

GOSHEN BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING - MINUTES
NOVEMBER 16, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairmen Allan Walker called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

2. ATTENDANCE: Allan D. Walker, Ned Bixler, Edward Davidson, Richard Reis, Scott Tillman; Alternates: Russell Hurley, George Zeidenstein.
Also present: First Selectman Robert Valentine, Chris Sanders of West Side Pond and Simon Ellis of West Side Pond

EXCUSED: James Korner, it was noted by Chairman Allan Walker that Mr. Korner was, at this time upstairs, serving on the Recreation Search Committee on behalf of the BOF.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A MOTION WAS MADE by Richard Reis **SECONDED BY** Ned Bixler it was **VOTED** to approve the minutes of October 26, 2016. Noted for correction under **ATTENDANCE:** Richard Reis name had appeared twice, the second time was under Alternates and should be corrected to read: Russell Hurley. Under **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**, Ned Richard Reis corrected to Richard Reis. Voted unanimous.

4. The regular order of business was deferred so that Mr. Chris Sanders and First Selectman Bob Valentine could speak before the Board of Finance on the behalf of West Side Pond and Tyler Lake.

Mr. Sanders came before the board stating that both West Side pond and Tyler Lake have formed their own 501c3 Associations, and now shall be known as Friends of West Side Pond (FOWSP) and Tyler Lake Protective Association (TLPA). West Side Pond is waiting for approval for the 501c3 status and Tyler Lake has received its approval. First Selectman Robert Valentine then went on to state, at the previous evenings BOS meeting it was discussed that both lakes are now considered formal entities. Because both lakes are now considered 501c3 Associations, it is recommended that the town release all funds raised by these two groups to their respective Associations. It was duly noted that as of this time Dog Pond has not yet formed any type of association and therefore the town would continue to act as fiscal agent on their behalf. Chairman Allan Walker then asked what of the monies allocated by the town for the remediation of these lakes? Selectman Valentine responded that as of this time Tyler lake had used approximately \$4,500.00 for consulting fee's with NEAR (North East Aquatic Research) and West Side Pond had used \$4,315.00 for consulting with NEAR. Dog Pond had used all of the \$10,000.00 allocated by the town for weed harvesting over the summer. Selectman Valentine went on to say that the BOS recommends the remaining balance of the appropriated monies be transferred to the two respective Associations, TLPA and FOWSP. Mr. Scott Tillman asked if the town had gone over all of the checks and balances to see if all requirements were met and Selectman Valentine said that all requirements were met. Selectman Valentine then went on to state that because these lakes play such an important part in the community and for the town's well being, it is highly recommended that the town consider appropriating funds to these associations as part of the annual budget. This would require that both Associations submit an annual

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report to the town to show fiscal responsibility in the spending of funds allocated by the town for remediation purposes. It was also resolved that the Lake Weed Committee remains intact so that the town has an active interest in the state of all three lakes. There was some discussion from Mr. Zeidenstein with regards to the town being involved with the lakes to which Selectman Robert Valentine responded that would be the purpose of the Lake Weed Committee. Mr. Reis explained the benefits of having a Town Lake Weed Committee. Chairman Allan Walker stated that this would create an opportunity for the Town of Goshen to remain involved and keep current it's interest in the state of the lakes, as it does with various other organizations such as Susan B. Anthony, FISH, Torrington Area Health. IN A MOTION made by Ned Bixler, seconded by Richard Reis, it was VOTED to transfer the remaining balance of Town appropriated funds as well as the remaining balance of designated/donated Lake Weed funds over to Tyler Lake Protective Association and to the Friends of West Side Pond Association. Voted unanimous.

Chris Sanders and Simon Ellis left the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 31, 2016:

The Board of Finance reviewed the Financial Reports submitted by Debbie Franklin, Accounting Consultant. There were no errors, omissions or questions forthcoming. It was noted by Selectman Bob Valentine noted that under Repairs and Maintenance there were additional costs from larger projects to include: Library lights, bulbs and ballast and striping of the town hall parking lot. Chairman Allan Walker had the minutes reflect that the reports were duly received by the Board of Finance Members.

6. TAX COLLECTORS REPORT: The report for the Tax Collector was received and reviewed by the Board of Finance.

7. REPORT FROM THE FIRST SELECTMAN: First Selectman Bob Valentine reported that the selectman and Public Works continue to work with Connecticut DOT on Rural Minor Collector Grant for work on Milton Road for next year. The reason that the scope of work is moving so slowly is due in part to the inflexible and strict guidelines by the State of Connecticut DOT personnel. It is the town's hope that reasonable standards will be applied so that we may move forward in order to get as much work done as possible in a timely matter and fiscally efficient manner.

BNE Energy was unsuccessful with its RFP to DEEP for renewable energy. At this time BNE president Gregory Zupkus has informed us that that they are now considering their options and will decide on what direction they wish to take this. The Town will continue to monitor the situation. In the meantime we are working with Representative Jay Case to get a copy of the letter sent to BNE by DEEP concerning the RFP proposal.

8. CORRESPONDENCE: None

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9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE MEETING:

Chairman Allan Walker asked the committee that as the town starts the budget process if there were any questions, concerns or suggestion to be made? George Ziedenisstein asked about the order in which a budget is reviewed by the BOF, and ultimately where in the responsibility is it that said department's budget is approved. Chairman Allan Walker responded that when a budget goes before the BOF it is proposed showing the departments original request and the Selectman's changes to the request. After being reviewed, it is then determined by the board if said changes are to be made. Chairman Allan Walker reminded the committee that if anyone disputed or disagreed with the budget proposals made they would be welcome to come before the BOF to state their case.

10. IN A MOTION made by Ned Bixler and seconded by Edward Davidson, it was **VOTED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nell Glass

Town of Goshen Finance Clerk

Received Nov 18, 2016 10:39 AM
Attest Megan Scanlon
ASST Goshen Town Clerk