266 Buildings	\$7,744

This transfer is to correct the budgets for mechanical maintenance services at the new Fire Headquarters and the Library.

Mr. Barron reviewed the details.

**** MR. WILMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUESTED BUILDING MANAGEMENT TRANSFER**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Health:

From	To	Amount
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01-2050-5322 Chem Lab Med Supplies
\$10,000

01-2050-5329 Other Operating Supplies

This transfer is to cover electrical and various other supplies for the Health Department Laboratory. These items were previously paid out of medical supplies, but have been moved to a more appropriate account.

Mr. Barron reviewed the details.

**** MR. CLARK MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUESTED HEALTH DEPARTMENT TRANSFER
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

OTHER BUSINESS (Section C)

RESOLUTION, APPROPRIATING A SPECIAL CAPITAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,958 FOR THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION FOR THE MILL HILL ADA IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. (ACCT. # 0914-6310-5777-C0374)

Due to a potential conflict of interest, Mr. Anderson rescused himself and left the room.

Mr. Hamilton explained the item. He said that this appropriation is tied to a recent close out of the Rogers-Ritch Merrit House project. The Rogers - Ritch Merrit House had a an available balance of \$27,958 and the Commission requested that those funds be reallocated to the Mill Hill ADA Improvement Project.

Mr. Westmoreland explained that this was money that was donated to re-build the house. All of the donors were contacted, but these people did not respond. Mayor Moccia said that it is important to make the City's historical buildings ADA accessible.

**** MAYOR MOCCIA MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEM:

RESOLUTION, APPROPRIATING A SPECIAL CAPITAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,958 FOR THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION FOR THE MILL HILL ADA IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. (ACCT. # 0914-6310-5777-C0374)

** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Anderson rejoined the meeting.

RESOLUTION, APPROPRIATING A SPECIAL CAPITAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000 FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR SECURITY IN VARIOUS SCHOOLS. (ACCT. # 0914-5010-5777-C0537)

Mr. Hamilton explained the item. He said that this is a request for a special appropriation from the Board of Education. He said that when they submitted their budget, the amount was a placeholder. Mr. Barron and Mr. Gildea went through an exercise to review and close out old projects. There is a sufficient balance to cover the full appropriation of \$500,000.

Mr. Hamilton said that the Board of Education has been deliberately vague about how the funds will be used because of the sensitivity of the project. He said that this is a logical request and if the Board wanted to know more about how the funds were going to be used, they could go into Executive Session.

Mr. Rudl gave a brief overview. Mayor Moccia said that they are not trying to hide anything, but are trying to protect the students.

**** MAYOR MOCCIA MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEM:**

RESOLUTION, APPROPRIATING A SPECIAL CAPITAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000 FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR SECURITY IN VARIOUS SCHOOLS. (ACCT. # 0914-5010-5777-C0537)

Mr. Kolman asked if the project is fully funded. Mr. Rudl said that they will request more funding for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Clark asked how many funds were closed. Mr. Barron said that several funds were closed. The largest was for \$300,000. Mr. Hamilton said that he believed 25 funds were closed, but they will provide the exact number of accounts. Mayor Moccia said that this is not new money. These are closed out accounts.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - (Section D)

Mr. Barron reviewed the key revenue drivers and said that they are coming in strong, but the interest income is down.

Oak Hills Financial Status

Mr. Barron reported that Oak Hills has enough to carry them through the winter. In addition, they had a strong October. Their financials are going to be better than anticipated.

**** MAYOR MOCCIA MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services