

Town of Oakham

Board of Selectmen

Special Session- Fire Truck Bond

Minutes of November 21, 2023

Present: Don Haapakoski-Chairman, Aaron Langlois-Clerk

In attendance: Maribel LaRange-BOS admin asst., Wendy Graves, Alan Flagg, Tim Howe, Lucy Tessnau (via phone), Barbara Piucci

Meeting opened at 3:00 PM by Chairman, Don Haapakoski

Wendy Graves, Treasurer / Collector informed the BOS that she took bids for the Fire Truck. She received 3 bids

1. Greenfield Cooperative Bank - \$4.88, net interest cost of \$4.803
2. Oppenseimer - \$4.875, net interest cost of \$4.849
3. UniBank for Savings - \$5.25, net interest cost of \$5.173

It's a short-term loan for one year, interest paid in that year is \$41,364.78. Alan said this is right in line as FinCom thought it to be. First payment would be a year from current date. Budgeted in the FY25 budget.

Town meeting approved \$850,000. Truck alone without equipment \$811,206. Town meeting also approved \$100,000 from stabilization for equipment. Fire Chief will use as much used equipment as he can and hoping to be \$20-25K under cost from the \$950,000 total. Radios cost are also on the bond. Short-term borrowing payment is all due at the end of the year. Then can do another short-term borrowing for a year or a long-term. Bond rating is helpful to have for long-term borrow. Oakham currently does not have a bond rating and will work on getting one. Don said fiscal year 2023 is complete and should have it audited and then can bond the town which will help for future projects. Aaron suggested to have it as an article for an audit at the STM. The Treasurer will work on the process for a bond rating.

Don made a motion to sign the bond at \$4.88, Aaron 2nd, all in favor.

BOS Admin asked if they would like to continue with the Roselli & Clark for the audit, Don suggested to keep them as they have recently done fy21 & fy22. \$15,000 per fiscal year audit.

New Business: Toys for Tots box in the Town Hall Lobby. Library will also collect toys.

Police Department received a grant for \$48,900 for radios, upgraded tasers, body cameras.

Police Chief certified as a Chief after completions of schooling.

Old Business: Aaron plans on doing 2 volunteer days the week of Christmas for the cleaning and organization of the top floors in the Town Hall. The Scout BSA Troop 144 has volunteered to help. Parks & Rec did a clean out in their section.

Cub scout pack uses the Lyons club storage container, rotted roof. Found syringes in the container. Aaron said Mr. Labarre may inquire about it. The scouts cleaned the entire area and looks great.

Don said there needs to be some solid numbers on new or rehab of the Town Hall at the Annual Town Meeting. Non-binding question to the Town's people on which way they would like to go, new or rehab? Rehab would only allow to build up and would cause a problem with septic. Aaron said they really need to look into disconnecting the shared use. Are the costs split? Lots of land behind school. Alan said everyone loves the current Town Hall but it will never be all it needs to be. Don said can incorporate some of the structures and details from current Town Hall and apply to new one. Barbara asked how would the wording on the warrant be and to cover all basis as there have been discussion of making the Oakham Center School the Town Hall.

Alan informed will have all the budgets provided to BOS admin to provide to all boards/committees/departments soon.

Alan said a resident in Town, Nick Brooks, interested in joining FinCom.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:34PM: Aaron made a motion to adjourn, Don 2nd, all in favor.

To view the Board of Selectmen's meeting please visit: [youtube.com/@TownOfOakham](https://www.youtube.com/@TownOfOakham)