

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 25, 2019**

PRESENT: Robert P. Valentine, Dexter S. Kinsella, Steven M. Romano

OTHERS: Robert & Mary Damon, Helen Loomis, Alan Rothfield, Richard Robinson, Jan Heiland, Rosanne LaBlanc, Brian LaBlanc, Karleen Cordeau, Mike Esposito, Joe Lavoie, Susan Lavoie, Mary Lavoie, Lynette Miller, Charles T. Connelly, James White, David Nochole, Vicki Daly, Pat Daly, Dom Vallera, Sarah Vallera, Melissa Bennett, Franane Komisar, John Carvey, J. Cahill, Melissa Foster, Ann Barrante, Laura Colavgelo, Garrett Harlow, John McKenna – Republican American, Alan Walker, Chr. Board of Finance.

1 Robert P. Valentine called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

2. Approve the minutes of the June 18, 2019 regular meeting:

In a **motion** made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2019, meeting as presented. Voted unanimous.

3. Matters Arising out of the minutes: None

4. Approval of Payroll and Warrant of June 27, 2019:

In a **motion** made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll for June 27, 2019 in the amount of \$42,126.68 Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$25,703.08 and warrant in the amount of \$16,423.60 Voted unanimous. Included in this warrant was USA Hauling (recycling) \$7,330.50.

5. Public Comment: Because of the number of individuals attending the meeting and presumably wanting to speak, Bob Valentine asked that people keep their questions or comment to two minutes each, but if there was someone who would speak for those in attendance, he would certainly grant more time to that individual. Ms. Lynette Miller read aloud a statement concerning a petition which she said held 800 signatures of Goshen residents. Bob Valentine asked Ms. Miller to read what the petition said. Ms. Miller read the petition. Bob Valentine then replied to some of Ms. Miller's comments, correcting some of them. Ms. Miller refused to submit the petition to the Board of Selectmen. Several residents also made comments and or asked questions which Bob Valentine answered to the best of his ability. Comments regarding "affordable" housing on Beach Street were voiced by David Garvey, Karleen Cordeau, Mike Esposito, Chuck Harmon, Alan Rothfield, Melissa Foster, James White, John Carroll. Bob Valentine answered their questions to the best of his knowledge. He assured those in attendance that although there was little information currently, there would soon be information forthcoming that he hopes would allay some of their concerns. John Carroll asked Bob Valentine to inquire of Town Counsel, if a Town Meeting could be called to allow the town's people the opportunity to vote on whether they would like affordable housing to be placed in Goshen. Bob agreed to ask the question and bring the answer back to the next Selectman's meeting. (July 2, 2019).

6. First Selectman's Report:

Bob Valentine reported of a meeting he had with the Goshen Business Circle to discuss the potential ordinance for an economic development commission and asked the GBC to submit names for members to serve on said commission. The intent would be to get a cross section of people to serve representing various interests in town. Initially, members would be appointed by the Board of Selectmen; then in November 2019 at Annual Town Meeting, members would be elected accordingly. Currently it is being considered to have a 5 member board, with 2 alternates

Bob will meet again with Tom Wiek, First Selectman of Morris, and Craig Nelson, First Selectman of Warren, to have further discussions on creating a 3 to 5 year rolling student average for each town's assessment. This would mitigate the substantial swings in student population that has resulted in large increases in RSD 6 assessments in past years, such as the \$600,000 increase Goshen experienced recently.

Bob reported on the status of the town's application for *Highlands Conservation Grant* that was applied for last year. The grant would preserve the 94.5 acre town parcel at the end of East Street North by placing a conservation easement on the property. Total grant dollars would be \$131,800. The property would be designated as a public recreation area.

Bob attended a meeting of the Litchfield County Opioid Task Force in Burrville wherein attendees were updated on opioid crisis that exists in the state. It has been found that fentanyl is being mixed in with cocaine. Also discussed was unused drug disposal methods. Goshen residents currently have available at town hall, Deterra Drug Deactivation packets free of charge. Also discussed was how we could better inform residents on what was available.

Bob reported that the town of Goshen may be entering into litigation regarding the contract with MIRA (Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority). The town disputes MIRA's interpretation of the current contract, particularly the fee that MIRA is attempting to impose. This matter is being referred to Town Counsel, Attorney Chip Roraback.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by the Steven M. Romano, it was **voted** to add to the agenda under item 8. Old Business, **8b**. Bid for Milton Road – Pavement Rehabilitation. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was **voted** to add to the agenda, under item 9. New Business, **9b**. Tax Collector's Report, June 30, 2019. Voted unanimous.

7. Correspondence: None

8. Old Business:

8a. Appointments: None

8b. Bid for Milton Road – Pavement Rehabilitation

Garret Harlow, Supervisor of Public Works, reported that only one bid was received for this project. The bid received was 32% higher than the estimated costs of the project. Inasmuch as this project would receive state and federal grant monies, the board would like to make sure the grant dollars stay in place if the project is re-bid.

9. New Business:

9a. TAR Requests- Public Works

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was **voted** to allocate \$4,900 from the TAR (Town Aid Road Fund) for corrugated plastic pipe and related fittings for the School Hill Project. Motion carried with Steven M. Romano abstaining.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was **voted** to allocate \$1,965.00 from TAR (Town Aid Road Fundvbb vb) for corrugated plastic pipe and related fittings for the North Goshen Road construction. Motion carried with Steven M. Romano abstaining.

9b. Tax Collector's Report - June 30, 2019

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the Tax Collector's Report for June 30, 2019. The Collection Rate- collected less refunds vs. total budgeted is 100.57%

In a **motion** made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to receive the Tax Collector's Report – June 30, 2019 as submitted. Voted unanimous.

10. Any other Business: None

11. Adjournment:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide