TOWN OF GREENWICH
OPEB Trust Board Meeting Minutes

8:30 A.M. Tuesday, January 12, 2016
Cone Room, Second Floor, Town Hall

Present:

Trust Board: Robert Stricker, Chairman, William Ferdinand
Absent: Joseph Pellegrino

BET Attendees: John Blankley, William Drake, Mary Lee Kiernan, Beth Krumeich, Arthur Norton Leslie Tarkington

Staff: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller and ex-officio member of the OPEB Trust Board, Kathleen Murphy, OPEB Board Trustee

The meeting was called to order at 8:41 A.M.

Approval of November 5, 2015 and December 3, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Approval of November 5, 2015 Minutes was postponed.

Upon a motion by Mr. Ferdinand, seconded by Mr. Stricker, the Trust voted 2-0 to approve December 3, 2015 Meeting Minutes.

Review Performance of Trust

Ms. Murphy distributed the December 2015 OPEB Investment Performance report and related materials. She commented that markets had been volatile in December with both the equity and fixed income portfolio's return behind their benchmark. The total portfolio loss was $433,000 or -1.89% in December. For the year ending December the portfolio lost -0.14%.

Ms. Murphy explained that timing of trades had been a significant factor in portfolio performance. Additionally, she remarked that the portfolio's weighting was within $190,000 of the allocation target with 76% in equities and 24% in fixed income.

Mr. Ferdinand pointed out that for the 3 year period the portfolio met the actuarial assumption for the rate of return for the retiree health plan.

Discussion of investment strategy, including sector weightings, and review selected funds for consideration (equity and fixed income)

Mr. Stricker and Mr. Ferdinand discussed Bear Market characteristics and historic information on recessions. They reviewed factors affecting the market: oil prices; China's currency devaluation and slowing growth rate; the strength of US employment; the strong US dollar and its effect on exports; and, the lack of robust rise in earnings. Seeing no indication of recession on the horizon, Mr. Ferdinand recommended maintaining the 75% position in equities. Mr. Stricker shared a written message from Mr. Pellegrino who said he would not be surprised to see a 20% correction in the market. Mr. Stricker recommended trimming allocation in international funds considering that to be a vulnerable sector. Given that the goal of monthly

meetings was to respond more quickly to market swings, Mr. Ferdinand concurred, suggesting trimming the positions in the Oppenheimer Global Opportunity (OGIYX) [current value $1.3 million, 6% of the portfolio] and Oakmark International (OAKIX) [current value $986,324, 4.4% of the portfolio] by 50% each, and investing the resulting cash in Vanguard Short Term Corporate Bond Index (VSCSX).

Upon a motion by Mr. Ferdinand, seconded by Mr. Stricker, the Trust voted 2-0 to the transaction.

Update on planned enhanced utilization of the Bloomberg Terminal

The demonstration of the Bloomberg Terminal was scheduled for 10:00 A.M. after the Investment Advisory Committee meeting.

New Business

None

Discussion of topics for future meetings

- Review Emerging Markets
- Consider High Yield Bonds without oil and energy holdings
- Review Healthcare and Technology sector weighting
- Consider funds that might be pruned from the portfolio

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Stricker, seconded by Mr. Ferdinand, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 A. M.

Robert Stricker

Robert Stricker, OPEB Trust Board Chairman

Catherine Sidor

Catherine Sidor, Recording Secretary