Town of Goshen BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETING Tuesday November 22, 2022

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

PRESENT: Todd M. Carusillo, Mark S. Harris, Dexter S. Kinsella (Zoom)

OTHERS: Henrietta Horvay; Audrey Blondin; Don Wilkes; John McKenna, *Republican American*;

Cindy Barrett; Marty Harris; Bernie Harrington; Virginia Perry; Pat Reilly; Dawn Wilkes; Scott

Olson; Peter Kujawski; Lou-Ann Zbinden; Lori Clinton; Chris Sanders

- 1. Call to order: Todd M. Carusillo called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
- 2. Approval of the minutes of November 15, 2022: In a motion made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Todd M. Carusillo, it was voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 15, 2022 as submitted, with Dexter S. Kinsella abstaining.
- 3. Matters Arising Out of the meeting. None
- 4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant 11/23/2022:

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Todd M. Carusillo, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll of November 23, 2022- \$189,135.52. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$28,023.20 and the warrant in the amount of \$161,112.32. Motion carried with Dexter S. Kinsella, abstaining. Included in this warrant: Allegiance Trucks (2013 International)- \$6,037.84; Connecticare — \$15,383.32; MIRA (waste disposal) — \$12,291.03; S&S Asphalt - \$77,156.35.

5 First Selectman's Report:

Anne Green, Erin Reilly, and Janet Hooper met in Todd's office to discuss "social services", what specific services are needed in Goshen, etc. Results of the survey will be forthcoming.

A recent meeting of the Broadband Committee went very well; gathering information on those customers who may qualify for free or reduced rates.

The Selectmen send Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Lori Clinton spoke regarding the "problem" that has arisen with voting at the Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting, November 30, 2022 at 8:00 p.m. The voting exercise using "zoom" is unable to be put in use for the Annual Town Meeting because there is a problem with multiple choice candidates. Pat Reilly joined Ms. Clinton in stating "technology" has not caught up with online voting process. There is nothing in the law to force zoom meetings. The meeting will be held on the CCS cafeteria. Selectman Kinsella stated the value of residents to participate in the voting process is essential, exhaust all methods. Ms. Clinton stated "zoom" comes up with multiple times a voter can cast a vote, which is **not a valid vote**. Paper ballot is the only way available at this point in time, to cast a **secure** vote. Selectman Harris will be visiting Hartford wherein he will gather information on the future of technology with the "zoom" process. Todd Carusillo stressed the need for the current technology for zoom be advanced to cast a **valid/true** ballot. *That technology does not exist at this time*. Pat Reilly stated that Goshen will not be held liable for not following the rules/laws that are currently in place regarding accurate vote counting.

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6. Public Comment:

Scott Olson stated he is speaking to advocate for residents to vote. However, after hearing the results from the Selectmen and election officials, the Selectmen would be remiss in their obligation to conduct a true, valid ballot for voting.

Henrietta Horvay asked if the recent "Special Meeting" produced a secure, valid ballot. Ms. Clinton stated that the vote can be reviewed, but the vote has been certified.

Audrey Blondin stated she is struggling with that current discussions on the floor. She feels this (voting) process should be expedited; not going backwards. If there is a problem, a legal opinion should be sought. She stated that "technology" does exist (to produce secure ballots). This process should be expedited. Todd Carusillo restated that the law already states and the Special Meeting upcoming will have no zoom voting.

Selectman Kinsella suggested an opinion be sought from the Secretary of State. Lori Clinton stated that a conversation with the Secretary of State resulted in her saying..."it's not a State problem, but rather a "town" issue."

Cynthia Barrett thanked Pat Reilly, Lori Clinton, Scott Olson, Dexter Kinsella, Audrey Blondin and Henrietta Horvay for their efforts. If there is another program, will it be available in 2022? Can "Google" provide such a program? It's hard to believe that in 2022, in the United States, that no program like this exists.

Scott Olson questioned Audrey Blondin in her statement that "we should seek a legal opinion" but yet continue with a system has been deemed technically flawed because it was done previously. Now is not the time to continue with a flawed system of voting while we await a legal opinion. Goshen should not use a *problematic* system to conduct any voting session, knowing the votes cannot be secured. An online system should be used only when the "vote" is secured.

Pat Reilly thanked all the resident volunteers that serve the voting process, along with all the Boards that volunteer also.

7. Correspondence: None

8. Old Business:

8a. Appointments:

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Todd M. Carusillo, it was **voted** to reappoint Laura Saucier to the Conservation Commission for term of 4 years expiring in 2026. Voted unanimous.

9. New Business:

9a. Bids to be received: GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

North Goshen Rd. Culvert over Unnamed

Tributary of Ocain Brook

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Page 2 Total Price Total Price

Field Boring Wrk Rock Coring

Down to Earth Consulting, LLC \$10,450.00 \$35.00/per ft

Down to Earth Consulting, LLC 122 Church Street Naugatuck, CT 06770 203-683-4155

Survey Services for Improvements North Goshen Rd. Culvert at Unnamed Tributary of Ocain Brook

Timothy G. Wyllie Land Surveyor, LLC 122 Old North Road Barkhamsted, CT 06063 860-605-9075 \$8,500.00

Wetland Delineation Services North Goshen Road Culvert Unnamed Tributary of Ocain Brook

SLR International Corporation \$3,750.00

99 Realty Drive Cheshire, CT 06410 203-271-1773

BSC Group \$5,400.00

655 Winding Brook Drive Glastonbury, CT 06033 617-896-4517

Landtech \$6,950.00

518 Riverside Avenue Westport, CT 06680 203-454-2110

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to receive the bids and forward the above bids onto Garret Harlow, Supervisor of Public works for review and recommendation. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to add to the agenda, item 9. New Business, 9b Town Meeting, November 30, 2022. Voted unanimous.

9b Town Meeting, November 30, 2022.

The call of the Town Meeting for November 30, 2022 was read aloud by Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** unanimous to approve the Call of the Annual Town and Special Town Meeting on November 30, 2022, for the Town of Goshen, dated November 22, 2022. Voted unanimous.

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10. Other Business: None

11. Adjournment: In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Todd M. Carusillo, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectively submitted:

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide