

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday January 24, 2023

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: Cindy Barrett; Dawn Wilkes; Don Wilkes; Scott Olson; Allan Walker; Henrietta Horvay; Audrey Blondin; Joyce Mowery

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 January 17, 2023: In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of January 17, 2023 as corrected. Voted unanimous.

3. Matters Arising Out of the January 17, 2023 meeting. Having trouble with connecting to the meeting (zoom), Selectman Kinsella joined the meeting following "Public Comment".

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – January 26, 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 26, 2023 in the amount of \$1,450,415.40. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$27,930.58, and the warrant in the amount of \$1,422,484.82. Motion passed with Dexter S. Kinsella abstaining. Included in this warrant: Dime Oil -\$7,486.10; RSD-6, \$1,386,033.00; City of Torrington (Probate) – \$1,280.83.

5 First Selectman's Report:

Covid-19: No reports received.

The new Lt. Commander from Troop B in Canaan, Lt. Corrine Swift, visited with Todd. She advised that they are short staffed. They discussed the speed of the traffic out on Route 63, and the problems with speeding cars emerging out of the rotary; cars have been clocked at 93 mph; coming out from route 272 have been clocked at 82 mph. Also, too many cars have been passing stopped school buses on Allyn Road. Todd suggested a better police presence may help with these issues. Lt. Swift also requests that those residents requesting pistol permits have their name checked with Troop B for any recent outstanding arrests. The meeting was very good.

Holmes Road *may* be opened up for a subdivision. Goshen Public Works will be doing some preliminary work there where upon completion will reveal underlying conditions.

Rocco Carting Co., and USA Hauling are offering "bear" proof garbage cans.

Title 51 – Solid Waste and Recycling Ordinance, will be reviewed by Atty. Chip Roraback to advise.

Snowplowing of Rockhouse Road – Dexter Kinsella suggested that the original contract be formally rescinded for *non-performance*. Ref: Minutes of 12-17-2022: The contractor for the plowing of Rockhouse Rd, went out of business. Jesperson's Landscaping will be doing the plowing for the remaining snow season.

6. Public Comment:

Cindy Barrett stated that coming down from Cornwall (route 63) the other night, the roads were "OK". Notably, the roads coming down from Beach Street were perfectly clear. She sends out a thank you to our Public Works Department for the fine job of clearing the roads.

7. Correspondence: None

Eversource sent correspondence concerning “tree trimming” i.e., roads in Goshen where in the event of a storm, low hanging limbs are be trimmed to eliminate the loss of power to the homeowner. Surprisingly, 58 homeowners refused this (free) service (total Goshen population 3,128). Roads receiving this service were route 63, route 4, West; Allyn Road; North Goshen Road; route 272; East Street North.

A letter of resignation from the Conservation Commission (Alternate) has been received from Dr. Jeff Damiano.

Some street lights are out; anyone can go online to report this to Eversource to replace the light mechanism. Notifying Goshen Public Works of lights that need service is another way for notification.

8. Old Business: None

8a. Appointments: None

8b. Budgets: TOWN CLERK

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to accept the Budget 2023-2024 for Town Clerk and forward to the Board of Finance for their review and consideration. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to add to the agenda, item 8. Old Business, 8c. Flag Ordinance. Voted unanimous.

8c. Flag Ordinance:

Mark S. Harris asked that consideration be given to passing a “policy” rather than an ordinance, with regards the Flag. In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to develop a “policy” rather than an ordinance with regards to flying flags on town property. A “Board of Selectmen” meeting can be held in February to garner public input. Voted unanimous.

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. Goshen Land Trust to Build Three Accessible Trails. Voted unanimous.

9. New Business:

9a. Goshen Land Trust to Build Three Accessible Trails:

Joyce Mowrey (Goshen Land Trust is writing a grant; no money will be coming from the Goshen budget) reported that CT DEEP has a trails program wherein towns can either create trails or *upgrade* their existing trails. Todd concurred in that many trails are not acceptable for handicapped individuals, or those in wheelchairs, or those with small children. Two Goshen trails can modify the entrances to provide handicapped parking, and constructing quarter mile loops with a level and widened surface and adding benches along the trails, more of Goshen’s residents will be able to access nature which is why so many people enjoy living in the northwest corner of the state. Ms. Mowrey added that a grant is available (\$9 million). Bill Colby has offered his services with this project. Selectman Harris, along with Selectman Kinsella stated that the Board of Selectmen approve support to this worthwhile project.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to support this worthwhile trails upgrade. Voted unanimous.

10. Other Business: None

11. Adjournment:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectively submitted:

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide