

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday December 20, 2023

CALL to ORDER: Ned Bixler called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Attendance: Ned Bixler, Robert Valentine, Paul Collins, Russell Murdock (alternate) Pat Reilly (alternate), and First Selectman Todd Carusillo. Chairman Allan Walker via Zoom

Ned Bixler made a motion to seat Pat Reilly and Russell Murdock, seconded by Bob Valentine and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL of MINUTES: A motion was made by Pat Reilly seconded by Paul Collins and voted unanimously to receive the minutes of November 15, 2023. Ned Bixler and Russell Murdock abstained.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: The board received and reviewed Financial Reports from Debbie Franklin dated 11/30/2023. The First Selectman continues to look into the cost for Computer Support.

It was noted that the newsletter is often over budget and the budget should be raised during the next budget season. Todd reported the cost of creating the issues has increased.

Paul Collins inquired of the \$26,481.46 increase over last year for the Waste removal, as noted on the Comparative Operating page. The Board explained the increase was in tipping fees, recycling and the contracts annual increases. Todd Carusillo will provide a P&L detail to the Board of Finance for comparisons month over month.

Pat Reilly asked about the increase expenses in Cemeteries of \$2,535.00 over last year, as the account is at 98.8% of its budget. Todd Carusillo to verify that expenses are being booked properly.

Letter Received from the Recreation Commission: Re: Proposed wage increase letter and spreadsheet was forwarded to the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance. The Recreation Commission was advised by the First Selectman that it would need to be in the 2024-2025 and would affect the camp staff wages as of July first 2024. The Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget was passed last May and cannot be changed. Bob Valentine recommends offsetting the camp cost increases by appropriate pricing for non-resident campers.

TAX COLLECTORS REPORT: The board received and reviewed The Tax Collector's report dated 11/30/2023.

SELECTMAN'S REPORT: See Report attached.

MIRA will close their transfer station in Torrington in 2027. The town selectman will have to find a solution when USA Hauling and MIRA contracts are up in three years.

As the plans for the 13.8 acres on Route 4 Sharon Turnpike have been paused, Todd presented a proposal to erect a temporary structure to protect the town equipment. The structures are reduced for purchase from approximately \$30,000 to \$20,500-\$16,500 each. The location is behind the current public works building. Bob Valentine said that the Selectmen need to provide a fresh needs assessment as not all equipment needs to be covered.

Early Voting: The expected election costs for the Moderator and Assistant were discussed.

\$1205.76 for 4 day Presidential primary in April 2024.

\$4521.60 for the 14 day November 2024 Election

There will also be an increase in Registrars' wages. Registrars are applying for a \$10,000 grant to help cover the costs.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Board of Finance encourages each department to prepare a 5 year capital budget for the 2024/2025 fiscal year.


Pat Reilly suggests the payroll system include some pay increase for everyone. Todd Carusillo stated the town is contracting with Randy Franks for a new salary survey. Bob Valentine noted the objective is to not get behind on anyone's wages and be fair and just. It is scaled to be mid-range with similar public sectors.

ADJOURN: Bob Valentine made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Allan Walker.
The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m

Lee M. Kennedy - Board of Finance Clerk

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all !

Received Dec 22, 2023 11:24 AM

Attest 
asst. Goshen Town Clerk