

GOSHEN BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2016

PRESENT: Allan D. Walker, James Korner, Scott Tillmann, Edward Davidson and Richard Reis.

EXCUSED: Ned Bixler, George Zeidenstein, Russell Hurley

ALSO PRESENT: First Selectman Robert Valentine, Region 6 Superintendent Edward Drapp, Bill Gelormino and Rhonda Gelormino.

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

Chairman Allan Walker deferred the regular order of business to Edward Drapp, Region 6 Superintendent, so that he could present the proposed 2016/2017 School budget. Superintendent Drapp then presented and reviewed a handout, which gave a detailed 2016/17 budget summary showing the revenue, expenses and assessment. The report showed a proposed budget of \$18,913,244 less revenue of \$1,916,849, for a net assessment to the towns of \$16,996,395. It is an increase of 1.95% over the current budget. The proposed \$7,170,354 assessment for Goshen is based on a drop in the number of students attending Goshen from the current 327 down to 324 for 2016/17, a drop of 1.99%. Superintendent Ed Drapp went on to detail new initiatives benefiting students for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math), Talented and Gifted program, after school activity buses, Achieve 3000 Reading program, Drumline, additional on site college courses, paraeducators and Wamogo maintenance projects. Salaries and benefits are up by \$180,030 under the proposal, however debt service, transportation and operations and maintenance show a decrease of \$42,789. The meeting was opened for questions or comments on the proposed Region 6 Education budget.

GOSHEN BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2016

Page 2

Chairman Allan Walker along, with other members of the Finance Board commended Mr. Drapp for his continued efforts to keep the spending level down while striving to improve student outcomes with progressive initiatives in education. Allan Walker noted that it was customary in years past for the Boards of Finance to meet with the Boards of Education in budget summits. To which Ed Drapp responded that due to poor turnout in years past the Board of Education, moved to the one on one meetings with each of the towns. Allan Walker also noted that Boards of Finance should be included in all future administration and teacher contract negotiations. There was some discussion with regards to the matter, it was concluded that this was an oversight and would be corrected. Richard Reis requested that it would be helpful when reviewing the proposed school budgets from Region 6, Actual Totals be posted as well as Projected Totals. There was no further discussion on the Region 6 budget and Superintendent Drapp left the meeting at 8:50 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the January 27, 2016 meeting were presented for approval. A **MOTION WAS MADE BY** James Korner seconded by Richard Reis to approve the minutes. **SO VOTED** Scott Tillman abstained from voting.

BUDGET/ FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 01/31/16: The minutes show Board receipt and review of the Budget report prepared by Financial Consultant, Debbie Franklin.

GOSHEN BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2016

Page 3

TAX COLLECTOR REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 31, 2016: The Tax Collectors report was reviewed and a **MOTION TO RECEIVE WAS MADE BY:** Richard Reis and seconded by Jim Korner, **SO VOTED.**

BOARD RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF PROPOSED 2016/17 DEPARTMENT BUDGETS:

Presented to the Board for consideration were the following 2016/2017 proposed budgets:

PLANNING AND ZONING: Current budget 2015/16 \$3,275.00, proposed 2016/17 \$3,125.00. There was a decrease of \$150.00, no discussion. **RECEIVED AND REVIEWED**

BOARD OF ASSESSORS: Current budget 2015/16 \$65,041.00, proposed 2016/17 \$64,876.00. There was a decrease of \$165.00 due to an adjustment in computer support with Quality Data Services and Vision Government Solutions, both of which are integral to the function of this office. **RECEIVED AND REVIEWED**

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: Current budget 2015/16 \$2,041.00, proposed 2016/17 \$2,101.00. There was an increase of \$60.00 meeting dues were under budget, this is based on past history and adjusted accordingly. **RECEIVED AND REVIEWED**

GOSHEN BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2016

Page 4

BUILDING OFFICIAL – DEPARTMENT – 5: Current budget 2015/16 \$48,335.00, proposed 2016/17 \$54,049.00. There was an increase of \$5,714.00. This coming from the Building Official's compensation which is based on \$20,000 annually; plus 30% of permit fees. Estimated for 16/17 fee's \$65,000 x .3% = 19,500. The budgeted permit process fee is based on 350 permits being issued at \$10.00 per permit. Please see Selectman's Report for details regarding the permits.

RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

CIVIL PREPAREDNESS – DEPARTMENT – 29 Current budget 2015/16 \$ 8,113.00, proposed 2016/17 \$ 8,113.00 No change. RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

CONSERVATION COMMISSION – DEPARTMENT – 44
Current budget 2015/16 \$ 1,167.00, proposed 2016/17 \$ 1,167.00
No change. RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

CONSERVATION HEALTH – DEPARTMENT - 51
Current budget 2015/16 \$ 71,017.00, proposed 2016/17
\$72,286.68. There was an increase of \$1,269.68 this comes from
an increase in 911 calling. (Litchfield County Dispatch)
RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

GOSHEN BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2016
Page 5

ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT - 14 Current budget 2015/16 \$29,809.00, proposed 2016/17 \$31,781.00. There was an increase of \$1,972.00. The increase coming from the education of 3 new moderators and the Registrar's will need to complete their certification classes totaling \$1,200. This is a Presidential election year requiring additional election workers. RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

SELECTMAN DEPARTMENT - 01 Current budget 2015/16 \$126,251.00, proposed 2016/17 \$123,654.00. A decrease of \$2,597.00 due to a change in staffing. RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

STREET LIGHTS: Current budget 2015/16 \$13,545.00, proposed 2016/17 \$14,330.00, the increase is based on a 3year average with a 5.8% increase. RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

TAX COLLECTOR DEPARTMENT - 12 Current budget 2015/16 \$40,915.00, proposed 2016/17 \$38,101.00 due to a change in staffing. RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

TOWN CLERK DEPARTMENT 11 Current budget 2015/16 \$80,430.00, proposed 2016/17 \$78,081.00. There was a decrease of \$2,349.00 due in part to an adjustment in wages. RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

GOSHEN BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2016

Page 6

INLAND WETLAND COMMISSION – 45 Current budget
2015/16 \$5,227.00, proposed 2016/17 \$3,950.00
RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

GOSHEN & CORNWALL TRANSIT BUS:

There was some discussion on the use of grants and sharing of responsibilities with the Town of Cornwall. The bus has not yet been purchased and details are still being worked on. There will be revenue and grants to off set the cost. Proposed 2016/17 \$55,982.00 RECEIVED AND REVIEWED

REPORT FROM THE FIRST SELECTMAN: First Selectman Bob Valentine reports that the town has signed a contract with Point Software of East Longmeadow Massachusetts. This is for a Cloud based permit system that will be used by the Building Department and the Land Use Department. There will be a \$10.00 process fee, per permit, paid by the town to Point Software. To cover the cost of the fee for the Building Dept, the Board of Selectmen added a \$10.00 processing fee to all building permits. In the future, at the annual budget meeting, the Board of Selectmen will ask the town's people to add a \$10.00 process fee to all Land Use Permits.

Work on the design for the Shelborne Drive project continues. The cost of surveying, topography and engineering will be \$19,000.00. Woodridge Lake Property Owners Association has agreed to spend

GOSHEN BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2016

Page 7

\$9,500.00, which is half the amount. This will come from the capitol non-recurring funds contributed by Woodridge Lake Property Owners Association for Woodridge Lake Storm Water Improvements.

Last year the Town of Goshen entered into a contract with Dime Oil for gasoline, diesel and heating oil for the period of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. The prices per gallon at this time were as follows: \$2.0792 Gasoline, \$2.0727 Diesel, and \$1.8942 Heating Oil. As part of the contract it was agreed the town use 98% of the contracted for each, or pay the differential between the contract price and the market price for all gallons not used. Because this winter has been much warmer than anticipated and our usage is less than anticipated the town is responsible for a differential of \$0.8523 per gallon for heating oil not used for the past six months. At the end of the contract the balance will be recalculated, which will most likely result in an additional charge. Given the substantially warmer winter and lower prices the town will most likely be under budget by years end.

The Town Hall Furnace will need to be replaced. The town secured four proposals and Dave Harmon Plumbing and Heating was the lowest bidder at \$7,108.73. Richard Reis **MADE A MOTION** to appropriate from un-assigned General Fund balance \$10,000 to Capital Non-recurring to cover the cost replace the Town Hall furnace. James Korner **SECONDED THE MOTION,**
VOTED UNANIMOUS

CORRESPONDENC: None

There was no other business to come before the meeting. A
MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY James Korner
seconded by Richard Reis

Respectfully submitted,



Nell Glass - Board of Finance Clerk

Received March 1, 2016 10:28 AM

Attest: Barbara Z. Blevins
Goshen Town Clerk