

GOSHEN BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

Date: JANUARY 27, 2021

This meeting was held by zoom.us and a recording is available.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Allan D. Walker called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Allan D. Walker, Scott Tillmann, Ned Bixler, Russell Hurley, William Lane and alternates Alan Booth and Patrick Reilly.

Excused: Jim Korner

OTHERS: First Selectman, Robert Valentine; First Selectman's Administrative Assistant/Office Manager, Virginia Perry; Public Works Supervisor, Garret Harlow; Fire Chief, Barry Hall. .

SEATING OF ALTERNATE:

In a motion made by Ned Bixler, seconded by Scott Tillmann, it was voted to seat Patrick Reilly as a regular member. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 16, 2020:

In a motion made by Bill Lane, seconded by Russell Hurley, it was voted to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2020 meeting as corrected. (Mr. Valentine brought attention to the second page, second bullet. It reads, "We applied to the Connecticut Department of Labor for an extension of the shared work program which allows us to pay the library employees for hours that they were not able to work because of Covid." The underlined portion should read, "**employees to receive unemployment for the hours they were unable to work because of Covid restrictions.**") The motion passed.

THE FINANCIAL REPORT: The financial report for 12/31/20 from Debbie Franklin was received and reviewed. Mr. Valentine did note that we are running a little high on a few things.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT: The tax collector's report was unavailable. However Mr. Valentine reported that the tax collections are on par with last year.

CONSIDERATION OF 2021 CAPITAL REQUESTS:

It was agreed that the capital requests for the Fire Company and Public Works were the top priority. Garret Harlow said that Public Works could put off the equipment replacement and the public works complex project for a little while. The priorities for Public Works was \$160,000.00 for the replacement of two trucks and \$270,000.00 for the Major Road project which would include paving the rest of School Hill Rd. and Sucker Brook Rd. for a total of \$430,000.00

Barry Hall said that all of these requests were important and that they have been patching and getting used parts to keep things going. It is important to keep up with the funding or you will have to play catch-up later. It was agreed to recommend funding for the Fire Company as follows:

Ambulance	\$22,000.00
Building Maintenance Project	\$1,000.00
Fire Engine #1	\$90,000.00
Fire Engine #2	\$66,000.00
Fire Fighting Equipment	\$5,000.00
New Equipment-Medical	\$5,000.00
Radio	\$6,000.00

This is a total of \$195,000.00 for the Fire Company. The total for the Fire Company and Public Works is \$625,000.00

A motion was made by Ned Bixler and seconded by Scott Tillmann to add \$625,000.00 to Capital Non-Recurring, \$195,000.00 for the Fire Company and \$430,000.00 for Public Works. The motion passed. This is the first step and then it will go to a Town Meeting to be voted upon.

CONSIDERATION OF BUDGETS: The following budgets were presented for review and receipt by the Board of Finance:

ASSESSMENT APPEALS - DEPT. 32

Current Budget 2020-2021 \$1,932.00, Proposed Budget 2021-2022 \$1,992.00.

WELFARE - DEPT. 58

Current Budget 2020-2021 \$6,948.00, Proposed Budget 2021-2022 \$6,948.00.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY - DEPT. 46

Current Budget 2020-2021 \$340.00, Proposed Budget 2021-2022 \$340.00.

LAND USE ENFORCEMENT - DEPT. 43

Current Budget 2020-2021 \$19,441.00, Proposed Budget 2021-2022 \$19,441.00

FIRE COMMISSIONERS - DEPT. 27

Current Budget 2020-2021 \$2,179.00, Proposed Budget 2021-2022 \$2,179.00

FIRE MARSHAL - DEPT 25

Current Budget 2020-2021 \$13,171.00, Proposed Budget 2021-2022 \$ 13,171.00.

TREASURER - DEPT 13

Current Budget 2020-2021 \$9,213.00, Proposed Budget 2021-2022 \$9,213.00.

INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSIONS - DEPT 45

Current Budget 2020-2021 \$5,151.00, Proposed Budget 2021-2022 \$5,054.00.

REPORT FROM FIRST SELECTMAN: by Robert Valentine

- The town received FEMA reimbursement for some of our expenses. Allowable expenses for FEMA included labor, above our normal hours, and supplies, sanitizer, cleaning etc. The total was \$7,856.04 at 75% reimbursable equals \$5,892.03
- We also received reimbursement for Items not allowed by FEMA from the State COVID Relief Fund (CRF). Two payments one for \$14,903.48 and one \$16,136 were received. Items included our zoom meeting expenses along with the Tech to facilitate it, lap tops for staff to work from home, IT support, Vapor cleaner for the Ambulance, plexiglass etc.
- The Board of Selectmen dedicated 10% of our last CFR payment to Torrington Area Health District along with the other TAHD towns, to help offset some of their added expenses.
- We have locked out heating Oil, Diesel and gas for next fiscal year at;

<u>Heating Oil - 12,500 gals;</u>	<u>Diesel-11,500 gals;</u>	<u>Gasoline-4,100 gals;</u>
\$1.7787/gallon	\$1.8043/gallon	\$1.7513/gallon

- Randi Frank has updated the pay matrix and recommends a 2.5% merit budget.


Patrick Reilly made a motion seconded by Bill Lane to accept the Randy Frank report and recommend a 2.5% merit budget. The motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD: Scott Tillman asked to have a statement about use of Zoom for meetings recorded in the minutes. He as well as others have had trouble getting logged in and the meeting was running by the time he got on. Tonight the meeting was delayed because someone was having trouble logging in. The opening of the meeting should wait until everyone can get on. Mr. Valentine suggested that people try logging on about 15 minutes early so if they are having trouble we can help walk them through the necessary steps.

A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY: Bill Lane, seconded by Scott Tillman. Adjourned at 8:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Burcroff 

Rebecca Burcroff
Board of Finance Clerk

Received Jan. 29, 2021 @ 12:03 PM.
Attest Barbara L. Biles
Goshen Town Clerk

