



# Town of Griswold

Board of Finance  
Special Meeting  
March 16, 2021  
7:00 PM

Griswold Middle School Gym/ Via Teleconference  
MINUTES



**1. Roll Call/Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM**

**Board of Finance Members Present:**

Scott Davis – Chairman  
Alex Grzelak – Vice Chairman  
Amanda Brycki  
Steve Mikutel  
Gail Rooke-Norman  
Daniel Webster  
Valerie Grills

**Also Present:**

Erik Christensen, Director of Finance  
Sean McKenna, Superintendent of Griswold Schools  
Jeannette Bell, Recording Secretary (via Zoom)  
Rob Parrette, Chairman Senior Building Committee  
Dave Fritz, PAC Group (via Zoom)  
Tina Falck, Senior Center Director  
31 Other People

**2. Public Forum**

**Dave Vieaux, Leha Ave** - Believes this entire matter should be turned over to the state for investigation.

**Ed Burdick, Voluntown Road** - Is concerned with the overage on the new senior center and believes the project should be finished in order to be able to use it. A solution needs to be put in place. He also feels the town needs to be straight with the taxpayers.

**3. Approval of minutes**

- a. **February 16, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.**
- b. **February 23, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes.**
- c. **March 4, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes.**

**MOTION:** G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** that was seconded by D. Webster to approve the above minutes as presented. All in favor; **motion carried.**

**4. New Business**

**a. Finance Directors monthly report.**

E. Christensen stated the revenues recorded to date are \$29,503,788.321 or 80.53% of

budgeted revenues. There are no major concerns with revenue shortfalls as it appears we will finish the year at or above budgeted figures. Expenditures recorded to date are \$22,144,619.14 or 60.44% of budgeted expenditures. There are a few additional items which are now overspent. There are no major concerns and we are projected to finish the year under budget. There was discussion regarding the legal settlements and legal matters which are overspent by approximately \$138,000 and it was noted to add this item to the next regular meeting and ask the Board of Selectmen to attend as well to further discuss the overage.

**b. Monthly report by Superintendent of Schools regarding Special Education tuition position.**

S. McKenna stated there are currently ten students associated with this position which is an increase of one student. Therefore, the updated total tuition is now \$225,073. It was requested to have the net amount for the next update.

**5. Old Business**

**a. Discussion and possible action on potential cost overruns for the new senior center construction project.**

There was much discussion between the Board of Finance members as well as Rob Parrette, Chairman of the Senior Center Building Committee and Dave Fritz, Construction Manager regarding the cost overruns and the best course of action to reduce the cost overrun but still be within the guidelines for a CO as well as meeting the necessary requirements of the fire Marshall and the Building Official. It was asked of Dave Fritz to reprice items once again in order to lower the cost with less expensive items to which he said he had done previously and would not be able to reprice it again. It was asked of the Senior Building Committee as well as the Senior Center staff to go through the list once again and make the cuts to present to the board of Finance for the final time in writing and signed off on. It was also asked to have the Fire Marshall and the Building Official present their report in writing on what is absolutely needed in order to get the CO. It was suggested to have members of the Board of Selectmen be at every meeting regarding this matter. It was noted to schedule a tentative Special Meeting for April 6, 2021 at 7:00 PM for further discussion and at that time all requested items should be presented.

**b. Discussion and possible action on setting FY21-22 budget schedule.**

After some discussion it was agreed to set the dates of March 23, 2021, March 30, 2021, and April 8, 2021 for budget meetings at 6:30 PM via Zoom.

**c. Update and discussion on bonding projects.**

E. Christensen noted the Gas Line project is basically complete. The Water and Sewer is moving along and we are waiting for final clarification from USDA.

**6. Any Other Business**

There was none.

**7. Public Forum**

**Dana Bennett, Dina Lane** – Wanted to note the property card for the new senior center belongs to the Griswold Housing Authority and not the town of Griswold.

**8. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** D. Webster made a **motion** that was seconded by V. Grills to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 PM. All in favor; **motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeannette Bell,  
Recording Secretary