

MINUTES

Town of Goshen BUDGET COMMITTEE Public Hearing February 11, 2025

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Present: Barbara Paronto, Chairperson (2025)
Ashley Cleary Haslam (2027)
Trish LaBossiere (2025)
Renee Frost (2027)
Doug Frost (2027)
Steve Belden (2026)
Ernie Dennis (2026)
Bonnie Belden – School Board rep
Dianne Craig – Select Board rep

Absent: Robin Brigham (2026)
Alicia Baker (2025)

Agenda: Public Hearing on Recommended Departmental Operating Budgets, Capital Reserve Accounts, and Warrant Articles for 2025

Members of the public present for the public hearing were Bill Canning and Mary Hudson.

Barbara explained that the Budget Committee would consider each of the departmental budgets with the agreed line item amounts, respond to any questions, concerns, challenges, or objections from Committee members or the public before voting on its recommendations.

The Budget Committee unanimously agreed to recommend a Total Operating Budget of \$1,072,249 for 2025 as follows:

- General Government \$466,199
- Public Safety \$210,000
- Highways & Streets \$276,370
- Sanitation \$ 46,318 (plus warrant article to transfer \$35,000 from Transfer Station Special Revenue Account)
- Health & Welfare \$ 15,099 (additional funds are available for Direct Assistance in Welfare Capital Reserve Account)
- Culture & Recreation \$ 57,013
- Conservation \$ 750
- Tax Anticipation Notes \$ 500

The Budget Committee unanimously agreed to recommend a total of \$240,600 in contributions to Capital Reserve Accounts as follows:

- Highway Truck & Heavy Equipment \$30,000
- Construction/Reconstruction of Bridges \$60,000
- Police Cruiser \$10,000

• Personal Firefighter Equipment	\$20,000
• Property Revaluation	\$14,000
• Fire Department Vehicles	\$15,000
• Paving/Repair Existing Paved Roads	\$30,000
• Gravel	\$18,000
• Town Buildings Maint. & Improvements	\$15,000
• Reconstruct Roads	\$25,000
• Master Plan Update	\$ 3,600

The Budget Committee unanimously agreed to recommend passage of the following proposed Warrant Articles:

- Raise and appropriate \$26,060 for the 2019 Plow/Dump Truck lease payment;
- Raise and appropriate \$51,155 for annual bond payment (No amount to be raised by taxation);
- Raise and appropriate \$35,000 to operate the Transfer Station – said funds to come from the Transfer Station Special Revenue Fund (No amount to be raised by taxation);
- Raise and appropriate \$20,000 to purchase two trash canisters to eliminate rental fees – said funds to come from the Transfer Station Special Revenue Fund (No amount to be raised by taxation);
- Discontinue Town Buildings and Property capital reserve fund created in 2009 and the Painting of Governmental Buildings capital reserve fund created in 2006 with said funds (estimated to be \$20.78) to be transferred to the General Fund.

Barbara asked if any member of the Budget Committee had any objection or reservation about recommending the amounts which were increases over the amounts appropriated in 2024. There were no objections. Mary Hudson asked how if the budget would be affected by actions being taken at the federal level. Dianne explained that except for FEMA reimbursements or grant monies the Town does not received funds directly from the federal government. Barbara pointed out in the 2023 Town Report where sources of the Town's revenues are shown.

Trish Labossiere moved, and Doug Frost seconded, a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Barbara Paronto, Chair