

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday January 3, 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; Cindy Barrett; Don Wilkes

1. Call to order: Todd M. Carusillo called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of December 27, 2022: In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Todd M. Carusillo, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of December 27, 2022 as submitted. Motion carried with Dexter S. Kinsella abstaining.

3. Matters Arising Out of the December 27, 2022 meeting. None

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – January 5, 2023:

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Todd M. Carusillo, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll of January 5, 2023 in the amount of \$51,070.14.. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$12,969.57 and the warrant in the amount of \$38,100.57. Motion carried with Dexter S. Kinsella abstaining. Included in this warrant: Dime Oil – (heating oil) – \$1,829.80; Litchfield County Dispatch – \$18,415.80; McNeil & Co. (insurance) - \$8,222.25.

5 First Selectman's Report:

COVID – 19 cases in Goshen were reported as "0". However, flu cases are on the rise.

There continues to illegal dumping of meat at Camp Coch (Town Road). Camp Coch is "town property". Residents walk these trails with their children, pets. The people who are dumping meat are also attracting coyotes, bears, bobcats, etc. to these meat piles, thereby placing our citizens at risk. A report was issued stating that New York had released a number of mountain lions adjacent to the border of CT. Citings have been noted in Sharon, Kent, etc. Ian Kinsella (Conservation Commission) will be placing cameras in trees in this area to record the activity. Everyone, please be careful, use caution.

Todd reported that he went on a fire call for a flooded basement that occurred with one of our Goshen Residents. He reached out to *Friendly Hands Food Bank* and was provided not only food items, but cleaning supplies, personal necessities estimated value around \$500.\$600. In addition, Joe Rocco donated a 20yd. dumpster to assist in the cleanup. A local plumber is donating his time to install a new water heater.

Todd reported that he was "tagged" on his cell phone for a call. Todd reported that the accepted means of contacting him or reporting an issue concerning the town is **not** thru "Goshen Chatter" nor his personal e-mail. These are not the ways to contact him or other municipal personnel.

6. Public Comment:

Audrey Blondin wished a Happy New Year to everyone.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to add to the agenda under Item 8. Old Business: item 8b. Woodridge Lake Sewer District. Voted unanimous.

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8. Old Business:

8a. Appointments -None

8b. Woodridge Lake Sewer District:

A revised letter was received from the Woodridge Lake Sewer District, signed by Raymond Turri, representing the Woodridge Lake Sewer District Board of Directors.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the letter subject to discussion. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to add to the agenda under Item 9. New Business, 9a. Budgets. Voted unanimous.

9. New Business:

9a. Budgets:

The following budgets were presented for review:

Board of Assessment Appeals	Water Pollution Control Authority
Fire Marshal	Welfare
Inland Wetlands Commission	Miscellaneous Expenditures
Land Use Enforcement	Debt Service
Treasurer	Fire Commissioners

Todd reported that ten (10) budgets were presented. Mark Harris stated the increase was only \$1,295.00.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to receive the listed budgets. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to add to the agenda under Item 10, Other Business, 10a. July 4th Holiday. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to add to the agenda Under 10. Other Business, 10b. Tax Collections. Voted unanimous.

10. Other Business:

10a. July 4th – Holiday

Tuesday, July 4th was listed as a regular meeting date on the meeting calendar. In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was voted to "cancel" the BOS meeting of July 4, 2023 that was included on the public posted calendar of meetings for 2023. Voted unanimous.

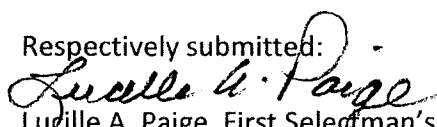
10.b Tax Collections:

Todd reported on the tax collections as of 01/03 2023:

Real Estate: 66.30%
Personal Property: 63.48%
MV Regular: 97.21%

11. Adjournment: In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectively submitted:


Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide

Received Jan 5, 2023 1:16 PM


Attest
ASST Goshen Town Clerk



Woodridge Lake Sewer District

113 Brush Hill Road
PO Box 258
Goshen, CT 06756

Hand Delivered

Board of Selectmen
Town of Goshen
42A North Street
Goshen, CT 06756

December 15, 2022

Dear Selectmen:

As you may know the Woodridge Lake Sewer District (WLSD) has been working over many years to address wastewater disposal issues as required by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). We have explored continuation of the WLSD on-site system, connection with the City of Torrington wastewater treatment system and most recently connection with the Town of Litchfield (Litchfield) wastewater treatment system, all in our ongoing effort to address the WLSD wastewater treatment needs. At this point in time, the Litchfield connection is WLSD's best option and the best opportunity for Litchfield to address wastewater treatment issues that it may encounter in the future. For the reasons stated below, we are requesting that the Goshen Board of Selectmen assist us in moving our project forward by exploring an Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) between WLSD, the Town of Goshen and the Town of Litchfield.

Some history/background on our discussions with Litchfield would be helpful. We had initial discussions with the Litchfield Water Pollution Control Authority's (Litchfield WPCA) Board Chair in June 2019. In July 2019 WLSD Board members Richard Reis and Jeff Clark presented our situation to the full Litchfield WPCA and suggested a follow-up working meeting. Several meetings followed and we hired DPC Engineering to draft a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) to look at the following options: connection to the Torrington system, local/on-site alternatives and connection to the Litchfield system. The PER considered coordination with DEEP's permitting requirements and implementation of the plan for each option. The PER also reviewed funding opportunities for each option, including coordination between our funding agency, the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Agency (USDA), to providing funding to both Litchfield and the WLSD to implement the Litchfield connection option and address Litchfield's future wastewater treatment issues.

Since that time, WLSD Board members and DPC Engineering have had many meetings and discussions with the Litchfield WPCA and its staff to obtain operational data, review historical flows, discuss thresholds for potential future permitting levels and review the impacts on the Litchfield system. In January 2020, DPC Engineering presented a draft flow data summary and the sewer plant design concepts which were to be included in the PER. The group agreed to continue working together on the PER to be submitted to the USDA with the estimated project costs allocated as follows: \$11 million to Litchfield and \$21 million to WLSD. Over the next several months the PER was refined and an Environmental Report and Environmental Assessment was completed. Both of these documents were submitted to and approved by the USDA and were reviewed by DEEP, which did not recommend significant revisions. In April 2020, WLSD Board members Jim Mersfelder, Ray Turri, and Jeff Clark held a Zoom meeting with Denise Raap, the Litchfield First Selectman and Dave

Wilson of the Litchfield WPCA to discuss the PER and request that Litchfield provide a letter of support to the USDA for the project. First Selectman Raap declined our request, stating that it was premature to express any endorsement of the project to the USDA. At that point we put the project on hold.

We now understand that the Litchfield WPCA has selected an engineering firm to help its staff develop a Facilities Plan for its current sewer service area. Once they have determined Litchfield's future wastewater treatment needs and the required funding and operating expenses, Litchfield should be in a position to work with WLSD to develop a project to accept our flows and enter into with a multi-year IMA with WLSD to address project and operating expense allocations, sewer user fees and charges and other operational issues.

Woodridge Lake is an important community within the town of Goshen and the wider community of Litchfield County. The Board of WLSD has been working for years to develop an economical and environmentally responsible solution to continue to protect the water quality of our communities. We believe, and also believe that DEEP shares this view as well, that an interconnection with the Litchfield plant is the best solution for not only WLSD users but the wider community as whole.

However, Litchfield may be reluctant to enter into an IMA unless the Town of Goshen is a participant in the IMA. Therefore, as citizens and taxpayers in the Town of Goshen, we request that the Goshen Board of Selectmen assist us in moving our project forward by formally requesting that Litchfield WPCA negotiate with the WLSD in developing an IMA to be presented to the Town of Goshen and the Town of Litchfield.

Thank you, and we look forward to working with you on this important project for the WLSD, Litchfield, Goshen and the other towns of our County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Raymond Turri".

The Woodridge Lake Sewer District
Board of Directors