

**THOMASTON BOARD OF FINANCE  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, March 10, 2026**

*PLEASE NOTE: The Zoom meeting was interrupted twice by a “Zoom Bomber”, and therefore, for public safety reasons, the recording will not be posted to the town YouTube account.*

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

Other Attendees: Rich Sileo, First Selectman; Tracy Decker, Finance Director; 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 7:02 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:** J. DeOliveira moved, seconded by A. Silverman, that the minutes of the Board of Finance meeting held on February 10, 2026, be approved as presented (motion carried 4-0, G. Seabourne abstained).
- 5. Old Business:** none.
- 6. New Business**
  - a. **TVAC Fly Car Overage:** No discussion needed because the Ambulance Corps funded the overage.  
R. Sileo requested that the Ambulance Corps provide regular financial reports to the Board of Finance.
  - b. **Proposed Board of Finance fund policies.** Board of Finance members said they have reviewed the policies. T. Decker said the description of the Seth Thomas Prize Fund is not clear on who the beneficiary is. G. Seabourne had a question about the amount of funds in the Kenea Park Fund; T. Decker said about \$20,000. There was some discussion about the Tree Fund, and further discussion was tabled for the next meeting. T. Decker said she will talk with Thomaston Savings Bank.
  - c. **Recommended Capital Improvement Program 2027-2031:** The Board reviewed the handout that described the program, including number of projects and total cost, prioritization, funding sources, debt affordability, and implementation of a plan of action. G. Seabourne said he would like more financial support to the Recreation

Department, with less reliance on the Recreation and Nystrom funds for routine maintenance.

- d. **2026/2027 Budget as Recommended by the Board of Selectmen:** The proposed budget was reviewed. A cap on the increase at 2.6% is desirable. There was discussion of how close the current budget is with regard to income. The impact of the proposed budget on the mil rate and the impact of revaluation were discussed. The Board was advised to be prepared to respond to issues residents may have with the proposal.

The Board of Education is meeting for a budget discussion on Thursday, March 12, and has invited the Board of Finance to attend.

Discussion of contingency funding in the budget was postponed until the next meeting of the Board of Finance. It was agreed to invite the Board of Education to the next regular meeting of the Board of Finance.

Comparison of the Board of Education budget with the Town Budget was discussed, with the observation that the proposed Town budget is leaner (\$30,000 over OPM guidelines) than the proposed Board of Education budget (\$185,000 over). The Board of Finance would like to see the Board of Education work harder to lower their budget within OPM guidelines.

## **7. First Selectman's Report**

R. Sileo thanked T. Decker for her hard work preparing the Town budget for this meeting. He reported on the status of the feasibility study. Public hearings will be held. Because the proposed budget does not have a large increase, he would like to see it passed at a town meeting rather than referendum. He also provided an update on the Elm St. project, working with both Tighe and Bond and Connecticut Water. Installation of the new water main as soon as possible is desirable.

R. Sileo also reported on waste disposal, which consists of three parts, recycling, solid waste, and collection. He is preparing a request for proposal. The Town was issued a hazard notice from the state because of leaks into the ground. Levels were reduced by the state, and other towns are having the same problem.

## **8. Financial Director's Report**

T. Decker reported that in the February report tax revenue collection was at 98%. Some budgets may go over.

## **9. Member Comment**

None.

**10. Public Comment for In Person Attendees**

None.

**11. Adjournment**

On a motion by G. Seabourne, seconded by A. Silverman, the March 10, 2026, meeting of the Thomaston Board of Finance was adjourned at 8:50 pm (motion carried 5-0).

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca Skinner