



Town of Griswold

Board of Finance
Special Meeting
May 5, 2016
7:00 PM

Town Hall Meeting Room
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
Daniel Webster
John Wolkowski

Also Present:

Erik Christensen, Director of Finance
Jeannette Bell, Recording Secretary
17 others

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Old Business**

a) **Discussion and possible action on the Fiscal Year 16-17 budget.**

S. Davis opened the meeting by stating the loss of state aid to Griswold at this time is \$390,222 from what was originally budgeted. That being said he asked the Board of Finance members what they would feel comfortable with for a mill rate increase and also how much if anything should come from surplus. S. Davis stated he would feel comfortable with an increase of .45 mills. He also stated we are saving \$80,000 from bond refinancing and would be willing to use \$100,000 from surplus. That would leave approximately \$200,000 remaining to cut. Based on the percentages of the total budget the Town percentage is 22% and the Board of Education budget is 78%. Using that percentage we would be looking at cutting \$44,000 from the General Government Budget and \$156,000 from the Board of Education budget. After polling the other board members the majority felt a .45 mill increase would pass and would feel comfortable with using no more than \$100,000 from surplus.

MOTION: G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** that was seconded by P. Dorff to reduce the capital budget by \$18,988. After discussion that **motion** was **withdrawn**.

MOTION: G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** that was seconded by P. Dorff to use a .50 mill increase as the target. After much discussion that **motion** was **withdrawn** and a new **motion** was made. **MOTION:** G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** that was seconded by P. Dorff to amend the previous mill increase to .49. The **motion carried** with P. Dorff, G. Levy, G. Rooke-Norman and J. Wolkowski in favor and D. Webster

and B. Baker opposed.

MOTION: B. Baker made a **motion** that was seconded by D. Webster to use \$100,000 from surplus. The **motion carried** with B. Baker, G. Levy, D. Webster and J. Wolkowski in favor and P. Dorff and G. Rooke-Norman opposed.

MOTION: B. Baker made a **motion** that was seconded by D. Webster to reduce capital by \$18,988. All in favor; **motion carried.**

MOTION: P. Dorff made a **motion** that was seconded by G. Rooke-Norman to allocate the remaining difference of \$163,012 using a 60% BOE – 40% General Government split. The **motion failed** with P. Dorff, G. Rooke-Norman and J. Wolkowski in favor and B. Baker, S. Davis, G. Levy and D. Webster opposed.

MOTION: G. Levy made a **motion** to allocate the remaining difference of \$163,012 using a 75% BOE -25% General Government split. There was no second the **motion died** on the floor.

MOTION: G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** that was seconded by P. Dorff to allocate the remaining difference of \$163,012 using a 70% BOE - 30% General Government split. The **motion failed** with P. Dorff, G. Rooke-Norman and J. Wolkowski in favor and B. Baker, S. Davis, G. Levy and D. Webster opposed.

MOTION: B. Baker made a **motion** that was seconded by D. Webster to allocate the remaining difference of \$163,012 using a 78% BOE – 22% General Government split. The General Government would be cut \$35,863 and the Board of Education budget would be cut \$127,149. The **motion carried** with B. Baker, G. Levy, D. Webster and J. Wolkowski in favor and P. Dorff and G. Rooke-Norman opposed.

MOTION: D. Webster made a **motion** that was seconded by G. Levy to reduce each health insurance related line item for the Town budget for a total of \$8,682 to be allocated by the Finance Director. All in favor; **motion carried.**

MOTION: G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** that was seconded by B. Baker to reduce line item 1101-5402 - Board of Finance Accounting by \$2,000. All in favor; **motion carried.**

MOTION: D. Webster made a **motion** that was seconded by G. Levy to reduce line item 3201-5238 - Highway Department Fuel by \$5,000. All in favor; **motion carried.**

MOTION: B. Baker made a **motion** that was seconded by D. Webster to reduce line item 4102-5202 - Senior Center Meetings and Dues by \$500. All in favor; **motion carried.**

MOTION: G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** that was seconded by P. Dorff to reduce line item 1701-5400 - Town Counsel to \$65,000. The **motion failed** with G. Rooke-Norman in favor and B. Baker, P. Dorff, G. Levy, D. Webster and J. Wolkowski opposed.

S. Davis noted at this point there was still \$19,681 left to cut from the General Government Budget.

MOTION: P. Dorff made a **motion** that was seconded by G. Rooke-Norman to reduce line item 1101-5101B - Finance Director Salary to \$86,852. The **motion failed** with P. Dorff and G. Rooke-Norman in favor and B. Baker, G. Levy, D. Webster and J. Wolkowski opposed.

MOTION: G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** that was seconded by P. Dorff to reduce line item 1101-5101B - Finance Director Salary to \$92,000. The **motion failed** with P. Dorff and G. Rooke-Norman in favor and B. Baker, G. Levy, D. Webster and J. Wolkowski opposed.

MOTION: G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** to reduce line item 1201-5101 - Payroll-Executive Assistant to \$43,000 as well as reducing social security by \$238 and Pension by \$353. All in favor with B. Baker opposing; **motion carried.**

S. Davis after concurring with E. Christensen noted there was still \$15,985 left to cut from the General Government Budget.

MOTION: G. Levy made a **motion** that was seconded by P. Dorff to reduce the Capital Budget by \$15,985. The **motion failed** with P. Dorff, G. Levy and J. Wolkowski in favor and B. Baker, S. Davis, G. Rooke-Norman and D. Webster opposed.

MOTION: G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** that was seconded by D. Webster to reduce line item 4103-5642 - Children First Griswold from \$5,000 to \$2,000. All in favor with P. Dorff opposing; **motion carried.**

MOTION: G. Levy made a **motion** that was seconded by G. Rooke-Norman to reduce the Capital Budget by \$12,985. The **motion carried** with P. Dorff, G. Levy, G. Rooke-Norman and J. Wolkowski in favor and B. Baker and D. Webster opposed.

MOTION: G. Rooke-Norman made a **motion** that was seconded by G. Levy to send the Board of Education budget of \$26,048,442 and the General Government budget of \$7,148,179 forward to the Annual Town Budget Meeting. All in favor; **motion carried.**

4. **Adjournment: MOTION:** P. Dorff made a **motion** that was seconded by B. Baker to adjourn. There was no discussion. All in favor; **motion carried.** S. Davis adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary
Jeannette Bell