

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

1. **Call to Order:** Vice Chairman Ned Bixler called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **Attendance:** Vice Chairman Ned Bixler, Robert Valentine, Scott Tillmann, James Korner, Russell Murdock, Patrick Reilly.
Others: First Selectman, Todd Carusillo, Town Clerk, Barbara Breor, Fire Commissioners Chairman, Seth Breakell, Treasurer, Matthew Sweet.

Vice Chairman Ned Bixler and Robert Valentine spoke on behalf of the passing of Allan Walker, Sr., former Chairman.

Ned made a correction to #3 Filling of a vacancy to Filling of vacancies.

3. Filling of a vacancies:

- 1) A vacancy to fill a regular seat (Allan Walker regular seat). Robert Valentine moved to nominate Russell Murdock from alternate to regular member, seconded by Scott Tillmann. Acting Chair hearing no further nomination, closed the nomination. Town Clerk Barbara Breor sworn in Russell Murdock.
- 2) A vacancy to fill an alternate member, Robert Valentine moved to nominate Carl Contadini, seconded by Paul Collins. Scott Tillman moved to nominate Lorraine Lucas, seconded by James Korner. Scott Tillmann spoke on behalf of Lorraine Lucas and Robert Valentine spoke on behalf of Carl Contadini. Acting Chairman Ned Bixler asked for a show of hands. Those voting for Carl Contadini were: Robert Valentine, Russell Murdock, Ned Bixler, Paul Collins. Those voting for Lorraine Lucas were: Scott Tillmann and James Korner. Town Clerk Barbara Breor sworn in Carl Contadini.
- 3) A vacancy to fill position of the Chairman. Motion by Paul Collins to nominate Ned Bixler as Chairman, seconded by Russell Murdock. There was no other nomination, nomination was closed.
- 4) A vacancy to fill position of the Vice Chairman, Motion by Scott Tillman to nominate Robert Valentine as Vice Chairman, seconded by Russell Murdock. There was no other nomination, nomination was closed.

4. Seating of an Alternate: None

5. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion to accept the minutes by Paul Collins, Seconded by Robert Valentine. Motioned carried with James Korner abstaining.
6. **Financial Reports Review:** The board reviewed and received the financial reports. Robert Valentine brought up Title 67 Land Acquisition Fund, thought the board should make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to rescind the Land Acquisition Fund at a town meeting. Board of Finance will revisit this at their March 26th meeting.

Robert Valentine questioned Fire Commissioner/Fire Protection Grant Writer line items. Time was allotted out of Fire Commissioner clerk wages should have been under Fire Protection Grant Writer.

Robert Valentine has questions on current budgets, asked Todd to report back later on those overages.

7. **Tax Collector's Report Review:** The board received the Tax Collector's report.

8. **Budget Projection Review:**

Animal Control - Dept. 18

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$14,000

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$12,500

Scott Tillman motioned to receive, seconded by James Korner. Voted unanimously

Board of Finance - Dept. 10

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$17,057

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$17,082

Paul Collins motioned to receive with the omittance of the \$50 postage line item, seconded by Russell Murdock. Voted unanimously

Cemeteries - Dept. 56

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$2,672

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$3,609

Paul Collins motioned to receive and tabled for further review, seconded by Robert Valentine. Voted unanimously

Civil Preparedness – Dept. 29

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$7,675

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$12,937

Scott Tillmann motioned to receive and tabled for further review, seconded by James Korner. Voted unanimously

Conservation Commission – Dept 44

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$7,675

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$12,937

Robert Valentine motioned to receive and recommended to decrease clerical wages from \$594 to \$50, board member clerks as a volunteer, seconded by Russell Murdock, Paul Collins abstained. Voted unanimously

Fiscal Office – Dept 04

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$72,335

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$76,240

Ned Bixler motioned to receive and tabled for further review, seconded by Robert Valentine. Voted unanimously

Library – Dept 21

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$156,709

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$157,259

Paul Collins motioned to receive and tabled for further review on postage line item, and invited the chairwomen Henrietta Horvay to attend next month meeting, seconded by Scott Tillmann. Voted unanimously

Newsletter - Dept 55

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$724,493

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$28,005

James Korner motioned to receive and appointed Robert Valentine to solicit advertisement to local business to help defray cost of Town Topics, seconded by Scott Tillmann. Voted unanimously

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Professional Services – Dept 07

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$35,423

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$35,005

James Korner motioned to receive with further review on Probate budget cost, seconded by Paul Collins. Voted unanimously

Town Clerk – Dept 11

Current Budget 2024-2025 \$111,541

Proposed Budget 2025-2026 \$112,587

James Korner motioned to receive, seconded by Robert Valentine. Voted unanimously.

The board will review Public Works, Fire Protection and Library budgets at next month meeting. Recreation budget to be reviewed in April. Robert Valentine considered with the board to keep current budget appropriations or make adjustments on line items.

Fire Commissioner Chairman, Seth Breakell discussed reducing the truck replacement under the Fire Protection capital budget from \$150,000 to \$50,000.

Selectman's Report:

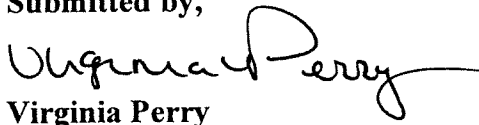
The Board of Finance reviewed the First Selectman report and discussed the pension liabilities overages from FY 23-24. Discussion on the potential cost on mailing supplemental tax bill associated with Region 6 liabilities cost.

9. Correspondence: None

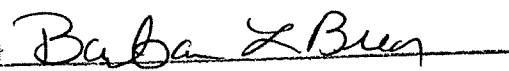
10. New Business: None

11. Adjourn: Motion made by Paul Collins to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by,


Virginia Perry

Received Feb. 28, 2025 @ 12:49 PM

Attest 
Goshen Town Clerk