



Town of Griswold

Board of Finance
Special Meeting
April 8, 2021
6:30 PM
Via Teleconference
MINUTES



1. Roll Call/Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM

Board of Finance Members Present:

Scott Davis – Chairman
Alex Grzelak – Vice Chairman
Amanda Brycki
Valerie Grills
Gail Rooke-Norman (arrived at 6:35)
Dan Webster
Steve Mikutel

Also Present:

Erik Christensen, Director of Finance
Todd Babbitt, First Selectman
Mario Tristany, Town Planner
Louis Demicco, AA Young VFD
Tom, Holowaty, Griswold VFD
James Barnie, Capital Committee
Ryan Aubin, Director Parks & Recreation
Theresa I. Madonna, Slater Library
Kenneth Bomba, Recording Secretary
9 Other People

2. New Business

a. Discussion and possible action on FY21-22 budget.

Planning – 6101 – M. Tristany presented the budget. He stated the secretary position is not funded again this year. He noted a large increase in the MS4, storm water program which is an unfunded State mandate.

Emergency Services – 2201 – L. Demicco presented for the AA Young VFD. He noted a \$2,099 increase in the budget this year. T. Holowaty presented for the GFVD. He noted a \$2,000 increase this year due to additional COVID related costs. A conversation followed on if and how COVID relief money could be applied to these additional costs.

Contributions – 4103 – E. Christensen noted that the BOF members have backup documentation in their packets pertaining to the contributions. T. Madonna spoke for the Slater library. She noted they are asking for \$5,000 more this year to offset fundraising losses due to the COVID shutdown. R. Aubin spoke for the Snowflake festival, he noted that this donation pays for the holiday lights on Main St. There was a discussion on the Youth Soccer Club donation request.

Capital Expenditure – 8501 – J. Barnie presented for the Capital Committee. He spoke about the value of the Town's property and the importance of budgeting for capital

improvements and maintenance annually to prevent unexpected costs in the future. He noted that the BOE removed some of their capital requests because they were able to fund them thru grants. He then presented the items the committee wished to fund in this budget. A discussion followed on the need and financing opportunities for some of the capital request items.

Youth & Family/ Parks & Rec – 5301 – R. Aubin presented the budget. He noted that in addition to the normal contractual increases, he needs to fund the Summer Rec program that was cut last year. In addition, the cost of that program is higher due to COVID related mandates. A discussion followed on camp scholarships, and custodial supplies.

Board of Selectman – 1201 – T. Babbitt presented the budget, he noted increases in salaries, health insurance and pensions. There was a discussion on workers compensation costs and how salary increases are calculated as well as the Grant Writer position.

Waste Disposal – 3204 – T. Babbitt presented the budget, he noted 2 increases, tipping fees and dumpster replacement. A discussion on tipping fees and transfer station permits followed. T. Babbitt stated that they only try to only break even on the Transfer Station costs, when determining the cost of the permits.

Highway – 3201 – T. Babbitt presented the budget, he noted changes to salary, pension, and health insurance in the budget. There was a discussion on the Equipment purchases and Tree Maintenance, and Bulky Waste Overtime. D. Webster suggested the town increase the purchase price for permits for residents. There was also discussion on funding the Public Works Director position.

Building Official – 3301- E. Christensen presented the budget. He noted only contractual increases, and an increase in Supplies as new code books are required. There was some discussion on Meetings and Dues, Overtime, and Contractual Help.

Debt Retirement – 8101 – E. Christensen presented this budget, he noted these are the best estimates available at this time. A discussion followed on the converting the bond anticipation notes to bonds, and possibly refinancing current bonds.

3. **Adjournment**

MOTION: D. Webster made a **motion** that was seconded by S. Mikutel to adjourn the meeting at 8:08PM. All in favor; **motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary
Kenneth Bomba