



# Town of Griswold

Board of Finance

Special Meeting

April 12, 2016

7:00 PM

Griswold Senior Center

APPROVED 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

Brian Baker – Vice Chairman

Peter Dorff

Gary Levy

Gail Rooke-Norman arrived at 7:05PM

Dan Webster

John Wolkowski

**Also Present:**

Erik Christensen, Director of Finance

Erin Palonen, Special Education Director

Susan Rourke, Interim Superintendant Griswold Schools

Jeannette Bell, Recording Secretary

9 Other People

**2. Pledge of Allegiance.**

**3. Public Forum**

S. Davis asked for anyone wishing to speak. No one came forward.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**a) March 15, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes.**

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

**b) March 23, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes.**

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

**c) April 5, 2016 Public Hearing Minutes**

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

**5. New Business**

**a) Presentation by Board of Education regarding special education costs.**

S. Rourke presented a summary chart reflecting the out of district special education students enrolled for 2015-2016. This chart was presented to give the Board of Finance better insight as to the cost of tuition and services. A question and answer session followed regarding the

special education costs.

**b) Discussion and possible action on FY 16-17 budget.**

E. Christensen stated that late this afternoon the new figures were released regarding the ECS money. The original cut to the town was \$109,307 however the latest figure is a cut of \$435,210. Taking the newest figures into consideration for the ECS and the Sales Tax Revenue we could possibly be looking at a cut of around \$700,000. E. Christensen stated the cut from the State could range from \$100,000 to \$700,000. He stated it is anybody's guess as to the exact amount of the cut and where the numbers eventually end up. He stated the worst case scenario would be a loss of around \$700,000. There was much discussion with the members agreeing some money could be taken from surplus to cover the loss of revenue but were reluctant to use any more than \$200,000. The consensus was to wait and see if there would be more concrete numbers from the state in the coming days. Keeping in mind the State budget is supposed to be completed May 4<sup>th</sup> while the Annual Budget Meeting is May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**c) Finance Director Monthly Report**

E. Christensen stated the revenues collected to date are \$26,530,192 which is 80.91% of budgeted revenues. He believes we will finish the year over budget and will not have to use surplus money which was designated. He stated the expenditures to date are \$20,995,170 or 63.99% of budgeted expenses. The only department projected to go over budget is legal with all other departments appearing to be in good shape.

**d) Discussion and possible action on RFP for auditing services.**

E. Christensen stated our contract has expired with Cohn Reznick and we have received three proposals from the RFP that was posted. E. Christensen was asked to call references on all three auditors as well as set up appointments with the proposed auditors so the Board of Finance can interview them. D. Webster made a **motion** that was seconded by P. Dorff to table until the next regular meeting to discuss and meet with the auditors. All in favor; **motion carried.**

**6. Public Forum**

**E. Burdick** - Believes we need to plan for the worst case scenario and it is time to take out the pen or pencil and makes cuts.

**J. Bernie** - Opposed taking any more than \$100,000 out of surplus to cover the budget cut.

**R. Young** – Says Governor Malloy puts everything in a lock box.

**L. Sorder** – Stated the ECS funding has an 89% recovery and we were due to lose \$109,000 compared to Lisbon who is being cut 1.3 million.

**7. Adjournment**

**Motion** was made by D. Webster seconded by B. Baker to adjourn. All in favor; **motion carried.** S. Davis adjourned the meeting at 8:45PM.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Recording Secretary  
Jeannette Bell**