

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, March 26, 2025

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Ned Bixler called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **Attendance:** Chairman Ned Bixler, Vice Chairman, Robert Valentine, Scott Tillmann, James Korner, Russell Murdock, Carl Contadini, Patrick Reilly.
Others: First Selectman, Todd Carusillo, Fire Commissioners Chairman, Seth Breakell, Recreation Director, Erin Reilly, Garret Harlow, Public Works Supervisor, Library Director Chairwoman, Henrietta Horvay, Library Director Treasurer, Lynette Miller.
3. **Seating of an Alternate:** None
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion to accept the minutes by Paul Collins, Seconded by James Korner. Motioned carried with Robert Valentine making a modification on page 3 to paragraph after Town Clerk Budget to read: *The Board to considered keeping the budget at current total for each of the departments with exception with the employee compensation line.* Voted unanimous.

Matter arising under the Minutes: Region 6 and Region 20 review meetings. Vice Chair, Robert Valentine met with the Boards of Finance and the First Selectmen of Warren, Morris, Goshen and Litchfield to discuss strategies and what we do. We agreed to send a letter to the Acting Superintendent and presented the letter at the last Board of Education meeting. Met with Acting Superintendent and the Business Finance Department of Region 6, Region 20 to discussed additional appropriation, bonding those money. We will meet with the newly hired Superintendent, representatives of the Board of Education, Acting Superintendent and Finance Department to discuss a resolution on Region 6. The State Board of Education declared that Region 6 no longer exists and we have no authority to call a district meeting or speak with the pension administrator, but we still have the liabilities that were created.

Library Budget – Vice Chair Robert Valentine asked if the Library Board would consider including their newsletter in the Town Topic newsletter and print out postcard for additional programs to save money on the postage line item. Chairwomen Henrietta Horvay will meet with Library Board on that request.

Henrietta asked to re-allocate \$4000 from Blackout Shade to Computer Replacement of \$5,100, which will total \$9,100 to help with purchase of computers this fiscal year.

Lynette Miller, Library Board Treasurer spoke on interest funds from the Harmon Fund - used only for books, and the library fund from the Insurance payment from the fire in 1989 that the Insurance Company doesn't have any ability on how we spend that money.

Robert Valentine explained that the Town of Goshen received that payment and put those money in a sinking fund (accounting name), and it's auditing annually and historically, the money is used for the replacing of books. Lynette Miller commented there is other money for books, some money in the Harmon interest fund to use.

Motioned made by Robert Valentine, seconded by Paul Collins to re- allocate \$4000 from Blackout shade to Computer Replacement. Vote unanimous.

Public Works Department – Supervisor, Garret Harlow met with Chairman, Ned Bixler and Vice Chair Robert Valentine to revisit the operational budget. There was increase \$58,600 last year. This year operational budget is \$32,896 which is a 2.7 % increase from last year, there was an 5.1% decrease from the original budget which used the 10-year average on sand salt.

Public Works Capital Expense - \$3000 decrease last year, which we try to aim for.

TAR Town Aide Road- Is a grant money we received annually, we use \$50,000 to offset the operational budget, we should earmark money for the expensive pipe projects, then to use for other cost.

Public Works is working with engineer on bridge work, the engineer will put together a program looking at condition of town bridges and funding repairs through state or federal or the town could look for other grant money. James Korner asked question regarding the bridge study that was done, if it covered the expense with bridge work, the road study needs to be updated. The town does the inspection and shares with the engineer.

Recreation Department – Erin Reilly, Recreation Director met with Vice Chair, Robert Valentine and Carl Contadini reviewed the last 3 years of camp salaries, looking at making adjustments and certain she has needed staffing.

Capital budget reviewed with Recreation Commission, request to re-allocate \$3000 from Archery Range and \$2,572 from Shed and move to Benthick Barrier, which total \$5,572 to purchase semi-permanent mats to replace current mats that get remove every year. Semi-permanent mats are cost effective. Remove request Benthick Barrier and half the of Playground request for FY 25/26. Recreation has \$51,000 in Playground capital to start projects.

Reviewed salaries for camp, what camp will need for CIT’s and Waterfront wages adjustments.

Erin will revisit with Commission on the Nonresident cost for next year, a 5% increase in cost may take effect.

Motioned made by James Korner, seconded by Paul Collins to re- allocate \$3000 from Archery Range and \$2,572 from Shed and move to Benthick Barrier for this fiscal year. Vote unanimous.

Fire Company Budget – Removed \$100,000 from Fire Truck Replacement from capital and the requested \$10,000 from operational.

5. Financial Reports Review: The board reviewed and received the financial reports.

6. Tax Collector’s Report Review: The board received the Tax Collector’s report.

7. Budget Projection Review:

Board of Assessors - Dept. 13

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$98,666

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$98,709

Capital 2024-2025 \$ 10,850

Proposed Capital 2025-2026 \$10,850

Paul Collins motioned to receive, seconded by Robert Valentine. Voted unanimous

Economic Development Commission - Dept. 06

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$1,592

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$1,592

James Korner motioned to receive, and further review with the omittance of the \$1000 Marketing & Research line item, seconded by Paul Collins. Voted unanimous

Planning & Zoning – Dept. 41

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$3,392

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$3,392

Capital 2024-2025 \$10,000

Proposed Capital 2025-2026 \$10,000

Paul Collins motioned to receive, seconded by Russell Murdock. Voted unanimous

Street Lights - Dept. 55

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$14,000

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$14,000

James Korner motioned to receive, seconded by Paul Collins. Voted unanimous

Tax Collector – Dept 12

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$47,405

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$41,764

Capital 2024-2025 \$

Proposed Capital 2025-2026 \$2,500

Paul Collins motioned to receive, seconded by Robert Valentine. Voted unanimous

Selectmen – Dept. 01

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$161,910

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$161,910

Capital 2024-2025 \$80,000

Proposed Capital 2025-2026 \$ 88,000

Jim Korner motioned to receive with additional review with Lake Weed and Affordable Housing request, seconded by Robert Valentine. Voted unanimous

Zoning – Dept 42

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$1,649

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$1,649

Paul Collins motioned to receive, seconded by Robert Valentine. Voted unanimous

8. Selectman's Report:

Woodridge Lake request for speed hump. The Board of Finance stated that this may not be the year for this year. Stop signs had been installed.

Region 6 delinquent unemployment benefits of \$35,311.73, the Board stated that it has to be an agreement between the four towns under shared services agreement.

Todd had a conversation with Randi Frank Consulting, LLC. regarding the pay matrix for projected salary increases. Ms. Frank recommended 3.25 to 3.50 percentage increase.

Motioned to Robert Valentine, seconded by Paul Collins adjust the agenda move for discussion on payroll matrix recommendation, so Virginia can update the Employee Benefit budget.

The board reviewed Randi Franks recommendation for the salary matrix.

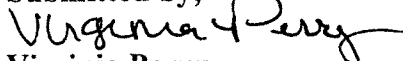
Vice Chair Robert Valentine motioned to a 3.5%, seconded by Scott Tillman. Vote unanimous.

- 8. Correspondence:** Chore Services, Kristen Orr – Discussed request funding the chores
2024 Grand List Increase Summary from Assessor, Lucy Hussman – Motor Vehicle Assessment Change

9. New Business: None

10. Adjourn: Motion made by James Korner to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

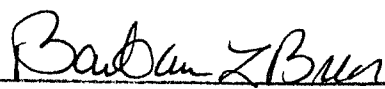
Submitted by,



Virginia Perry

Selectman's Admin. Asst.

Received March 28, 2025 @ 12:51 P.M.

Attest 

Goshen Town Clerk