RE: Employee Medical Benefits Board 2015-2016 Self-insured Reserve Fund Determination

To Bob Tait and Ron Bienkowski

Cc: John Kortze

Bob and Ron:

Thank you for participating in the meeting last evening. Your input on projected enrollment and contributions was helpful in guiding us to our determination. During the first 8 months of the '14-'15 plan year, the claims experience has come in lower than expected. Major health insurers experienced higher trends in their books of business in 2014. Mercer, Aon Hewitt and Towers Watson all have 2015 trend guidance in the 6-7% range. Mercer's 7.1% drops to 4.6%, when they account for the reality that most employers are implementing significant benefit changes. That is a **35% reduction** in the increase of cost. When we talk about bending the cost curve downward, that's how most employers are making it happen. There are more constraints on a municipality, with collective bargaining agreements in place. However, that increases the importance of making each negotiation count. The enrollment split between BOE/Town remains 76%/24%. Costs should be shared accordingly.

The board voted to allow a decrease in additions to the reserve fund of \$300,000. Taking into account a \$300,000 cut in employer contributions, Bob's exhibit projects the reserve fund will be \$3.12 million on July 1, 2015. With the projected '15-'16 year program costs in the range of \$14.1 to \$14.5 million, that reserve level is right in the acceptable range, where we believe it should be.

The Anthem renewal uses a 7.7% trend, to arrive at \$14.5 million cost, \$1.3 million of which is admin cost. The reinsurance premiums are increasing 6% this year, compared to 17% last year. The number of claimants over 50k, remained very consistent with last year, at 34, showing that 1.65% of members accounted for 32.5% of the cost, or \$3.9 million (12 months through December 2014).

The board also wants to emphasize some of the factors, which are within your control, to manage for the future success of this program:

- Focus on, and invest in programs that enhance preventive care, encouraging your membership to receive their scheduled care, which has many benefits. Anthem should have a host of wellness programs available to you. You should explore those.
- Data is available today on the costs and quality of healthcare being delivered in CT.
 Educating your members how and where to find this information should be a priority.
- As the board has consistently stated, place more emphasis on increasing the portion of membership enrolled in the H.S.A.- enabled health plan.
- Your insurance consultant pointed out that approximately \$1.4 million of the claims in the last 12-month period were attributed to prescription medications. You should work with your insurance carrier, to try to help your members increase their compliance in following the medication regimen ordered by their physicians. Typically, insurance companies and prescription benefit managers (PBMs) have several programs to assist in these efforts. Often these programs improve member health outcomes and member satisfaction with their plan.
- Adequate planning, preparation and resolve in your union negotiations. You are fully
 informed and aware of the estimated tax penalty associated with not changing your benefit
 programs. The number Steve May gave you was \$1,550,000 as an ACA tax penalty (in
 2018) if you do not significantly alter your benefit structure. The time to act is now.

TOWN OF NEWTOWN MEDICAL SELF INSURANCE FUND ANALYSIS @ FEB 28, 2015 FISCAL YEAR 2014 - 2015 FORCAST

ESTIMATED FUND BALANCE @ JUNE 30, 2015	TOTAL EXPENSES	CONSULTANT FEES	EDUCATION	ADMINISTRATIVE FEES:	EDUCATION	CLAIMS/NAF:	TOTAL REVENUES	INTEREST EARNED ON INVESTMENTS	MUNICIPAL EDUCATION AND STREET STREET	RETIREE/COBRA/AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS:	EDUCATION	EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS:	EDUCATION	EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS: MUNICIPAL	ESTIMATED REVENUES	FUND BALANCE @ JULY 1, 2014
									265,000 350,000		2,034,000	2,2,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0	8,267,309	2,967,280		
3,121,373	13,288,206	55,000	1,085,000		12,148,206 <<< <from analysis<="" claims="" td=""><td></td><td>14,198,589</td><td>5,000</td><td>615,000</td><td></td><td>2,344,000</td><td></td><td>11,234,589</td><td></td><td></td><td>2,210,990</td></from>		14,198,589	5,000	615,000		2,344,000		11,234,589			2,210,990

25% OF TOTAL CLAIMS =

3,037,052

TOWN OF NEWTOWN

MEDICAL SELF INSURANCE FUND ANALYSIS @ FEB 28, 2015 FISCAL YEAR 2015 - 2016 FORECAST

ESTIMATED FUND BALANCE @ JUNE 30, 2016 25% OF TOTAL CLAIMS =	TOTAL EXPENSES	CONSULTANT FEES	ADMINISTRATIVE FEES: MUNICIPAL EDUCATION	ESTIMATED EXPENSES CLAIMS/NAF: MUNICIPAL EDUCATION	TOTAL REVENUES	INTEREST EARNED ON INVESTMENTS	RETIREE/COBRA/AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS: MUNICIPAL EDUCATION	EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS: MUNICIPAL EDUCATION	ESTIMATED REVENUES EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS: MUNICIPAL EDUCATION	ESTIMATED FUND BALANCE @ JULY 1, 2015
3,243,571							265,000 376,313	328,600 2,125,163	2,892,280	
3,046,754	14,114,284	55,000	1,085,000	12,974,284 (6.8%)	14,039,665	10,000	641,313	2,453,763	10,934,589 (-\$300,000)	3,121,373

67%

TOWN OF NEWTOWN CLAIMS ANALYSIS

