

**THOMASTON BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, December 9, 2025**

Present: Finance Board Members Luke Freimuth, Chairman, Mike Madow, Vice Chairman; Jack DeOliveira, George Seabourne; Adam Silverman (attended remotely), and Stephen Turner. Other Attendees: Tracy Decker, Finance Director; Rich Sileo, First Selectman; Jeffrey Madden, Chief of Police. Rebecca Skinner was available to take the minutes of the meeting.

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman L. Freimuth.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited by all.
- 3. Quorum Confirmation:** The presence of quorum was confirmed.
- 4. Approve or amend the minutes of October 14, 2025:** G. Seabourne moved, seconded by A. Silverman, that the minutes of the October 14, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Board of Finance be approved as presented (motion carried 5-0, J. DeOliveira abstaining).
- 5. New Business:**
 - a. 2026 Meeting Schedule:** On a motion by G. Seabourne, seconded by S. Turner, the Board approved the following meeting schedule for 2026 (all Regular Meetings unless noted otherwise): January 13, 2026; February 10, 2026; March 10, 2026; March 24, 2026 (Special Budget Meeting); April 14, 2026; April 28, 2026 (Special Budget Meeting); May 12, 2026; May 26, 2026 (Special Budget Meeting); June 9, 2026; July 14, 2026; August 11, 2026, September 8, 2026; October 13, 2026, November 10, 2026, December 8, 2026. Public hearings will be scheduled as needed. Motion passed 6-0.
- 6. Old Business**
 - a. Elm Street Engineering:** R. Sileo reviewed the status of the project. The \$200,000 cost estimate for the Town previously cited is probably too low by about \$170,000 due to changes to the plan including additional features (Greenway is not included). The overall cost of the plan is about \$4.5-5 million, but total cost to the Town is less than \$400,000. New sidewalks, repaving, on-street parking, and raised crosswalks are all included. G. Seabourne moved, seconded by M. Madow, that the Board of Finance approve an additional \$170,500 for Tighe & Bond to complete the Elm Street project and recommend to the Board of Selectmen that a town meeting be held to approve the expenditure of \$170,500 from Fund Balance. Motion passed 6-0.

7. Selectman's Report

- a. **WPCA update:** R. Sileo reported that the current moratorium on new connections is likely to stay in place for a while. A plan to lift the moratorium is being drafted, and he will present it at a future Board of Finance meeting, but it is likely to be 2 years before the moratorium is lifted, and the full project will not be completed until year 4 or 5. The equipment we have is insufficient, and there is a pond created by a beaver dam at the High School that needs to be dealt with. The town is still looking into funding sources for this project. We may qualify for some grants that are awarded to projects for water that eventually drains into Long Island Sound.
- b. **Feasibility study update:** Slides were presented of three options discussed at a recent town meeting:
 - A. Pre-K through grade 3 at Black Rock in either a repaired or new building
Grades 4 – 12 at the High School.
 - B. Pre-K in a new building
K through grade 6 at Black Rock
Grades 7 – 12 at the High School
 - C. Pre-K and K in a new building
Grades 1-12 at the High School

Next steps: Bonding plan to be updated by R. Sileo and T. Decker.

Hold a second joint meeting with Board of Finance and Board of Education

Continue regionalization discussions with Plymouth and Watertown

8. Financial Director's Report

T. Decker reported that tax collections are at 57%. She also reported that expenditures are over where they should be in only a few departments. The maintenance account may go over budget because they used \$9,000 to pay for some work in the attic of the Opera House.

9. Member comment

M. Madow welcomed the new member of the Board of Finance.

10. Public Comment

None.

11. Adjournment

On a motion by G. Seabourne, seconded by S. Turner, the December 9, 2025 meeting of the Thomaston Board of Finance was adjourned at 7:57 pm (motion carried 6-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Skinner