

**TOWN OF GOSHEN  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, August 20, 2019**

PRESENT: Dexter S. Kinsella, Robert P. Valentine

EXCUSED: Steven M. Romano

OTHERS: Jim Withstandely, Mark Harris, Martha Harris, Virginia Perry, Barbara Breor, Garret Harlow

1. Robert P. Valentine, First Selectman called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**8. Old Business:**

**8a. Appointments:** At this time the Board of Selectmen chose to address an item under 6. First Selectman's Report – Resignation of Selectman Steven M. Romano.

First Selectman, Robert P. Valentine announced the receipt of a letter of resignation from Selectman Steven M. Romano, effective August 16, 2019. At the Republican Town Committee meeting of Monday, August 19, 2019, Mark S. Harris was endorsed to serve as Selectman for this vacancy.

In a **motion** made by Robert P. Valentine, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to appoint Mark S. Harris to serve as Selectman for the balance of Steve Roman's term ending with the November 5<sup>th</sup> municipal election. Voted unanimous. Following this vote, Ms. Barbara Breor, Town Clerk administered the oath of office to Mark S. Harris. Mr. Harris served in his capacity as Selectman for this meeting.

At this time, First Selectman, Robert P. Valentine paid public tribute Steven M. Romano for his dedication and outstanding service to the town of Goshen over his almost six years of office. Steve's leadership and professionalism were always present. He served the Town and residents well and was always available to address issues, whether it be residents concerns or general operations. Steve served as Chairman of the Lake Weed Committee. In pulling together residents of the 4 lakes in Goshen, many positive and far reaching efforts have resulted in cleaner water ways for residents and visitors.

Selectman Dexter S. Kinsella, gave accolades for Steven Romano in that he was a "1<sup>st</sup> class guy" to work with and always exhibited the best interest of the Town of Goshen.

**2. Approve the minutes of the August 13, 2019 regular meeting:**

Because Steve Romano is no longer a Selectman and Bob Valentine was not at that meeting, the minutes of August 13, 2019 will stand as submitted without formal approval. No errors or omission were noted by Selectman Kinsella.

**3. Matters Arising out of the minutes: None**

**4. Approval of Payroll and Warrant of August 22, 2019:**

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark Harris, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll for August 22, 2019 in the amount of \$100,166.90. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$37,123.82 and warrant in the amount of \$63,043.08.

Voted unanimous. Included in this warrant were Westchester Tractor (Road side mower rental) - \$9,600.00; Yucatech (new computers)- \$14,021.98

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### 5. Public Comment: None

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to add to the agenda under item 8. Old Business; 8b. Recommendation for Tree Work Bid. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded Dexter S. Kinsella, it **voted** to add to the agenda under item 10. Any Other Business, 10a. Planning & Zoning Liaison. Voted unanimous.

### 6. First Selectman's Report:

Selectman Steven M. Romano's resignation - See page 1

Garret Harlow, Supervisor of Public Works, will be reviewing the 6 applications that were received for the job opening of Public Works Maintainer. The Selectmen will be reviewing them also for their input. An "executive session" for which to interview the applicants will take place at the August 27, 2019 Board of Selectmen meeting.

Bob Valentine reported that a candidate has been chosen for the position of *Children's Programmer* for the Goshen Library. At this time a background check is being done before the offer to hire is complete.

A meeting will be held with Bob Valentine, Garret Harlow, Supervisor of Public Works, and John Rivco of *Rivco Construction Company* to resolve an issue that took place during installation of the above-ground oil tank at the Fire House. It is believed by *Eversource Energy* that the electrical service wire to the Firehouse was damaged while the new heating oil tank was being installed; the wire (under gravel below the new oil tank) shorted out causing the transfer switch for the emergency generator to burn out. At this time, all repairs have been completed. Photos were taken. The meeting is intended to resolve the issue of the cost of repair to the emergency generator, it will take place Thursday 8/22 at 8:30 a.m.

Bob Valentine reported that a **Tax Sale** will take place on Thursday, August 22, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. in the Town Hall Conference room. The property is located on Hageman Shean Road. It consists of a 9 acre parcel that has been in tax delinquency due to a title issue. After this parcel is sold, it will return to the Goshen tax rolls in good standing.

### 7. Correspondence:

A letter has been received from *Friendly Hands Food Bank* in Torrington. They are requesting a commitment of a yearly donation of \$4,000. Bob Valentine stated that the *Friendly Hands* organization is not included in Goshen's annual budget. Goshen residents utilize the *Food Pantry* at the Goshen Congregational Church. A review of the "Welfare" budget will be made in January when other accounts are taken into consideration.

### 8. Old Business:

8a. Appointments – See page 1

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**8b. Recommendation – Tree Work Bid**

Three contractors submitted bids. Each seeking to be retained as on-call service providers for tree work during the 2019-2021 fiscal years. After careful review, Garret Harlow, Supervisor of Public Works, recommends that all three bids be accepted to ensure that a contractor is available for emergency storm work.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark Harris, it was **voted** to accept all three bids contingent upon value offered and availability of their services. Voted unanimous.

**9. New Business: None**

**10. Any other Business:**

10a. Selectman Mark S. Harris has resigned from the Planning & Zoning Commission. As such, Mr. Harris feels he can be a good resource for the Board of Selectman by serving as “Liaison” to the P&Z. He received the go-ahead by both Dexter Kinsella and Bob Valentine to do so.

Mentioned also was that Mark S. Harris will assume the duties of the Chairman of the Lake Weed Committee.

**9. Adjournment:**

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman’s Aide