Town of Goshen
Board of Finance
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Call to Order: Chairman Ned Bixler called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Attendance: Ned Bixler, Chairman, Robert Valentine, Vice Chairman, Scott Tillmann, Paul Collins, Lorraine Lucas, Patrick Reilly. Excused: James Korner. Absent: Robert Layer. Others: First Selectman, Seth Breakell.

Seating of an Alternate: ***Motion made by*** Paul Collins, Seconded by Scott Tillmann to seat Patrick Reilly. Motion carries.

Review of Minutes:

- ***Motion made by*** Paul Collins, seconded by Lorraine Lucas, to approve the minutes of May 6, 2026, all in favor with Robert Valentine and Patrick Reilly abstained. Motion carries.

- ***Motion made by*** Paul Collins, seconded by Scott Tillmann, to approve the minutes of May 13, 2026, with no further comments, all in favor. Motion carries.

Review Financial Reports - The board received and reviewed. Bob Valentine asked Seth why are we over spending by 557% on Fire Protection Small Tools, there are items that can be booked to capital expense. It's important to have these items in expenses for depreciation purposes. Seth will review and make corrections.

Patrick Reilly asked a general question regarding the Title 67 Land Acquisition Fund and where it is listed. Bob replied that it shows in the monthly financial report and the annual report under funds, it's not in operating, for more clarification Debbie Franklin, Financial Consultant could provide information.

Review Tax Collector's Report - The board received and reviewed. Motioned to accept the Tax Collectors report, seconded by Patrick Reilly. All in favor. Motion carries.

Selectman Report - Nothing to report; wanted to thank the board for their assistance with preparing the Budget and thanked Bob for sitting down explaining the process and reports.

Robert Valentine Motioned to move and add between the Selectmen report and Old Business: Setting the Mill Rate for FY 2026 - 2027, seconded by Paul Collins, all in favor. Motion carries.

Ned Bixler - I can't think of good reason to increase or lower the mill rate; with our additional expenses the town will use up some funds; he feels to leave the mill rate at 16.7, he asked members if anyone else would like to increase or decrease the mill rate.

Robert Valentine said with all things being equally anticipated use of fund balance we don't use it and historical we haven't and a little bit of a breather this year makes sense to keep it at current mill rate.

Lorraine Lucas asked if the teacher's budget get negotiated for next year (it was a 3-year contract) with this being the last year, they will go back to negotiation, she wouldn't lower it and to wait to see where that is going.

Paul Collins asked Bob what his thought is on a number that the fund balance should be at year end? Bob said that the board never came down with a solid number, he thinks 14 % is a reasonable number, we are at 18%. If we used to anticipate from the spreadsheet, we will still be up there, there are a lot of uncertainty going forward, we needed to raise the mill rate last year, but he feels we should stay where we are. Lorraine asked if there is a maximum by law that we could have in the general fund. All municipality are different; Office of Policy & Management (OPM) gives municipality a guideline.

Motion made by Robert Valentine, seconded by Paul Collins to hold the mill rate at 16.7. Motion carries.

Old Business – Region 6 Pension - The 3 selectmen and the 3-trustees met with Union Savings Bank who holds the pension, investment, discussion on how the actuary sees what we need to be put in and the mechanism to do that and how we invest. Currently, the outbound is $218,000 yearly there are 33 active participants and 2 participants not yet in, they haven't retired and they don't work for the school system and they are not CEO level salary, they will not have a big impact. The fund is at 24% funded, that was cause by the buy out that was offered. The Selectmen agree to the fund $300,000 for 3 years and reevaluate the funds. Goshen contribution is $141,720 yearly.
The town has made a one payment this fiscal year.

New Business – None

Correspondence - None

Adjourn: ***Motion made by*** Paul Collins to adjourn at 7:52 p.m.

Submitted by,
Virginia Perry
Virginia Perry
Clerk Pro-Tem

Received May 29, 2026 @ 11:31 AM
Attest Barbara L Breor
Goshen Town Clerk