



# Town of Griswold

Board of Finance  
Public Hearing  
April 3, 2018  
7:00pm



Griswold Middle School Cafeteria  
MINUTES

1. **Roll Call/Call to Order:** S. Davis opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 PM

**Board of Finance Members Present:**

Scott Davis – Chairman  
Steve Mikutel – Vice Chairman  
Brian Baker  
Valerie Grills  
Gary Levy  
Gail Rooke-Norman  
Dan Webster

**Also Present:**

Erik Christensen, Director of Finance  
Todd Babbitt, First Selectman  
Steve Merchant Sr., Second Selectman  
Sean McKenna, Superintendent of Griswold Schools  
Jeannette Bell, Recording Secretary  
18 Other People

2. **Public Input on the proposed 2018/2019 Fiscal Year Budget**

- **S. Davis, Chairman Board of Finance** opened the meeting with highlights of the current proposal for the Town Budget as well as the Board of Education budget. He stated the Board of Finance back in November had requested both the Education budget and the General Government budget to come in at a zero percent increase. The Education budget came in at a zero percent increase while the General Government budget came in at a .29% decrease. He stated as the numbers stand we are currently looking at an increase to the mill rate of 1.92 mills. He stated if a home is assessed at \$150,000 that would amount to a \$288.28 increase in taxes. He also spoke of the uncertainty regarding the State of Connecticut funding once again this year. He invited any residents to come forward and speak.
- **T. Babbitt, First Selectman** stated there is no more else that can be cut from the Town budget other than staff and services. He stated the situation we are in was not created by Griswold but from the State of Connecticut. He suggested to the Board of Finance to move forward with the necessary mill rate increase.
- **S. McKenna, Superintendent of Griswold Schools** stated the Board of Education budget was at a zero increase. He thanked the Board of Finance, the First Selectmen and the Director of Finance in all working together. He stated we

are victims of circumstance and it has been very frustrating for all involved due to the State cuts and holdbacks.

- **E. Berdick** commended the Town and Board of Education with their proposed budgets. He is opposed to a 2 mill increase and would support a 1 mill increase and suggested to take some money from cash reserves.
- **S. Davis** asked if there was anyone else who wanted to come forward to speak. After hearing none:

2. **Adjournment:** S. Davis closed the public hearing at 7:13 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeannette Bell  
Recording Secretary