

GOSHEN BOARD OF FINANCE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
**September 28, 2022**

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

**ATTENDANCE:** Allan D. Walker Sr – Chairman, William Lane, Scott Tillmann, James Korner, Ned Bixler  
Robert Valentine, Russel Murdock.

Also in attendance was First Selectman, Todd Carusillo and the Garret Harlow Supervisor of Public works.  
Fire Commissioner Donald Sage, Fire Chief Barry Hall, Patrick Lucas, Matt Grosclaude

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Review of the minutes of August 24, 2022

Todd Carusillo noted the error in the Selectman's Report section where the attorney final billing expense. It should have stated a total of \$ 4250.00

Bill Lane noted that the 4th paragraph under Tax Collector Report should state "Bill Lane noted..." not "Bill Reilly noted".

Bob Valentine reported the 4th paragraph under Tax Collector Report should state the contingency adjustments were from the report from Debbie Franklin not the Tax collector report. The second paragraph of Selectman report noted the second part of the ARPA tranche was expected 12-30 of August. This should state August 30, 2022. Bob requested additional information on the Leya Edison review in the Selectman's report. Todd stated the review was due to a FOIA complaint that was reviewed.

Ned Bixler made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of August 24, 2022, with the corrections noted.

It was seconded by Jim Korner. The motion passed unanimously

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

Discussion: Received and reviewed Financial Reports from Debbie Franklin for August. No question comments or concerns.

**TAX COLLECTORS REPORT**

Discussion: Received and reviewed The Tax Collector's dated for August. No question comments or concerns.

**SELECTMAN'S REPORT**

Given by Todd Carusillo

The second part of the ARPA tranche has been delayed. It is now expected by October 3, 2022, for \$278k.

Superintendent Chris Leone advised that the projected costs is lower for 23/24 is 8.1 compared to 8.3 due to lower student count

The costs for an EV charger is \$178k and will cost the town \$60k each including grants. Russel Murdock asked if installing EV chargers were required and the answer in no. The return on the chargers is estimated at \$97,000 over five years or \$37,000 *if* 5 cars use it every day. It was noted that public chargers are often not used. This item is closed.

## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Garret Harlow - Public works.** Public works needs to replace a 32-year-old tractor used road grading that has been mechanically troublesome over the years. Garret has been looking for a replacement for this tractor and found a used tractor under 500 hours being sold on consignment through Ruwet Sibley, priced at \$35k. This used tractor has the lowest hours at the best price he has seen to date. Garret has priced a new tractor through Sourcewell and for a slightly higher price would get a smaller tractor without a cab.

Garret is requesting \$20k in addition capital funds for equipment replacement and to move \$20k from COMPLEX EXP to the Equipment Replacement line item of the capital budget for a total of \$40k into the Equipment Replacement line item.

The \$20k in COMPLEX EXP was not earmarked for any one item and was expected to be used for the shop roof in the future. The 25 year old shop roof has a rubber roof which has held up well and it is being watched and is expected to last more years.

Bob Valentine noted that we have two Heston tractors as the Woodridge Lake sewer district gave the town of Goshen one that was identical to the existing one in the town. Garret said the replacement schedule for the tractor replacement had passed and the money was used for the tractor used for roadside mowing tractor.

Bob Valentine expressed concerns that the roof has already exceeded its life span and how would they budget for the roof. Garret said the roof will last a few more years and he would replace the money during the next fiscal budget season. Garret has \$85,900 in this line item and expects the roof to cost approximately \$70k. Garret has patched a few places on the seams and said the rubber roof is pitched which helps to keep it from deteriorating. The tractor is operable and was used this week.

Scott Tillman asked what the two Heston's were worth. Garret said the selling websites are asking about \$5k with a loader like our tractor. We don't have the other tractor, it was sold for \$2500 with the mower as the transmission was an issue, the 3-point hitch was broken, and the loader frame had problems. Garret expects the sale of the existing 45 HP tractor to bring about \$3000.

The tractor is needed starting in October. The hope is in the future it can be used to mow town properties. It is an M-9000 Kubota, 90 HP, about a 2005, with approximately 475 hours and has been garaged.

Bob Valentine inquired about competitive pricing. Garret has not been able to find a comparable used tractor and compared the cost of the used tractors to new tractors. Total price for a new tractor is about \$70-80k

Scott Tillman made a motion to add \$20k in capital funds for equipment replacement and to move \$20k from COMPLEX EXP to the Equipment Replacement line item of the capital budget. It was seconded by Ned Bixler. The one Nay vote was Bob Valentine. The motion passed

Discussion:

**Fire Chief Barry Hall with members of truck committee;** Patrick Lucas, Matt Grosclaude,

The firetruck committee was formed about a year ago and was tasked to find a replacement for Engine 1, and to replicate the current truck which is a 2001 Pierce Pumper, 1500 gpm pump, 1000 gallon water tank / Compressed Air Foam System

The team members looked at several manufacturing and sales companies and identified a Pierce Enforcer Chassis similar to current Engine 3 with 1200 gallon tank, 1500 gpm pump, 50 gal foam solution, 6 man cab, 500 hp cummings diesel engine, and automatic transmission. The price was obtained and then was trimmed of items that were deemed unnecessary. There is currently \$868,000 set aside for this truck not including ARPA funds. There is enough money with the ARPA funds

The price through Sourcewell and Firematic is \$946,664. This includes two discounts from Sourcewell HGAC discount of \$8,137 and the 100% Prepay discount/net 30 of \$47,518. Firematic would include a performance bond, which has not been received for review yet.

Firematic reported that Pierce has incurred a 13% cost increase from Cummings diesel. Pierce will implement a 5% cost increase on November 1 and expects another cost increase around Jan/Feb for a similar amount.

Bob Valentine asked how Sourcewell works and ties to the town purchase policy. Matt Grosclaude responded that Pierce and Firematic use this service, and the town has adopted Sourcewell as a process. Rather than obtaining the 3 competitive bids, the truck committee choose work with Sourcewell as they could get what they needed and it was important to beat the November price increase. Obtaining the competitive bids will extend the purchase process through the November 1<sup>st</sup> price increase and possibly the Jan/Feb increase as well.

Bill Lane read from Open Federal Contract under Section C of the purchasing policy: "Departments may utilize open contracts for the federal government state of Connecticut, Litchfield County, Litchfield Hills consul of elected officials and regional consortiums when such contacts are deemed the best overall value for the town."

Bill Lane spoke of the Board of Fire Commissioner special meeting where the truck committee reviewed the provided a comprehensive presentation. The original price was over one million and discounts from Sourcewell and prepaying the contact saved \$47,518. Then the committee went back and found \$50,300 additional savings for items deemed non-essential as they wanted to provide the best possible price for the town. Bill Lane and Fire Commissioner Sage attended the Board of Fire Commissioner special meeting and the same truck would cost \$56,000 more if ordered after November 1 and the truck team had gotten 47,518 and then \$50,300 in discounts. Therefore the Board of Fire Commissioner approved the request.

Donald Sage said there were problem with the other suppliers. The other contender used a different foam system that is incompatible within our current foam. The new truck would have the same foam as Engine 1 and Engine 3. The Fire chief is in agreement

Scott Tillman the truck committee explained the benefit of using the same manufacturer, similar truck, same pierce representative by Firematic and their service location.s Pierce who is represented by Firematic has two repair facilities one in in Patterson NY and one in Rockyhill.

A local manufacturer, Gowans-Knight from Watertown was not interested in bidding a 1200 gallon tank on a single axle custom pumper. Another manufacturer Sutphen represented by Shipman's was interested but has repair facilities in the southeast corner of the state of CT

We currently have a good relationship with Firematic and having similar trucks is preferable as all firemen use the three trucks at different time and will have familiarity operating them with similar controls.

Pay net 30, build schedule is 28/29 months and we do not earn interest as money sits with them and the performance bond is included so we do not incur the escalation. We do not have a firm quote yet.

We have received \$145k in ARPA funds to date and the Fire Company was to receive \$199k towards the firetruck. Bob valentine noted that we have already gone to town and approved the arpa funds appropriations. The contract is net 30 and balance of the arpa funds are supposed to be here Oct 3, 2022. Todd concerned that as the \$145k was received and has not been allocated as we were waiting on the full balance. We have already approved the \$199k for the firetruck.

The capital non-recurring report does not include the arpa funds and should accurately reflect what was approved at the town meeting. Todd will ensure the report will reflect what was approved the town meeting. Therefore \$100k will be moved today and the balance when it arrives.

Bob Valentine recommended the 1M bond to be reviewed by the town attorney. Todd will talk to the attorney.

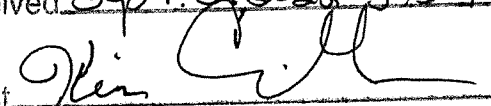
Allan Walker stated that as the budget season is beginning that any recommendations to changes to the budget process and bring to the next meeting.

**ADJOURN:**

Russel Murdock made a motion to adjourn the meeting\_It was seconded by Bob Valentine and there were no nay votes. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Lee M. Kennedy

  
Board of Finance Clerk

Received Sept. 29, 2022 3:32 PM  
Attest   
Assistant Goshen Town Clerk