

THOMASTON BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, February 10, 2026



Present: Finance Board Members Luke Freimuth, Chairman, Mike Madow, Vice Chairman; Jack DeOliveira; and Adam Silverman.

Other Attendees: Rich Sileo, First Selectman; Tracy Decker, Finance Director; Jeffrey Madden, Chief of Police; Jamie Wilson, Sexton, Hillside Cemetery. Rebecca Skinner was available to take the minutes of the meeting.

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:01 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 minutes:** M. Madow moved, seconded by A. Silverman, that the minutes of the Board of Finance meeting held on January 13, 2026 be approved as presented (motion carried 4-0).

5. Old Business:

- a. **Discussion/Possible Approval WPCA Project and Bond Authorization:** L. Freimuth read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND AN APPROPRIATION OF \$5,410,000 FOR
VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TOWN'S WASTEWATER
TREATMENT FACILITY AND A BOND AUTHORIZATION IN AN AMOUNT
NOT TO EXCEED \$5,410,000 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Finance recommends that the Town of Thomaston appropriate \$5,410,000 for various improvements, repairs, modifications, replacements, and upgrades to, and equipment for, the Town's wastewater treatment facility, including, but not limited to, improvements and upgrades to flow meters, pumps, UV disinfection system, sequencing batch reactor (SBR) controls, and sludge building (the "Project"). The appropriation shall include engineering, site improvements, design, construction, reconstruction, repair, excavation, inspection, evaluation and surveying costs, materials, equipment, professional fees, and for administrative, financing and bond issuance costs, interest expenses on temporary borrowings and other costs related to the Project. The appropriation shall include any federal, state, or other grants-in-aid or other funds received for the Project. The Board of Selectmen may reduce or modify the scope of the Project, and the entire appropriation may be expended on the Project as so reduced or modified.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Finance recommend that the Town of Thomaston finance the appropriation by issuing the Town's bonds, notes, temporary notes, interim funding obligations and/or project loan obligations in an amount not to exceed \$5,410,000.

A. Silverman moved, seconded by M. Madow, that the Board of Finance approve the Resolution. Motion carried (5-0).

6. New Business

- a. **Discussion/Possible Approval Hillside Cemetery truck:** Hillside Cemetery sexton Jamie Wilson said that the committee plans to replace the cemetery truck, which is 23 years old and frequently in need of repair. A used truck, but newer than the current one, would be acceptable rather than a brand new one. Gasoline rather than diesel is preferred. The Cemetery would use their own funds, and the old truck would be sold or auctioned. The Board of Finance indicated that they support the purchase of a used truck.
- b. **Potential Board of Education budget overrun related to Center School Alerton System upgrade.** Representatives from the Center School informed the Board of Finance that they plan to upgrade the HVAC controls system, which might lead to an overrun of their budget line. Less expensive nonproprietary equipment will replace proprietary equipment. Any budget overrun will be addressed at the end of the budget year.
- c. **Grand List update:** The Board reviewed 2025 Grand List totals for real estate, personal property, and motor vehicle compared with 2024, showing a 35.83% increase.
- d. **Discussion/Possible Approval Municipal Recycling Processing Agreement.** R. Sileo informed the Board that the Murphy Road Recycling Agreement is ready for final review and presentation to a Town Meeting. The solid waste contract is still being finalized. Ultimately, there will be three contracts for waste disposal. There was discussion regarding the need to educate residents about what goes in the recycling bin and what goes into the waste disposal bin.
J. DeOliveira moved, seconded by M. Madow, that the Board of Finance approve the 3-year contract with Murphy Road Recycling. Motion carried (5-0).

7. First Selectman's Report

R. Sileo said the Board of Selectmen will act on the trash contract at their next meeting.

8. Financial Director's Report

T. Decker provided Board of Finance members information regarding the State of Connecticut spending cap for 2025/2026, including total budgeted expenditures minus those items that are not subject to the cap (debt service, special ed, capital). Spending cap is the greater of 2.5% or inflation (2.667%), which results in an allowable budget increase of \$660,438 or 1.13 mills.

She said review of spending for the 7 months ending January 31, 2026 indicates some spending lines may be at risk of going over the budgeted amount.

9. Member Comment

None.

10. Public Comment for In Person Attendees

None.

11. Adjournment

On a motion by A. Silverman, seconded by M. Madow, the February 10, 2026, meeting of the Thomaston Board of Finance was adjourned at 7:50 pm (motion carried 5-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Skinner