

Town of Goshen
Board of Finance
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, January, 28, 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, James Korner, Paul Collins, Lorraine Lucas. Patrick Reilly, Alternate. Unexcused: Robert Layer, Alternate. Others: Seth Breakell, First Selectman, Barry Hall, Fire Chief, Bill Gelormino, Fire Co. President, Don Sage, Fire Commissioner, Lake Weed members: Chris Sanders, Lake Weed President (Westside Pond), Phil Olivetti, President of Friends of Dog Pond, Mark Harris (Tyler Lake), Patrick Flynn Chairman Water Quality Committee (Tyler Lake), Michele Fitzpatrick (Tyler Lake), Simon Ellis (West Side Pond).

Seating of an Alternate: None

Election of Officers: Ned opened the elections for nominations for a Chairman, **Motioned made by** Paul Collins, seconded by James Korner to nominate Ned Bixler as Chairman, hearing no other nominations, **Motioned made by** Robert Valentine to closed nomination.

Opened nominations for a Vice Chairman, **Motioned made by** Paul Collins, seconded by James Korner to nominate Robert Valentine as Vice Chairman, hearing no other nomination, **Motioned made by** Paul Collins to closed nomination.

Review of Minutes: **Motioned made by** Scott Tillmann, seconded by James Korner to receive the minutes. Robert Valentine clarified a sentence on pg. 2, under paragraph #4, first sentence corrected should read: ***At this time the matching Steap grant for \$500,000.00 hasn't been brought to the board for review, approval or a town meeting approval.*** Paul Collins motioned to approve the December 17, 2025 minutes as adjusted. Motion carries.

Financial Reports –Paul Collins commented on the descriptions to the Statement of Comparative Revenue report that Debbie provided; Ned remarked that Debbie is an asset to the town. The board received and reviewed.

Tax Collector Report – The board received and reviewed.

Selectman Report – First Selectman Seth Breakell asked for guidance with grants that were applied for and would wait and discuss further after budgets are reviewed.

Chris Sanders (West side Pond President,), Mark Harris (Tyler Lake), Phil Olivetti (Friends of Dog Pond President), Patrick Flynn, Chairman Water Quality Committee (Tyler Lake), Michelle Fitzpatrick (Tyler Lake) all spoke on behalf of the three lakes in town (West side Pond, Tyler Lake and Dog Pond).

Lake Weed Capital

Current 2025-2026 \$22,500

Proposed 2026-2027 \$30,000

Selectmen Department 01

Current Budget 2025-2026 \$167,262

Proposed 2026-2027 \$167,262

Selectmen Capital

Current 2025-2026 \$22,500

Proposed 2026-2027 \$30,500

Bob discussed the town hall remaining windows to be replace and asked the First Selectman to provide more details on the request. Paul Collins asked for detail information to be provided for the website upgrade and if there will be additional monies needed. **Motioned made by** Bob Valentine, seconded by James Korner to receive the Lake Weed Capital, Selectmen budget and Capital request. Motion carries.

Fire Protection Department 26

Current Budget 2025-2026 \$109,103

Proposed Budget 2026-2027 \$122,348

Fire Protection Capital

Current Capital 2025-2026 \$275,000

Proposed Capital 2026-2027 \$302,000

Rescue Department Dep 28

Current Budget 2025-2026 \$ \$35,458

Proposed Budget 2026-2027 \$44,858

Don Sage, Fire Commissioner, Barry Hall, Fire Chief and Bill Gelormino, Fire Co. Vice President spoke on behalf of the fire company's requests. Bob asked for detailed information regarding the chemical, pagers and medical supplies increases, and why the decrease with the grant writer budget item, he thought the Grant Writer should be kept, but asked them to look into grant writers. **Motioned made by** Paul Collins, seconded by James Korner to receive the budgets and capital request. Motion carries. Paul Collins will attend the February 4, 2026 @ 7:00pm Fire Commissioners meeting to go over their budget requests.

Public Works Department 2

Current Budget 2025-2026 \$1,225,587

Proposed 2026-2027 \$1,387,482

Public Works Capital

Current 2025-2026 \$580,000

Proposed 2026-2027 \$646,970

Garret Harlow, Public Works Supervisors talked about the Salt shortage and that he had received 60% of the salt and has 82% ordered and is waiting for the delivery that has been delayed and there maybe additional expense. The board will review current budget funds, Town Aid Road, Major Road Repair and Capital to help with road expenses. Garret had a discussion on the Tyler Lake dam inspection and expense.

Bob Valentine asked for the board to receive a 10-year road plan. That we need to as a town not incur unnecessary cost on paving roads, that we have roads that need to be maintained with the funds we get from LOCIP and TAR (Town Aid Road). The Board will have a discussion on cost that was spent without approvals on Public Works Facility STEAP Project and West Hyerdale Bridge Project. The Board of Selectman with the Board of Finance will review and appropriate monies to cover expenses. **Motioned made by** Paul Collins, seconded by James Korner to receive the budget, capital request. Motion carries. Ned and Bob will meet with Garret to go over his budget requests.

Recreation Department 22

Current Budget 2025-2026 \$234,024

Proposed Budget 2026-2027 \$241,061

Recreation Capital

Current 2025-2026 \$14,500

Proposed 2026-2027 \$47,000

Bob commented on the revenue increase and discussed the budget increase for camp salaries and wages, camp waterfront coverage wages, programming expenses and telephone/internet requests. Recreation Director, Erin Reilly talked about the salary increases to the camp salaries and wages and waterfront coverage wages were increased due to minimum wage increase. Programming increase was for adding a community dinner, telephone/Internet promotion will end in June with increase in cost. Bob spoke about Starlink Satellite internet that he uses that is reliable in Goshen and reasonable in cost. Additional conversation regarding increase in revenue on out-of-town camp fees. Paul Collins asked where they were at with the playground and if capital request was enough. Erin talked about a representative will be meeting with the department next month to discuss what they can purchase. Lorraine Lucas will meet with the Recreation Commission to further review their request. **Motioned made by** Bob Valentine, seconded by James Korner to receive the budget and capital request. Motion carries.

Town Office Building Department 61

Current Budget 2025-2026 \$95,725

Proposed Budget 2026-2027 \$100,367

Motioned made by Paul Collins, seconded by Bob Valentine to receive. Motion carries

Bob asked for details regarding the increase for computer support.

Waste Removal Department 03

Current Budget 2025-2026 \$389,510

Proposed Budget 2026-2027 \$419,664

Bob asked for further information regarding the regional transfer facility the towns are working with NWCOC to obtain. USA Hauling contract will be ending in 2027.

Motioned made by Bob Valentine, seconded by James Korner to receive. Motion carries.

Contingency Department 59

Current Budget 2025-2026 \$40,000

Proposed Budget 2026-2027 \$40,000

James Korner, seconded by Paul Collins to table budget for additional review. Vote unanimously

Old Business – Interlocal Agreement was endorsed by the Board of Finance.

Motioned made by Bob Valentine, seconded by James Korner to approve the agreement submitted. Motion carries.

Adjourn - **Motion made by** James Korner to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Submitted by,

Virginia Perry
Clerk Pro-Tem