

**GOSHEN BOARD OF FINANCE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

April 22, 2020

This meeting was recorded via Zoom.us and is available as a recording.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Allan Walker called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Allan Walker, Ned Bixler, Jim Korner, Russell Hurley, Patrick Reilly, Alan Booth, Scott Tillmann Excused: William Lane

Also in attendance: Bob Valentine, First Selectman; Chris Leone, Reg. 6 Superintendent; Garret Harlow, Public Works Supervisor; Barry Hall, Fire Chief

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ned Bixler made a motion, seconded by Russell Hurley, to accept the minutes of the March 25, 2020 meeting. The motion passed.

Patrick Reilly made a motion seconded by Russell Hurley, to accept the minutes of the April 8, 2020 special meeting. The motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Debbie Franklin's report for March 2020 was received and reviewed.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT: Jim Korner made a motion seconded by Scott Tillmann to approve the Tax Collector's Suspense List. The motion passed.

LIBRARY COMPENSATION: Patrick Reilly made a motion seconded by Ned Bixler, to approve a bonus of the same amount as last year, for one employee who is at the maximum on the pay matrix. The motion passed. The pay matrix will be reviewed in next year.

Mr. Valentine said the Governor signed an executive order allowing the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to do emergency funding without a Town Meeting as long as it is for health, safety, or welfare.

Chris Leone, Superintendent said that an Executive Order from the Governor allows the Board of Ed will pass a budget in lieu of a referendum which cannot be held at this point.

CONSIDERATION OF BUDGETS: The following budget proposals were received and reviewed.

Land Use – Dept 43 Current Budget 2019-2020 \$18,907.00, Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$19,441.00**  
This budget has been updated to show approved increases in compensation.

Fire Marshall – Dept.25 Current Budget 2019-2020 \$10,902.00, Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$13,171.00** This budget has been updated to show approved increases in compensation.

Treasurer – Dept. 13 Current Budget 2019-2020 \$9,026, Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$9,213.00** This budget has been updated to show approved increases in compensation.

Elections<sup>14</sup> – Dept. Current Budget 2019-2020 \$31,216.00 Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$30,807.00**  
This budget has been updated to show approved increases in compensation.

Selectmen – Dept. 01 Current Budget 2019-2020 \$134,076.00, Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$137,644.00** This budget has been updated to show approved increases in compensation.

Town Clerk – Dept. 11 Current Budget 2019-2020 \$83,995.00, Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$85,500.00** This budget has been updated to show approved increases in compensation.

Fire Protection – Dept. 26 Current Budget 2019-2020 \$104,625.00, Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$102,331.00**. \$5,000 had been taken out of Fire Protection Wages, but has been put back in view of all the disinfecting that has to be done repeatedly.

Library – Dept. 21 Current Budget 2019-2020 \$157,760.00, Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$160,902.00**

Employee Benefits – Dept 71 Current Budget 2019-2020 \$421,354.00, Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$420,042.00** There have been some savings in health insurance due to working with the Region 6 Schools, Litchfield School District, the towns of Litchfield, Warren and Morris, and the Woodridge Lake Sewer District. Thank you to Chris Leone for all the work he did to pull this together.

Public Works – Dept. 02 Current Budget 2019-2020 \$1,102,672.00, Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$1,102,537.00** Garret Harlow said that they managed to keep the budget to a 0% increase. They have been able to get lower pricing on items such as salt and fuel.

Recreation - Dept 22 Current Budget 2019-2020 \$198,049, Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$192,540.00**

Town Office Building – Dept. 61 Current Budget 2019-2020 \$69,206.00 Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$70,802.00**

Capital Expenditures - Proposed Budget 2020-2021 **\$993,980.00** Capital expenditures will be suspended for now and may be revisited at a later time.

SELECTMAN'S REPORT: Given by Robert Valentine, First Selectman


- There is a spending freeze in effect. There will be judicious spending in areas of critical concern. There will be an inspection of the roads with the most critical areas being repaired. There are some materials on hand which can be used. Money may also be spent on things that affect the economy and health, both physical and mental.

- The Library and Recreation Department are implementing new programs. The library may open up with pick up only. Patrons would use the online catalog to request books which then could be picked up at the library.
- Town employees are still at work with only one person in an office at a time. Some are working from home. Others are working from home.
- FEMA will reimburse 75% for some expenses related to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The state has an agreement with the owners to purchase the property at Beach Hill Rd. We were also notified that the Highlands Grant was approved for the East St. North property. There will need to be a town meeting to allow an easement.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Ned Bixler made a motion seconded by Allan Walker to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rebecca Burcroff* 

Rebecca Burcroff, clerk

Received April 27, 2020 9:56 AM  
 Attest: Barbara Z. Buer  
 Goshen Town Clerk