



# Town of Griswold

28 Main Street  
Griswold, CT 06351



**Board of Selectman  
Special Meeting  
Selectmen's Meeting Room  
Wednesday, February 18, 2015  
4:45 PM**

## MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call** – Meeting was called to order at 4:48 by Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman

**Members Present:** Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman  
Steve Mikutel, Second Selectman  
Philip E. Anthony, Third Selectman

**Others Present:** Erik Christensen, Finance Director

2. **Discussion and possible action on 2015/2016 departmental budgets – K.**  
Skulczyck noted that approximately 1.8 million dollars in unassessed property has been added to the grand list and the Assessors currently working on it expect it to reach approximately 3 million dollars when they are finished adding properties. This should equal about \$75,000 – \$100,000 in additional revenue. E. Christensen noted the governor's budget added about \$10,200 to funding and also noted that the budget as it stands now, without the additional funding would result in about a 1.52 mil increase total including what the BOE is presenting. General Government as it is now, is a 10.93% or increase or 1.02 mils including capital and debt. Debt service is \$1,937,619 of which approximately \$160,000 is town and the rest would be BOE.

Departmental budgets were discussed and the following changes were made:

Tax Collector – Salary for tax collector elected official was changed from 3% request for salary increase to 2.5% increase. It was noted to leave the 2.5% increase figure for all union employees in, but to change the remark to reflect union contract increase.

Town Clerk – Salary for town clerk elected official was changed from 3% request for salary increase to 2.5% increase.

Emergency Services – S. Mikutel suggested separating out the two positions of Fire Marshal and Deputy. E. Christensen commented it is difficult to do that, because the salary is shared; we never know which one will be coming in and what their hours will be. Civil preparedness was cut to \$500. It was suggested possibly coming back and revisiting the recruitment and retention line.

Highway Department – Proposed light truck driver position was eliminated and the seasonal maintainer was increased to \$13,000 to allow coverage from April 1<sup>st</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Building Department – The difference between the building official being part-time versus full time would be a savings of \$50,028. It was decided to cut the proposed full-time building official to part-time of 19.5 hours per week and increase the proposed overtime from \$5,000 to \$10,000 which includes for attendance by the ZEO at meetings since comp time has been cut as well as additional hours by the building official or a substitute. The difference between the department secretary going from 30 hours per week to 35 hours per week would be an increase of \$5,676. Contractual temp services were budgeted for blight enforcement and it was noted that perhaps two people to carry out that responsibility would be a good idea.

Contributions – K. Skulczyck noted that SEAT is predicting, through their study, to come back to the towns for additional funding when the study is done. SEAT is requesting at this point \$7,255 which is our split with Lisbon. It was agreed to approve the requested \$7,255 with a notation that they may be requesting more. Slater Library request was cut \$5,000 to \$85,000. Safe Futures was approved at \$1,500. Eastern Conservation District request for \$1,000 was cut. New London Homeless Hospitality Center was not approved for funding. Sexual Assault Crisis was approved for \$500. UCFS was approved for funding at \$5,000 instead of \$25,000 and Children First was approved at \$5,000.

Parks & Recreation – Trash service was decreased to \$5,200 the same as last year. Town event payroll was cut from \$8,400 to \$7,000.

Planning & Community Development – Overtime was cut to \$1,500. Wetlands advertising was cut to \$2,000. Technology Maintenance for a printer was cut out completely for the amount of \$5,000.

Debt Service – Request was made by S. Mikutel to break down the debt service to show what it is for.

Capital Improvement – The BOS agree to cut \$115,351 from Capital Improvement and recommended that the CIP make the cuts at their discretion.

This leaves the projected mill rate increase at .50 for the Board of Education and .49 for the General Government for a total of 0.99 mills increase.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, that the Board of Selectmen recommend a general government budget to the Board of Finance for the year 2016 in the amount of \$7,380,763. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **3. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM. Motion **carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Wood,  
Executive Assistant