Town of Goshen

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday May 18, 2021

This meeting held and recorded via Zoom.us and is available as a recording

PRESENT: Robert P. Valentine, Mark S. Harris, Dexter S. Kinsella

OTHERS: Cindy Barrett, Todd Carusillo, Rebecca Junchert-Derungs, Tax Collector

1. Call to order: Robert P. Valentine called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of May 11, 2021:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of May 11, 2021 as submitted. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to add to the agenda, under Approval of the Minutes, approval of minutes of the Board of Selectmen, April 13, 2021. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to accept the correction of the minutes of April 13, 2021. Page 2, b. Appointments, Matthew Grosclaude was appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill a vacancy to expire on April 23, **2022.** Voted unanimous.

3. Matters Arising Out of the Minutes: None

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant - May 20, 2021

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll of May 20, 2021 in the amount of \$25,693.65. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$12,323.53, and the warrant in the amount of \$38017.18. Voted unanimous. Invoices highlighted: MIRA (waste removal) \$11,355.89; Quality Data (tax collector) \$1,611.60.

5. Public Comment: None

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6. First Selectman's Report:

Public Notice – Small Cities Grant June 1, 2021. Bob stated the information for a Public Hearing to be held on June 1, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. This is to discuss Fiscal Year 2021 Community Development Block Grant program and to solicit citizen input.

Matt Starr, from DEEP came into Town Hall to record the map and deed completing the sale of the land on 65 Beech Hill Road (620 acres) to the State of Connecticut. This property will be a Wildlife Management lands.

The Federal American Rescue Plan, \$1.9 trillion. Goshen will receive approximately \$847,922.00 in two (2) payments of \$423,961 (2021 and 2022). Guidance was issued by the Department of the Treasury on how these funds can be used. Bob reviewed the options and found that the funds can be used to offset lost revenue during the pandemic. Municipalities can use a 4.1% national average state and local revenue growth rate from 2015-18. Bob confirmed this with Martin Heft, from OPM. These grants/funds will absorb the current year shortfall in revenue vs expenses, the balance will be put in fund balance

7. Correspondence: None

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris it was **voted** to add to the agenda under 9 New Business, 9a. Call of the Annual Budget meeting. Voted unanimous.

In a motion made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was voted to add to the agenda under 9 New Business, 9b. Tax Collector: Delinquencies. Vote unanimous.

8. Old Business: None

a. Town Continuation of Operations RE: COVID-19 Governor Lamont's Executive Orders: REMINDER: On May 19th, the Sector Rules will cease. Bob received an email advising that there are only 4 COVID-19 hospitalizations in Litchfield County Hospitals.

DPH "guidelines" will be issued soon concerning COVID-19. Bob suggests for Town Hall, the employees continue to wear masks in the halls, while moving around, and while having face-to-face conversations with customers. Bob will be on a phone conference call with Gov. Lamont tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. for further instructions.

b. Appointments: None

c. Budgets:

The Board of Finance will meet Wednesday, May 19, 2021 to finalize the budget. Bob will update the BOF on incoming possible funding from federal government.

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9. New Business:

a. Call of the Annual Budget Meeting:

Selectman Dexter S. Kinsella read aloud the text for the Annual Budget Meeting and Special town Meeting to be held Wednesday, May 26, 2021 (See attached).

In a motion made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was voted to accept the "Call" for the Annual Budget meeting and Special Town Meeting, to be a Hybrid, in person and "Zoom" for Goshen residents, on Wednesday, May 26, 2021. Voted unanimous.

b. Tax Collector - Delinquencies:

Goshen Tax Collector, Rebecca Juchert-Derungs, reported to the Board that a there is a resident, owner/occupant three (3) years delinquent in taxes. A policy has been in place for the past several years stating those three or more years delinquent would be subject to tax sale if the back taxes are not paid. The purpose of the policy is to have consistency in dealing with those who are behind on their taxes. This would be the first time in recent history that the policy would be enforced, Rebeca conferred with the Board to be sure she should proceed per policy. In that the delinquent tax payer has been with the State Marshal for collections back to 2009, although not three years delinquent, Rebecca should give them a deadline of three months to become current, otherwise a tax sale will be initiated.

10. Any Other Business:

10 a. 2021 Chip Seal

New England Asphalt Services, of Northford, CT contacted Garret Harlow, Supervisor of Public Works to advise that they had to increase their 2020 bid price to \$1.59 per S.Y. (from \$1.528) for chip seal in place per the Town of Goshen Specifications. This increase in price is the same as the current State bid price.

In a motion made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was voted to accept the recommendation of the Public Works Supervisor to contact with New England Asphalt Services at the current price for chip seal, per the Town of Goshen's specifications. Voted unanimous.

11. Adjournment:

In a motion made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Lucille A. Paige Lucille A. Paige Lucille A. Paige, First Selectmen's Aide

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WARNING HYBRID ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING AND SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TOWN OF GOSHEN

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89341013205

Meeting ID: 893 4101 3205

Phone 1 929 205 6099

We, the Selectmen of the Town of Goshen, hereby give warning to persons legally entitled to vote thereat that the Annual Budget Meeting and a Special Town Meeting will be held in the Gymnasium of Goshen Center School in said Town of Goshen on Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 8:00 p.m. for the following purposes:

- 1. Upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance, to consider and act upon a budget for the Town of Goshen for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.
- 2. To elect one member of the Board of Education of Regional School District #6 from the Town of Goshen for the term of three years from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.
- 3. To authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and receive any state or federal grants for the benefit of the Town, provided that any appropriation of municipal funds shall be approved in advance by the Board of Finance, and if the amount exceeds \$20,000, a town meeting.

Dated at Goshen, Connecticut, this 18th day of May, 2021.

Dexter S. Kinsella

Robert P. Valentine

Mark S Harris

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Goshen will conduct a public hearing by the Town Board of Selectmen on June 1, 2021 at 7:30 pm via zoom at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86735131748?pwd=ckxNck5pVVc3TVRGbWlCUmRBcU45dz09 Meeting ID: 867 3513 1748, Passcode: 509436 to discuss the Fiscal Year 2021 Community Development Block Grant program and to solicit citizen input.

Maximum award limits:

- \$1,500,000 for Public Housing Modernization;
- \$1,000,000 for Infrastructure associated with the development of Affordable Housing.

Major activity categories are: Acquisition, Housing Rehabilitation, Public Housing Modernization, Community Facilities, Public Services, and Economic Development. Projects funded with CDBG allocations must carry out at least one of three National Objectives: benefit to low- and moderate-income persons, elimination of slums and blight, or meeting urgent community development needs.

The purpose of the public hearing is to obtain citizen's views on the Town's community development and housing needs and review and discuss specific project activities in the areas of housing, economic development or community facilities which could be part of the Town's new Application for funding for the year 2021.

The First Selectman, Robert P. Valentine, on behalf of the Town of Goshen anticipates applying for a grant amount of not to exceed \$400,000 under the Affordable Housing Modernization - Support Development of Low and Moderate Income Housing eligible activity.

The Town of Goshen, including its sub recipient, promotes fair housing and makes all programs available to low- and moderate-income households regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability or physical/mental disability, or sexual orientation.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing, you may direct written comments to the First Selectman Robert P. Valentine, 42a North Street, Goshen, CT 06756, or you may telephone the First Selectman at 860-491-2308. In addition, information may be obtained at the above address between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday to Thursday and 9:00am to 12:00pm Friday.

All are encouraged to attend. The hearing is accessible to the handicapped. Any disabled persons requiring special assistance or non-English speaking persons should contact Robert P. Valentine ADA Coordinator at 860-491-2308 at least five days prior to the hearing.

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action