

**CITY OF NORWALK
FINANCE CLAIMS COMMITTEE
JUNE 10, 2010**

ATTENDANCE: Nicholas Kydes, Chair; Douglas Hempstead; David Jaeger;
Nora King; Kelly Straniti (7:09 p.m.)

STAFF: Thomas Hamilton, Finance Director; Lisa Biagiarelli, Tax Collector;
Fred Gilden Comptroller

OTHERS: John Tobin, Common Council

Mr. Kydes called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:
May 13, 2010

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Ms. Straniti joined the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

CLAIMS COMMITTEE: RECEIVE THE MONTHLY CLAIMS REPORT; REVIEW AND
APPROVE CLAIMS AS REQUIRED FOR CLAIMS REPORT DATED: JUNE 10, 2010

Ms. Biagiarelli explained that there were two special requests. One was a standard overpayment and the other one is a senior housing abatement.

Mr. Jaeger asked Ms. Biagiarelli if she had any information about increasing the threshold. She said that she was unable to work on that.

**** MR. JAEGER MOVED TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY CLAIMS REPORT; REVIEW AND**
APPROVE CLAIMS AS REQUIRED FOR CLAIMS REPORT DATED: JUNE 10, 2010
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

NARRATIVE ON TAX COLLECTIONS DATED JUNE 10, 2010 – RECEIVE REPORT AND DISCUSS

MONTHLY TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT DATED MAY 31, 2010 – RECEIVE REPORT AND DISCUSS

Ms. Biagiarelli drew the Committee’s attention to the spread sheet and report. She said that collections are running slightly ahead of last year. The new bills for 2009 are at the printers and the target mailing date is June 18th. Residents will have until August 2nd to pay their bills without a penalty. The e-bills are up and running.

Ms. Biagiarelli reported that the July 19th tax sale is moving along. She said that they have collected over \$3 million. She encouraged the Committee members to look at the website.

Ms. Biagiarelli said that a big legal notice will be going in Saturday’s paper. She said that the money is coming in and there are still five weeks to go. Mr. Kydes said that it was encouraging that a lot of properties are being paid. It said that it is a tough, sad position to be in. Ms. Biagiarelli said that they are notifying the banks.

**** MS. STRANITI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE NARRATIVE ON TAX COLLECTIONS DATED JUNE 10, 2010 AND THE MONTHLY TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT DATED MAY 31, 2010**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR INDEPENDENT AUDITING SERVICES TO MCGLADREY & PULLEN, LLP FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT AWARD OF \$445,150.00 BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS:**

FISCAL YEAR 2010-11 (AUDIT OF JUNE 30, 2010) FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$89,030.00

FISCAL YEAR 2011-12 (AUDIT OF JUNE 30, 2011) FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$89,030.00

FISCAL YEAR 2012-13 (AUDIT OF JUNE 30, 2012) FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$89,030.00

FISCAL YEAR 2013-14 (AUDIT OF JUNE 30, 2013) FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$89,030.00

FISCAL YEAR 2014-15 (AUDIT OF JUNE 30, 2014) FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$89,030.00

Mr. Hamilton explained that they went through a full RFP process and received six responses. The Audit Committee reviewed and met with the auditors. Then the Audit Committee, Mr. Gildea and Mr. Foley short listed the firms and interviewed the three finalists. Mr. Hamilton said that he believed that McGladrey & Pullen, LLP was chosen unanimously. He said that they presented the strongest proposal and their pricing was fairly comparable.

Mr. Hempstead asked who the least expensive firm was. Mr. Hamilton said that it was Carlin, Charron & Rosen LLP. He added that O'Connor, Davies, Munn & Dobbins LLP was not interviewed.

Mr. Hamilton said that Carlin, Charron & Rosen LLP does a lot of business in Connecticut, but Norwalk would have been their largest client. Most of their clients are smaller. The Audit Committee felt safer with a larger firm that specializes in larger clients.

Mr. Hempstead asked Mr. Hamilton if they do anything with UHY, LLP. Mr. Gildea said that they used to be the City's auditors. Ms. Straniti said that they work with Public Works.

Mr. Kydes said that they went through the RFP process and it was a very tight process. Mr. Hamilton said that this represents a decrease in price and the price is fixed for five years.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MS. KING MOVED TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION, APPROPRIATING \$100,000 FOR A SPECIAL CAPITAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE ROOSEVELT CENTER HVAC & WINDOW REPLACEMENT PROJECT (PROJECT ACCOUNT NO. 09107100-5777-C0147)**

Mr. Hamilton explained that this project is being funded from multiple sources. The bulk of the project is being funded from Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. The project went out to bid and the bids came back higher than expected. The appropriation of \$100,000 will allow them to do the complete HVAC project and some of the windows. Mr. Lo intends to go out to bid for the air conditioning and the remainder of the window portion of the project.

Mr. Hempstead asked Mr. Hamilton if there are any tax abatements to help seniors. Mr. Hamilton said that he did a research on Manchester, CT. Mr. Hamilton said that there

are a number of relief programs in Norwalk. Mr. Kydes said that he looks forward to learning more about relief for the citizens of Norwalk.

Mr. Kydes suggested that the Committee think about their meeting schedule for July and August.

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services