



Town of Griswold

Board of Finance
Special Meeting
May 21, 2020
7:00 PM
Via Teleconference
MINUTES



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

Board of Finance Members Present:

Brian Baker – Chairman
Scott Davis– Vice Chairman
Alex Grzelak arrived at 7:06PM
Valerie Grills
Gail Rooke-Norman
Dan Webster arrived at 7:01PM

Steve Mikutel

Also Present:

Erik Christensen, Interim Director of Finance
Sean McKenna, Superintendent of Griswold Schools
Todd Babbitt, First Selectman arrived at 7:04PM
Jeannette Bell, Recording Secretary
39 Oher People

2. **Old Business**

a. **Discussion on public feedback FY20-21 budget.**

B. Baker asked however no one had any comments.

b. **Discussion and possible action on FY20-21 budget.**

B. Baker noted the 14 day posting criteria of the budget on the Towns website has been met according to the Towns Attorney. He also stated an additional 14 day posting after the budget is finalized is not required. B. Baker stated the Board of Education was able to make their final adjustments to their budget to achieve the \$720,032.00 the Board of Finance asked them to cut at the previous meeting. The final budget number for the BOE FY20/21 is \$28,451,768.00. There was some discussion regarding the HVAC repairs and possibly funding that from the Capital budget. It was noted the total Capital budget is \$1,289,155.00 which includes \$208,000.00 for the HVAC repairs. **MOTION:** G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** that was seconded by S. Davis that in view of the emergency and other conditions caused by the Covid-19 situation and in view of the recommendation of the Board of Selectman that the Board of Finance concurs with waiving the requirements of the ordinance as far as spending requirements over last years budget. There was discussion. **Withdraw:** S. Davis **withdrew** his second. **Amend:** G. Rooke-Norman **amended** her **motion** which was seconded by S. Davis to include noting we are exceeding the ordinance cap by \$183,134.00. There was discussion. All in favor; **motion carried.** There was additional discussion on the Public Works Director position regarding the salary along with the insurance benefits. The Board of Finance requested to have the attorneys opinion on whether that position needs to continue to be funded. It was noted this was asked at a previous meeting held in April 2020. There was discussion.

MOTION: S. Davis made a **motion** that was seconded by D. Webster that we appropriate

\$208,000.00 from surplus to be placed in the Capital budget as a sub line to 5710R titled BOE HVAC upgrades. After further discussion, **Withdraw:** D. Webster **withdrew** his second. **Amend:** S. Davis **amended** his **motion** which was seconded by D. Webster to include the verbiage this transfer is a one- time expense. All in favor; **motion carried.** The Board of Finance thanked all parties for all budgets for coming together in order to get this budget to a ½ mill increase. It was noted hard cuts were made to all budgets in order to achieve that. **MOTION:** S. Davis made a **motion** that was seconded by D. Webster to approve the FY 20/21 budget for a total of \$36,639,231.00 which consists of the General Government budget of \$8,187,463.00 and the Board of Education budget of \$28,451,768.00. There was further discussion. G. Rooke-Norman, Valerie Grills, A. Grzelak and S. Davis voted in favor. S. Mikutel and D. Webster opposed. **motion carried** with a vote of 4 yays and 2 nays. **MOTION:** D. Webster made a **motion** that was seconded by S. Davis to set the mill rate for FY20/21 budget at 29.10 or ½ mill increase. **Withdraw:** D. Webster **withdrew** his second. **Amend:** S. Davis **amended** his **motion** that was seconded by D. Webster to include the words to forward the recommendation to the Board of Selectman as needed. All in favor; **motion carried.**

3. Adjournment

MOTION: S. Mikutel made a **motion** that was seconded by D. Webster to adjourn the meeting at 7:49PM. All in favor; **motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeannette Bell
Recording Secretary