

FINAL

THIRD TAXING DISTRICT
of the City of Norwalk
Special Commission Meeting
April 10, 2017

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: David Brown, Chair; Charles Yost, Debora Goldstein
Dr. Michael Intrieri, Treasurer

STAFF: Jim Smith, General Manager

OTHERS: Steve VanderMeer (Hometown Connections)

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Brown called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the public was in attendance to comment.

MINUTES OF MEETING

April 3, 2017

With regard to the subject matter of the TTD Commission Decorum at Public Events, Dr. Intrieri began by stating that the Commission is a great team. He continued to say that at the last meeting, he said to Commissioner Goldstein that he was sorry if he had offended her. The only thing he has an objection to are some of the jargon used in the Minutes, i.e., loud argument. He thinks it should say that there was only a talk.

He referenced the second paragraph and the word “argument” and stated it should be “discussion.” In the third paragraph, he objected to “heated moment.” He doesn’t feel it was a heated moment. He and the other member of the Commission were just talking. He also felt he needed to address the use of the word “rude.” He does not believe he was rude, but did apologize to Commissioner Goldstein at the last meeting. This subject is very important to him and he is hoping to get the words that were used in the Minutes softened up a bit.

Commissioner Yost expressed his feelings about the whole matter and felt the subject matter should have been taken off-line and not discussed at the Commission meeting.

Commissioner Brown made the following changes to the Minutes of April 3, 2017:

Third Taxing District
of the City of Norwalk
April 10, 2017

FINAL

Page 2 – TTD Commission Decorum at Public Events:

1st Paragraph, second line. The words “of the TTD Commissioners” should be changed to “members of the body.”

1st Paragraph, third line. The words “by one of the parties involved” should be struck.

Further discussion took place and Commissioner Goldstein explained what her intent had been by raising the issue at the April 3rd meeting.

**** COMMISSIONER BROWN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 3, 2017 REGULAR MEETING AS CORRECTED.**

**** COMMISSIONER GOLDSTEIN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MARKETING RFP VENDOR SELECTIONS

Mr. Smith reviewed his recommendations and evaluations with the Commission with regard to his final two choices of Marketing firms - Greyskye and Kovak-Likly.

Discussion took place about the firms that submitted RFPs. Commissioner Goldstein said she came up with a different ranking. At the top of her list was Mason, followed by Greyskye and then Kovak-Likly and gave her reasons for each.

It was agreed that the firm be right-sized for TTD and that location was an important factor to consider. While Mason is a strong candidate and has experience with utilities, they seemed a bit large and are located a distance away from TTD.

**** COMMISSIONER BROWN MOVED TO DIRECT THE GENERAL MANAGER, JIM SMITH, TO INVITE GREYSKYE AND KOVAK-LIKLY TO THE APRIL 17, 2017 COMMISSION MEETING FOR 6:30 P.M. AND 8:00 P.M.**

**** COMMISSIONER YOST SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Mr. Smith started off with the information he was asked to get from Atty. Bove with regard to procedures for Charter changes. Mr. Smith referred the Commission to Atty. Bove’s synopsis included in their packet. The information contains the procedures that the Second Taxing District followed in order to make changes to their Charter.

FINAL

Discussion took place around the information that was provided by Atty. Bove. Commissioner Yost asked Commissioner Brown what procedures took place the last time the Commissioners tried to make Charter changes. Commissioner Brown indicated that they did not get to the point where the revisions would be presented to the District on a ballot.

Commissioner Brown is going to get in touch with Atty. Michael Lyons and get a definitive answer on the process that was done in the past. The Commission also instructed Mr. Smith to get in touch with Atty. Bove and have him check with the Secretary of State and Norwalk's Town Clerk for the proper procedures to institute Charter changes. The Commission also asked Mr. Smith to get in touch with Atty. Studer to see if he could shed any light on the subject.

Mr. VanderMeer continued with the subject of Charter revisions and what changes the Commission would like to see in the Charter. Mr. VanderMeer took each item one by one and had the Commission list the pros and cons for each of the following:

- Treasurer Position (remove and delegate the position to a Commissioner, if needed)
- District Clerk Position (remove and delegate the position to a Commissioner, if needed)
- Board Composition: Three Commissioners to Five Commissioners
- Term Limits: Add limit of no more than two consecutive terms whether elected or appointed.
- CMEEC Alternate (how to rotate the alternate position) – The question was raised whether or not this should be included in the Charter or the ByLaws.

ByLaws – The current draft of the ByLaws needs to be worked on by the Commission at a future meeting.

Commission Stipends – This should probably be reflected in the ByLaws with a statement to the effect that it should be reviewed every certain number of years.

Vision Statement – Mr. VanderMeer reviewed Vision Statements with the Commission. He had asked the Commission to come up with some ideas. Between Commissioner Yost and Dr. Intrieri, the following was put on paper:

TTD ... bringing success, prosperity and services to 06855

Commissioner Goldstein opted for the following:

TTD will be an integral part of the East Norwalk community,
partnering to ensure the long-term prosperity and high-quality
of life of all who there.

Mr. VanderMeer asked the Commission to take both statements and think on them until they meet again in the future.

FINAL

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COMMISSIONER BROWN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Tenney
Executive Assistant
Third Taxing District