



Town of Griswold

Board of Finance
Special Meeting
May 05, 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
Valerie Grills
Gail Rooke-Norman
Dan Webster
Steve Mikutel

Also Present:

Julie Marcotte, Director of Finance
Sean McKenna, Superintendent of Griswold Schools
Todd Babbitt, First Selectman
Jeannette Bell, Recording Secretary
18 Other People

2. Old Business

a. Discussion and possible action on FY20-21 budget.

There was much discussion regarding the revenues expected from the state as well as what percentage of tax revenues that might be collected due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Given the unemployment rate as well as the uncertainty with funding, the Board of Finance has the harrowing task of passing a budget while keeping the best interest of the taxpayer in mind. T. Babbitt stated he spoke with CCM and OPM and they both believe all things will stay funded from the state, however there are no guarantees. S. McKenna stated school is officially closed till the end of the school year. He noted there could be savings from having the buildings closed, no sports and no buses. However, with that he noted once school does open up in the fall there will most likely be added expenses for preparing for the next school year. J. Marcotte stated the BOE budget increase is 5.09%, the General Government budget increase is 6.57%, the Capital budget increase is 51.96% and the Debt Service budget increase is 9.94%. It was noted the maximum amount of increase over last year's budget in order to stay in compliance with the ordinance is \$526,855.00 including Debt Service of \$177,517.00 or 1.5%. After much discussion regarding the proposed budgets it was the consensus of the Board of Finance that the budgets as presented need to be adjusted. It was suggested to return all budgets back and have each entity sharpen their pencil and come back before the Board of Finance with their new proposed budgets. A poll was taken of the board members of what they would support for a mill increase. It was noted the debt service for the three projects voted on and approved by the taxpayers was \$177,517.00 or a .24 mill rate increase. The Board of Education, General Government

and Capital budgets were then advised to come back to the Board of Finance with an increase of no more than ¼ mil. This would only be an increase of \$190,755.00 for all three budgets combined. The Board of Finance members have scheduled a Special Meeting for May 14th to review the newly revised proposed budgets. It was noted the information on the town website needs to include what the increase would be for a house assessed at \$150,000.00 and \$200,000.00 as the mill rate is adjusted in order to be transparent to the taxpayers. It was also noted to have an updated spreadsheet with the scenarios for different mill rate increases.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: S. Mikutel made a **motion** that was seconded by V. Grills to adjourn the meeting at 8:28PM. All in favor; **motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeannette Bell
Recording Secretary