



Third Taxing District

2 Second Street
East Norwalk, CT 06855

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Third Taxing District of the City of Norwalk

Special Commission Meeting

Wednesday, April 9, 2014 at 7:00p.m.

At the Third Taxing District Office, 2 Second Street, East Norwalk, CT

1. Public Comment – 15 Minutes
2. Renewal of Jumar Marketing Service Contract
3. Update on Library Master Plan
4. Marvin School Grant Request
5. Adjourn

Agenda backup material is available at the TTD office, www.ttd.gov and will be available at the meeting.

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District Commissioners

Charles L. Yost	203-853-0837	Chairman	James Smith	203-866-9271	General Manager
David L. Brown	203-866-8099	Commissioner	Ron Scofield	203-866-9271	Assistant General Manager
Debora Goldstein	203-252-7214	Commissioner	Michael Intrieri	203-866-3001	Treasurer

marvin  **Elementary
School**



MarvinSchoolPTO@gmail.com

Commissioners

Third Taxing District

2 Second Street

Norwalk, CT 06855

September 2013

Dear Commissioners,

We are writing again to ask the Third Taxing District again to consider supporting the children of Marvin Elementary School for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year. The Third Taxing District serves the people of East Norwalk and is important part of our community. In the past you have supported enrichment programs that gave our children opportunities that otherwise they would not have experienced. The parents, administrators, teachers, and students are grateful for this opportunity you have provided for us in the past and have helped our children grow and prosper at a rate that is consistent with our neighborhood schools. Although the Marvin Elementary School PTO assists in funding these enrichment programs our fundraising supports every event at our school and our enrichment budget is very limited.

The children of Marvin Elementary School through the grant from 2011-2012 provided the children with the invaluable experience of learning about conservation and electricity through field trips and in school programs of actual scientists visiting our school. The faculty truly felt these programs enhanced their students experience at Marvin Elementary School. The faculty came up with wonderful ideas to again supplement the curriculum at Marvin.

We are asking for your help in funding the following trips and in school programs for the 2013-2014 school. A lot of planning by the staff of Marvin was done to ensure the programs that were chosen were ones that would benefit and challenge our students academically. We hope you will consider helping us make our school year a successful one by helping us to give this opportunity to our children at Marvin. They deserve the chance to experience these wonderful, innovative ways to learn about conservation, electricity and the environment.

Thank you for in advance for taking the time to consider us for a grant for the 2013-2014 school year.

Sarah Mills (203) 644-8658

Heidi Papadakos (203) 216-4749

Grade Level Proposals For Grant

Maritime Aquarium "House for a Hermit Crab"-Kindergarten (\$600.)

The kindergarten teachers would like to share this program which follows the life of a young hermit crab month by month as it grows and changes. The children will be able to handle some live animals and learn about conservation, particularly how different organisms use the natural resources in Long Island Sound to live and survive. This cost of \$600 covers the in school program for the three kindergarten classes.

Stamford Nature Center-First Grade- Stamford Nature Center-\$300.

The first grade teachers would like to have an off- site field trip to the Stamford Nature Center to have their students study the environment of different types of animals. The \$300 will cover admission for the three third grade classes.

Weather or Not-Second Grade (\$792.)

The second grade teachers would like to use this in school program for hands on approach to go along with their unit on weather. The children will be able to make clouds and rain indoors, discover the properties of air and air pressure and well as "touch lightning" and other amazing activities. This cost of \$792.covers the in school program for the four second grade classes.

Bronx Zoo- Third Grade (\$2,880)

The third grade teachers would like to take their students to the Bronx Zoo to explore how the zoo conserves energy through recycling programs and other eco- friendly technologies. The trip to the zoo will enable the students to see how ecosystems have certain conditions and how they adapt to survival in those conditions. The \$2,880 will cover the transportation and admission to zoo for the three third grade classes.

Fourth and Fifth Grade- In the Fifth Grade past they have visited the Science Center in Hartford , CT (cost to be determined but around \$2000.) for admission and transportation. This will enable them to experience many aspects of energy and the solar system. The Fourth Grade has in school programs that bring scientists into classroom to study the use of Magnetic Energy. The cost in the past was around \$600. These two proposals are to be determined by the fourth and fifth grade teachers.

CT Science Center trip for the Fifth Grade (\$2,714)

The Fifth Grade teachers want to take the students back to the Connecticut Science Center in Hartford to visit their exhibit on Energy, explore the lab and watch a movie. The students learned an incredible amount at the Museum last year, and so the teachers would like to return again this spring. In Fifth Grade, students study electricity in preparation for the Connecticut Mastery Test. The all-day trip to the Museum will serve as a hands-on application of the science and electricity concepts they have learned in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades in preparation for the CMTs. The students will spend the day at the Museum, watching a 3D movie on the Sun, riding a solar blast from the Sun's surface to Earth's Magnetosphere. They will see the most powerful explosions in the solar system- discovering how these forces cripple space vehicles, disable power grids, disrupt electronic equipment, create geomagnetic storms and influence our weather patterns. The students will then explore the museum, visiting exhibits including Energy City. There, the students will try out wind turbines, solar panels, hydropower, fuel cells, and biomass products. They will play "energy watt" pinball, calculate their personal carbon footprint, and add up the savings of certain "smart energy" behaviors. They will tour the virtual city to measure the effect of their energy uses and how they impact the planet. They will also see the Climate Change Show adjacent to the gallery. This one-of-a kind experience presents the serious and contemporary challenge of climate change in a fun and humorous way, complete with a spectacular thunderstorm. The requested funding will cover transportation to the Museum and Admission.

High Touch, High Tech Session "Currently Attracted" for the Fourth Grade (\$610)

Students study electricity in Fourth Grade at Marvin. This program from High Touch, High Tech brings actual scientists into the classroom. The children will feel the power of magnets at a distance and use them to make electricity. They will also discover how to use electricity to make light, heat and sound. Finally, the students will build circuits using these devices.

Maritime Seashore Exploration for the Second Grade (\$730)

The Second grade teachers would like to bring their students to Calf Pasture Beach with a naturalist from the Maritime Aquarium. The trip last year was very successful and the students were able to get out to the water's edge for the excitement of being "in the field." They'll use all their senses – plus some scientific sampling techniques – during a discovery tour looking for – and learning about – living and non-living things at the sandy shore, rocky shore and tidal marsh habitats. The students will also learn about conservation and the impact of pollution on the shores of East Norwalk.

Maritime Center "A House for Hermit Crab" for Kindergarten (\$540)

The kindergarten teachers would like to have the Maritime Center come to visit the school and present a program called "A House for Hermit Crab". This presentation follows the life of a young hermit crab month by month as it grows and changes. The children will be able to handle some live animals from the story and learn more about various crabs, including an invasive species. The students will also learn about conservation, particularly how different organisms use the natural resources in the Long Island Sound that are available to live and survive.

Thank you for your consideration to fund these important programs for the children of East Norwalk. Sincerely,

Sarah Amato- Mills
President, Marvin PTO

Lisanne Kyle
VP of Enrichment,

Heidi Papadakos
VP of Enrichmen

FINAL

THIRD TAXING DISTRICT
of the City of Norwalk
DECEMBER 5, 2011

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: Paul Kokias, Chair; David Brown, Charles Yost

STAFF: George Leary, General Manager;
Ron Scofield, Assistant General Manager.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Kokias called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

- ** **MR. KOKIAS MOTIONED TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADD THE INSURANCE PROPOSAL TO ITEM 2 ON THE AGENDA, AND TO MOVE THE ORDER HAVE GENERAL MANAGER SEARCH AS ITEM 4, AND FUTURE MEETING DATES AS ITEM 5.**
- ** **MR. YOST SECONDED.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Marvin Elementary School PTO Request

The following representatives from Marvin Elementary School presented a proposal to fund electricity and conservation programs to partner with the PTO of Marvin Elementary School:

Ms. Lianne Kyle, VP, Enrichment and Ms. Jane Wilkins, 5th Grade Teacher.

Mr. Kokias asked what was different from previous years and Ms. Kyle replied that the programs are the same and that the children of Marvin Elementary School gained invaluable experiences from the 2010- 2011 grant received from the Third Taxing District. Ms. Wilkins added that through last year's grant they were able to provide children with access to learning outside the classroom through field trips, as well as bringing actual scientists into the classroom. Ms. Kyle shared that for many of the children, this is the only opportunity they would have to go to museums; and that when asked about these programs, the children speak with excitement in learning about the environment and recycling, which is testament to the program's impact.

- ** **MR. KOKIAS MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MARVIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REQUEST TO FUND SCHOOL ENRICHMENT ELECTRICITY/SCIENCE PROGRAMS**
- ** **MR. YOST SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED WITH TWO VOTES IN FAVOR, AND ONE OPPOSED (BROWN).**

INSURANCE PROPOSAL

Mr. James Murphy and Ms. Liz Lyons of James P. Murphy & Associates, Inc. presented the Property & Casualty Insurance Proposal for 2012. Mr. Brown stated that he had not received the advanced copy by e-mail and did not have time to review the proposal. Mr. Murphy apologized for the late notification, and explained that the insurance companies are notorious for being late with bid responses and quotes. Ms. Lyons asked when this is put out to bid, and that perhaps the process could be moved up to provide more time for bidding. She added that they did send it out to all of their carriers and received separate bids and referred to the list provided on the last page of the proposal.

Mr. Murphy explained that this proposal reflects their recommendation for renewal with Scottsdale, and he reviewed the outline of coverage and premiums quoted for Business Auto, Comprehensive, Umbrella, and Management Liability. A discussion ensued relative to the current 1.5% and Ms. Lyons explained that the percentage is due to an open Workman's Compensation claim, which throws off the risk assessment. Mr. Brown asked how many open claims, and Mr. Murphy replied that he thought it was only one but he would look into the exact number and let him know. Mr. Brown asked how long it would take to have the rate drop back down to the 1% and Ms. Lyons replied that it is a three-year rolling evaluation and that the rate is down from prior year premium history.

Mr. Brown asked for the timing of when approval is required, and Mr. Leary replied that it is now due because of the amount of administrative paperwork involved with the package endorsement process. Mr. Leary noted that the quote is comprehensive and comparable to prior years.

**** MR. YOST MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE PROPOSAL AS PRESENTED BY JAMES P. MURPHY & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR 2012.**
**** MR. KOKIAS SECONDED.**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

General Manager Search

**** MR. KOKIAS MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FROM MYCOFF, FRY & PROUSE, LLC FOR THE GENERAL MANAGER SEARCH AS EVALUATED BY THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE.**

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**CITY OF NORWALK
THIRD TAXING DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2011
2 SECOND STREET**

ATTENDANCE: Timothy Plunkett, Chair; David Brown; Paul Kokias

STAFF: George Leary, General Manager; Ron Scofield, Assistant General Manager

OTHERS: John Bove, District Counsel; Connie DiScala, Treasurer; Cathy Cray, Sarah Mann, Stanley Siegel, East Norwalk Library Board; Christopher Hodgson, Labor Counsel; Michael Imbrogno, Benefit Planning Services

Mr. Plunkett called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present this evening and wishing to speak.

MINUTES OF MEETING – December 14, 2010

Mr. Brown requested that the following be included in the minutes under the discussion about the Marvin School PTO.

Part 4. Third Taxing District EN

§ 1-114. Body politic and corporate; rights in general.

All the electors of this state dwelling within the territorial limits of the Third Taxing District as hereinbefore established are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate by the name of the Third Taxing District of the City of Norwalk and by that name shall be capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded, purchasing, holding, selling and conveying any property, real or personal and having a common seal and as such corporation shall succeed to and possess all property, both real and personal, of the East Norwalk Fire District of said Town of Norwalk, and all the rights, powers, franchises, privileges, and immunities heretofore granted to said East Norwalk Fire District in relation to the construction of electric light works and the generation and purchase of

electricity for the use of said district and the inhabitants thereof, and the erection, placing and maintenance of poles, wires and all other necessary fixtures within said district for receiving and distributing electricity, and the same are hereby vested in said third Taxing District, and said third Taxing District is hereby authorized to manage, operate, and control its electric light works with the same authority, rights and liabilities, and in the same manner as said East Norwalk Fire District and except as herein otherwise provided, to care for, maintain and keep in repair, all estate, both real and personal, which said district may acquire, to sell and convey any of said property, any indebtedness of said district. The district shall pay one hundred dollars (\$100) or more yearly toward the support of the East Norwalk Improvement Association Incorporate, Public Library. (Sp. Laws 1913, No. 352, §34; Sp Laws 1921, No. 189, §3.) §1-115. Taxation liability.

All the inhabitants and property within the limits of the third Taxing District shall be liable to taxation to defray any burdens, expenses, and liabilities of the former East Norwalk Fire District at the time of the passage of this act and such other liabilities as said taxing district may incur under the provisions of this act. (Sp. Laws 1913, No. 352, §35.)

**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS AMENDED**
**** MR. BROWN SECONDED**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

Mr. Leary explained that the health insurance policy is due for renewal. Mr. Brown asked why Mr. Hodgson was present. Mr. Plunkett said that he was here because of the Union aspect of the health insurance changes.

Mr. Imbrogno explained the two options: Oxford or ConnectiCare. Mr. Hodgson said that he met with the Union and believes they will be in agreement to move forward with Oxford. He said that he would discuss this further in Executive Session. He said that compared to other plans, this one did not go up a lot. Mr. Kokias asked if it was possible to re-open bargaining because he wants to save the ratepayers where ever possible.

Mr. Hodgson said that they are trying to work to find the least expensive medical plan; however, changing the employee contribution would be subject to bargaining. The contract is set and there is no way to re-open that unless there is a significant change to

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the health insurance. Mr. Brown said that if they ask for something from the Union, the Union will ask for something from them.

**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ACCEPT THE 2011 PROPOSED HEALTH INSURANCE
SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED
** MR. KOKIAS SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

ANNUAL MEETING PREPARATION

Ms. Mann explained that the East Norwalk Library was 98% in compliance. The two issues were rectified immediately. They expect to be 100% in compliance with the auditors next year.

Mr. Siegel distributed their proposed FY 2012 budget. He said that they are asking for \$12,000 over last years' request because they are getting more residents using the Library. He said that they are making an effort to raise funds over and above their request. They have also received in-kind services.

Mr. Leary explained that there is one more meeting before the Annual Meeting. He distributed and reviewed the budget recommendation. Mr. Brown pointed out that the Library should become a member of the City/State Library Association so that they will be eligible for grant funding. Mr. Leary said that they felt it was too expensive to join. Mr. Plunkett asked Mr. Brown to discuss this with Mr. Siegel.

The Commissioners discussed the proposed budget and will e-mail any questions to Mr. Leary.

Mr. Leary said that regarding the capital improvement fund they are getting more interest but loosing on investments. The money is invested for 2-3 years at the longest.

MARVIN SCHOOL PTO PROPOSAL

Mr. Bove said that in reviewing the Charter he did not think it provided the Commission of the Third Taxing District to make contributions; however, CMEEC expanded the definition of their use of funds to include educational programs. The district has the right and ability to petition CMEEC for funding for educational programs within their district. Mr. Bove said that the Marvin School request seems to fit within their guidelines.

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Mr. Brown said that this is a very noble cause, but he still feels that this should go before the residents at the annual meeting because it is coming out of the residents' bills. Mr. Bove said that this is an avenue that is designed for this use. The funding is set up for conservation and educational purposes.

Mr. Plunkett said that this is the same as spending money for the Christmas tree lighting or the electric bulb program. He added that \$27,000 was spent on one individual house to get it off the grid and that benefits one person; this would benefit a lot of students. Mr. Kokias said that this is a great investment in educating the children for a better future.

- ** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO APPROVE AND REFER TO CMEEC THE REQUEST FROM THE MARVIN SCHOOL PTO DATED DECEMBER 2, 2010 FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,460**
- ** MR. KOKIAS SECONDED**
- ** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. BROWN)**

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING REVIEW

Mr. Brown suggested changing the lighting for Santa. Mr. Scofield said that they received a lot of positive comments about the new tree. It was suggested that the musical group begin performing as people arrive. It was also suggested the each person write their name on a piece of paper and the family name drawn will light the Christmas tree.

REPLACEMENT OF RADIX METER READING COMPUTERS

Mr. Leary reported that the meter reading computers are 10 years old and can no longer be fixed. Mr. Plunkett asked if there is a significant savings if they choose another brand. Mr. Leary said that he would have to investigate. After further discussion, the decision was made to purchase the units.

- ** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) RADIX METER READING COMPUTERS AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$11,290 PLUS ANY APPLICABLE SHIPPING FEES AND TO REVIEW THE NECESSITY OF A MONTHLY MAINTENANCE FEE AND TO DEDUCT THAT AMOUNT FROM THE COST IF IT IS DETERMINED THAT IT IS NOT NECESSARY**
- ** MR. BROWN SECONDED**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

FINAL

**CITY OF NORWALK
THIRD TAXING DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2010**

ATTENDANCE: Timothy Plunkett, Chair; David Brown; Paul Kokias

STAFF: George Leary, General Manager; Ron Scofield, Assistant General Manager

OTHERS: John Bove, District Counsel; Joseph Cristino; Liz Lyons; Peter Murphy; Kristen Staikos; Christine Murray

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Staikos and Ms. Murray explained that they were here this evening seeking support for a grant for enrichment programs for students at Marvin School.

MINUTES OF MEETING – NOVEMBER 8, 2010

The following correction was made to page 2:

Delete the additional Monday under the 2011 Commission Meeting Schedule

**** MR. BROWN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED**
**** MR. PLUNKETT SECONDED**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

MARVIN SCHOOL PTO PROPOSAL

Mr. Kokias spoke in support of the grant request. Mr. Brown expressed concern whether or not the Commission, under their Charter, was legally allowed to fund this request. Mr. Bove will review this request. Mr. Leary noted that this is related to energy conservation. Mr. Brown submitted the Charter as follows:

§ 1-114. Body politic and corporate; rights in general.

All the electors of this state dwelling within the territorial limits of the Third Taxing District as hereinbefore established are hereby constituted a body politic

and corporate by the name of the Third Taxing District of the City of Norwalk and by that name shall be capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded, purchasing, holding, selling and conveying any property, real or personal and having a common seal and as such corporation shall succeed to and possess all property, both real and personal, of the East Norwalk Fire District of said Town of Norwalk, and all the rights, powers, franchises, privileges, and immunities heretofore granted to said East Norwalk Fire District in relation to the construction of electric light works and the generation and purchase of electricity for the use of said district and the inhabitants thereof, and the erection, placing and maintenance of poles, wires and all other necessary fixtures within said district for receiving and distributing electricity, and the same are hereby vested in said third Taxing District, and said third Taxing District is hereby authorized to manage, operate, and control its electric light works with the same authority, rights and liabilities, and in the same manner as said East Norwalk Fire District and except as herein otherwise provided, to care for, maintain and keep in repair, all estate, both real and personal, which said district may acquire, to sell and convey any of said property, any indebtedness of said district. The district shall pay one hundred dollars (\$100) or more yearly toward the support of the East Norwalk Improvement Association Incorporate, Public Library. (Sp. Laws 1913, No. 352, §34; Sp Laws 1921, No. 189, §3.) §1-115. Taxation liability.

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**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM TO ALLOW MR. BOVE AN
OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE CHARTER AND THE REQUEST
** MR. BROWN SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

INSURANCE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

Mr. Leary explained that the insurance proposal is basically the same coverage as last year, but at a lower cost. Mr. Murphy suggested that in the near future, they review the schedule of property coverage.

**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ACCEPT THE INSURANCE RENEWAL PROPOSAL
SUBMITTED BY JAMES P. MURPHY & ASSOCIATES, INC., AT A COST NOT TO**