

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

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

OTHERS: Cindy Barrett; Dawn Wilkes; Don Wilkes; Henrietta Horvay; Audrey Blondin; Bernie Harrington

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 31, 2023:** In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of January 31, 2023 as submitted. Voted unanimous.
3. **Matters Arising Out of the January 31, 2023 meeting:** None
4. **Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – February 9, 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 February 9, 2023 in the amount of \$85,458.12. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$26,397.69 and the warrant in the amount of \$59,060.44, Motion passed with Dexter S. Kinsella abstaining. Included in this warrant: Cargill (winter salt) – \$13,016.63, \$6,543.30; Pittsfield Communication (GFC radios) – \$3,758.21; Vision Government Solutions (reval)- \$5,663.42.

5. First Selectman's Report:

There has been another incident of "meat dumping" adjacent to Camp Coch. A neighbor's dog returned home vomiting "raw meat". Paul Gallo found no one on camera at the site first discovered. Perhaps raw meat was dumped at a different location.

Todd shared his conversation with Secretary of State, Stephanie Thomas, with regards to the proposed 10 day in-person voting at each of a town's voting place. This would require back-up staffing for 10 days here in Goshen (at Camp Coch polling station). Normal staffing at the polling station is made up from retirees, and seniors, the machines are not secured, there are no funds in place for this proposal of keeping the polls open for 10 days. Selectman Kinsella pondered a drop-off or some form of it on voting day. In addition, Camp Coch, which is used for other business, meetings, etc. would be unavailable for those 10 days. The Secretary of State hopes some parts of the proposal can be put in place.

Todd pondered increasing the fine for open burning. Last week, a resident conducted illegal open burning, the fire department had to be called several times in one day, the State Police and Fire Marshal had to be called as well. Perhaps increased fines would create a deterrent for ignoring the open burning statutes. The first offense carries a \$50. to \$100. fine; \$90.00 to \$200.00 for 2nd offense. Dexter Kinsella noted that on the first Friday of each month, residents can call USA Hauling to come by and pick up tires etc.

The grand list has increased to \$145,696,837, i.e., total net increase of 24.88%.

The Deputy Animal Control officer for Goshen has sent in his resignation. The job will be posted accordingly.

Todd called USA Hauling. Goshen pays tipping fees for pick-up of 434 tons of commercial waste and 798 tons of residential waste. NWCOG did a survey of surrounding towns: Colebrook – n/c, Harwinton – n/c, Norfolk pays \$40.00 for pick-up truck load (larger trucks go to their transfer station). Washington Depot-

not allowed, residents *must* use transfer station; Falls Village, Barkhamsted, North Canaan – n/c, Litchfield does not pay for commercial trash -non-profits, schools and churches pay for their own. Goshen pays \$68,000/year; over a ten (10) period, that amounts to \$700,000. Todd feels in his duties for fiscal responsibility, changes must be made to reduce these high costs for Goshen.

6. Public Comment:

Bernie Harrington suggested polling the NWCOG for their opinion on the 10-day voting. Todd will be attending the NWCOG meeting this coming Thursday, Feb. 9 and attempt to get survey numbers from other towns.

Cindy Barrett stated the proposal for 10-day in-person voting can be found on the Secretary of State website.

Selectman Kinsella stated that Goshen has only one polling place, but is easily accessible, therefore the State must be careful how they go about this.

7. Correspondence: None

8. Old Business:

8a. Appointments:

Todd put forth Thomas Breakell for the position of Regional Health Officer (3-year term).

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to re-appoint Thomas Breakell for Region Health Officer (3-year term). Voted unanimous.

8b. Budgets: None

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, 9a. *Report of Incoming Tax Collections*. Voted unanimous.

9. New Business:

9a. Report of Incoming Tax Collections: As of 02/07/2023: Real Estate: 95.63%; Personal Property: 98.13%; Motor Vehicle: 97.68%; Motor Vehicle (supplemental): 80.45% Total paid: \$11,135,408.49. In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to file this report. 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 5:25 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectively submitted:

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide