Town of Gilsum Budget Meeting

Meeting began at 6:02PM on Thursday, November 12, 2026

This was a non-voting meeting with emphasis of reviewing expenditures to date and better understanding spending going into the 2027 budget planning process.

Members Present: Karen Hastings - Member-at large

Jim Lombara - Member-at large

Vicki Ayer - Member-at large

Norman Houle - Member-at large

Jason Ballou - Member-at large Chairman

Members Absent: Clem Lounder- Selectboard Member

Others Attendees

Town Bookkeeper: Lenoir Law

Members of the public: Jonathon Gauette and Debra Reilly

Lenoir provided the committee with Budget vs. Actual to date along with Trust Fund balances and 2026 Expenditures through 11/12/2026 including draft 2027 requests Available at Town Hall upon request.

- Fire Dept-- 10k below budget. Expecting invoices that will bring expenditures close to budget
- Ambulance Services-- 2nd of 2 yearly invoices is expected by 12/31/26
- Bridges-- $o spent on operating budget line but approx $5000 spent from trust
- Cemetery--Purchasing of 38" mower in 2026. Future purchase of a shed and trailer.
- Direct Assistance: Over budget and expected to increase in coming years. Discussions regarding other resources, can the town recoup any money. Also noted that the is the only Budget line that is unlimited. If a town has reached the approved budget amounts across all departments. The DRA can approve of utilizing further funds to assist.
- Town Clerk-- Waiting on quote from Avitar to accept online payments
- Executive-- New Town website needs to be created to be ADA compliant, Selectmen received and awarded one bid.
- Tax Collector- Reviewing quote from Avitar to accept online payments
- Health & Welfare-- Cheshire Fair Assoc is a new request of $750, Lenoir to ask DRA if this request should be under Parks & Recreation

- Highway Dept--
  Outside Labor - used to bid out trucking of winter sand. Started a discussion of whether this line item should be named Winter Sand Trucking
  Winter Sand - is Bank Run not Winter Sand, started a discussion of whether this should be on the Supplies Gravel line
  Equipment & Vehicle list including year & mileage was requested

- Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund-- Question of whether it is limited to the purchase of one vehicle. One used highway truck was purchased this year and the Selectmens intent to purchase another used truck this year from Town of Goshen.
- Road Improvement Ex Trust Fund-- Hammond Hollow discussion: exp to date unknown, no paving to date. Detailed proposed 2027 work to be supplied to Committee in December from Selectmens Asst. per Selectmens Meeting 11/9/26
- Parks & Recreation-
  Programs- Summer Camp will most likely not happen again in 2027
- Sheriff Services-- Sheriff hours were decreased several weeks ago at Selectmens request due to March 2026 Town vote to reduce funding.

- 2027 Department Budget Requests: Lenoir to supply Committee with full packets in December
- 1st Public Hearing date was discussed and agreed to be January 19, 2026, at 6:00PM. Gilsum Public Library
- 2nd Public Hearing date was discussed and agreed to be February 6, 2026, at 2:30PM. Gilsum Public Library

Motion to adjourn Jim Lombara
Second Norman Houle
All in favor Meeting adjourned at 8:41PM

Minutes submitted by Vicki Ayer

