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**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 6, 2023
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

ATTENDANCE: Ed Abrams, Chair; Mayor Harry Rilling; James Frayer; Troy Jellerette; Anne Yang

STAFF: Henry Dachowitz, Chief Financial Officer; Irene Dixon, City Clerk; Thomas Ellis, Director of Management and Budgets; Karla Rodriguez Alicea, Health Operations Manager, Norwalk Health Department; James Travers, Director of Transportation, Parking and Mobility

Mr. Abrams called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The following correction was made to the February 7, 2023 minutes:

Add Mr. Jellerette's name under attendance.

**** MR. JELLERETTE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED**

FEBRUARY 7, 2023 – SPECIAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 13, 2023 – REGULAR MEETING

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MS. YANG)**

2. SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS AGENDA (Section A) None

3. TRANSFER AGENDA (Section B)

**** MAYOR RILLING MOVED TO APPROVE BOTH ITEMS ON THE TRANSFER AGENDA**

Ms. Rodriguez Alicia reviewed the request from the Health Department and described the WIC program.

Mr. Travers reviewed the request from the Transportation, Mobility and Parking Department.

FISCAL YEAR 2022-23:				
HEALTH DEPT.:				
From		To		Amount
01-2011-5110	Wages & Salary - Regular	36280-5418	Insurance Fund	\$62,753
This transfer is to cover a shortfall in the State of Connecticut funding of the WIC staff employee benefits.				
Finance recommends approval.				
ECD - TRANSPORTATION, MOBILITY & PARKING DEPT.:				
From		To		Amount
01-3750-5110	Wages & Salary - Regular	01-3750-5258	Other Professional Services	\$27,830
This transfer is to cover construction inspection of the Norwalk River Valley Trail (NRVT) Phase II and construction support of the NRVT Phase III.				
Finance recommends approval.				

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

4. OTHER BUSINESS (Section C) None

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5. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** (Section D)

Financial reports

Mr. Frayer asked if a representative from Oak Hills could attend the next meeting. Mr. Abrams said he will work on getting them scheduled to attend meetings every other month.

Mr. Frayer asked for an explanation in the backup because on pages 42 and 57, the Board of Education's numbers do not agree. Mr. Ellis said he will find out.

- Oak Hills Park Budget – January 2023
- Year-to-date Capital Budget Report – FY 2022-23
- Year-to-date Operating Expenditure Report – FY 2022-23
- Year-to-date Operating Revenue Report – FY 2022-23
- Police Wages FY 2022-23
- Fire Wages FY 2022-23
- Public Works Wages FY 2022-23
- Year-to-date BOE Operating Expenditure Report FY 2022-23
- Tax Collector's Narrative – January 2023
- Tax Collector's Report – January 2023

The City's departments will begin meetings with the Board of Estimate and Taxation. Mr. Dachowitz explained that the book that was distributed was the Mayor's recommended budget. The budget did not change, but there will be changes to the mill rate. The Common Council will establish the cap tomorrow evening.

Mayor Rilling said that when they go through the City's side of the budget, they will be looking for ways to shave from the budgets. He said the public spoke loud and clear. This is a challenging year to make a fair and equitable budget.

Mayor Rilling expressed his appreciation to the members of the Board of Estimate and Taxation for taking on this challenge. He said they need to be sure they do not overtax the residents. Mayor Rilling said his position was to keep the tax increase as low as possible and they will be looking at ways to cut some line item budgets. They are moving forward with the most difficult budget he has experienced in his 10 years.

Mr. Abrams added that at the end of the department review process, there will be a public hearing where the community will be given an opportunity to express their points of view.

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

There was no further business, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services