

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

February 6, 2024

REGULAR MEETING

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

PRESENT: Todd M. Carusillo, Scott Olson, Dexter S. Kinsella (zoom)

OTHERS: Dawn Wilkes; Don Wilkes; Patrick Lucas; Marissa Wright; Henrietta Horvay; Audrey Blondin; Michael Leonard; Bernie Harrington; Thy Ho; Eric Warner; The Goshen News; Gary Stango, Sr.; Judi Armstrong; Janet Hooper; Erin Reilly; Joanna Kimball; Barbara Breor.

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 30, 2024:** In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of January 30, 2024 as corrected. Voted unanimous. Marc McCarthy's presentation regarding Goshen's land holdings *including the 30 acres on East St. South was not considered before purchasing the land on Route 4. (See Mr. McCarthy's memo attached.)*

Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 2, 2024:

In a motion made by Scott Olson, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was voted to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen of February 2, 2024. Voted unanimous.

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

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – February 8, 2024:

In a **motion** made by Scott Olson, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll of February 8, 2024 in the amount of \$59,723.48. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$32,469.03 and the warrant in the amount of \$27,254.45. Voted unanimous. Also included in this warrant: Road Salt - \$6,854.96; Dime Oil - \$6,426.94; Firematic (engine maintenance) – \$3,564.84.

5. First Selectman's Report:

Eversource will submit their tree trimming schedule; this schedule will be distributed accordingly. Surprisingly, 21 residents denied this service. Tree trimming helps with maintaining electric services during bad storms.

The Special Meeting of the BOS with Woodridge Lake Property Association (WLPA) went very well. This meeting was to codify, going forward, a formal, legal procedure to control sedimentation pumping efforts to the lake. The old handshake agreement was made and it agreed to split expenses for outside costs for consultants and material for sedimentation basins. This meeting was clarification, with discussions of the projects for an understanding of sharing costs for these projects with WLPOA. It is anticipated that, per the mutual agreement, it will be a 50/50 shared expense. All of the expenses and invoices will be reviewed on Friday, February 23, 2024.

6. Public Comment:

Thy Ho, (Goshen Public Library) contacted several neighboring Library Directors to clarify the work scope they perform.

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Marissa Wright reported that she has contacted via letters/e-mails people and organizations regarding the land on Sharon Turnpike. Perhaps sell it to the Goshen Land Trust. *Todd stated the land is not for sale.*

Scott Olson thanked Ms. Wright for her comments and leadership on this issue. The final decision should be made by Goshen residents. Todd Carusillo stated this current decision has been left to the Board of Selectmen. If we were going to sell this parcel, it would be a *town vote*. Todd and Scott agreed to keep this land for the future.

7. Correspondence: Todd Carusillo reported the receipt of a letter from the CT Dept. of Transportation regarding the Transportation Rural Improvement Program (TRIP) with reference to the grant Goshen applied for. Unfortunately, Goshen was denied this Grant. The Department is planning for a second solicitation later in the year. While this Grant was financial support for the "town roads", Todd was very disappointed to hear many other CT towns got a substantial amount of funding that went for "sidewalks".

8. Old Business: None

8a. Budgets:

The following budgets were brought forth for discussion:

Board of Assessors Planning and Zoning

Tax Collector Capital Expenditures Requests 2024-2025

In a **motion** made by Scott Olson, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to receive the aforementioned budgets for 2024-2025 and forwarded to the Board of Finance for their review and consideration. Voted unanimous.

9. New Business:

9a. Plan of Conservation and Development:

A plan for development of Land Use going forward. It was determined that a Land Use Attorney would be needed to write it. P&Z budgeted \$20,000; Todd stated \$10K this year and \$10K next year.

9b. Letter from Recreation Director – Office Move

Goshen Recreation Director wrote a letter requesting the relocation of the Recreation Director's Office from Town Hall over to West Wing of Kobylenski Lodge at Camp Cochipianne. In her letter, Erin Reilly cited the advantages of having new programs and residents' opportunities. She cited seniors to gather for programs, small children to have play groups, and increased opportunities for residents for gathering and socialization. If the kitchen can be certified, this would enable offering lunch options for seniors, cooking programs for all ages. Her office located there would enable her to have more person-to-person contact, share and hear program ideas. Todd Carusillo asked who would be responsible for management at the Camp? The heating cost for last August (2023) was 2/3 of last year's usage; \$3,000 more for heating oil. The electricity usage for last summer there showed an increase of \$1,500 from previous. He also asked who would be supervising when Ms. Reilly is called out for a EMT run? A "director" must be on site at all times when the building is occupied. Ms. Reilly will advise the availability of adequate internet, availability of adequate air conditioning, etc. It should be noted that Gary Stango Jr., Marc McCarthy donated their time and efforts on installing Broadband at this location which provided a substantial savings to this important element. Todd also felt it important Ms. Reilly sit down with Donna Malone, Goshen's **Community Care Co-Ordinator**, to ensure programs will not be duplicated, nor left out, etc. Both Todd and Scott will await input from Ms. Malone, analysis of cost for this proposal and other detailed information.

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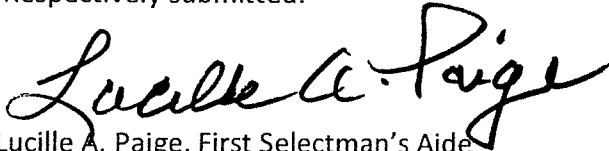
In a **motion** made by Scott Olson, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, a corrected copy of "Resolution – Deliver to the State Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all Documents it deems necessary or appropriate. " as **item 9c** on the Board of Selectmen Agenda for February 6, 2024. Voted unanimous.

Scott Olson read aloud the corrected *Resolution* regarding the *Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security*. In a **motion** by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson it was **voted** to accept corrected **Resolution – Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and deliver to the State Department of State Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection stated Resolution**. Voted unanimous.

10. Other Business: None

11. Adjournment: In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:56 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectively submitted:



Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide

Received Feb. 8, 2024 @ 11:25 AM

Attest Barbara Z. Blum
Goshen Town Clerk

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION OF THE

Town of Goshen

CERTIFICATION:

I, Barbara L. Breor, the Town Clerk of Goshen, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by Board of Selectmen at its duly called and held meeting on February 6, 2024, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, and that the resolution has not been modified, rescinded, or revoked and is at present in full force and effect:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectman may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Todd M. Carusillo, as First Selectman of Town of Goshen, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Goshen and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

The undersigned further certifies that Todd M. Carusillo now holds the office of First Selectman and that he has held that office since November 15, 2021.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: The undersigned has executed this certificate this 6th day of February, 2024.

Barbara L. Breor, Town Clerk



Lucille Paige

From: Todd Carusillo <1stselectman@goshenct.gov> on behalf of Todd Carusillo
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 9:13 AM
To: lpaige@goshenct.gov
Subject: FW: Exploring options from the sidelines....following up on earlier question
Attachments: Goshen Land Holding Options.pdf

-----Original Message-----

From: Marc McCarthy <mt_mccarthy@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 8:22 AM
To: Todd Carusillo <1stselectman@goshenct.gov>; Scott Olson <scott071672@gmail.com>; Dexter Kinsella <dexterk1101@att.net>
Subject: Exploring options from the sidelines....following up on earlier question

Todd, Scott & Dexter,

Given all the discussion about the new DPW building on the purchased land on Route 4 and the clear pushback you've received, I'd asked a few months ago about other land options that are owned by the Town of Goshen. I didn't hear back (never saw the broadband minutes either for that matter).

Anyway, following this from the sidelines, it seems evident a wholesale evaluation of the Town needs should be done; including DPW, firehouse, recreation, housing, open space, others, etc. While the formation and later dissolution of the Building Committee took place, it was never clear to me where things stand? Was an evaluation of the back of the firehouse examined inclusive of ways to mitigate the wetlands/drainage needs? Maybe a new group ought to be organized that is less politicized and more pragmatic?

Anyway, my curiosity lies in what the purpose of 30 acres of land the Town of Goshen owns on East Street South. There are 5 parcels one of which is wetlands and dedicated to the John Ross trail. There is an open field and varied slopes across 30 acres that appear usable for something. I am not recommending something here but merely seeking to learn more about why this was not considered before the land on Route 4 was purchased and if its not suitable what the Town of Goshen plans to do with it? Might it be conserved, sold to the Goshen Land Trust? It would certainly suitable to future recreational trails and possible the basis for a CT DEEP grant.

Please have a look at attached I prepared over the weekend for your review.
I hope to get thoughts from the folks at GCC/GLT as well.

All the best,

Marc McCarthy
6 Shelbourne Court
914-671-4929



February 1, 2024

Board of Selectmen
42 North Street
Goshen CT 06756

Dear Board of Selectmen,

I am writing to request the relocation of the Recreation Department office to the West Wing of Kobylenski Lodge at Camp Cochipianee. It was discussed at the Recreation Commission Meeting on September 18, 2023, and the Commission is on board with the proposal.

Moving the Recreation Department office to Kobylenski Lodge would open up new program and resident opportunities. The building would be open during the day for seniors to gather, parents of small children to hold play groups, and other opportunities for gathering and socialization. Goshen does not have a proper "Community Center" or "Senior Center". This move would remedy that by filling the gap of limited social gathering areas. I discussed with Gabby from TAHD the possibility of getting the kitchen certified, so that we could offer lunch options to seniors as other local senior centers do. We could also run cooking programs for all ages. The building has such potential to be a wonderful gathering place for the residents of our community!

Even the basement has potential! It can be set up for sports equipment swaps, seasonal clothing exchanges, and an extra space for programming. We have 8 kayaks that could be rented out during the day as other towns do, to create revenue. Programs for half days at school or snow days could be easily implemented. Online programs and classes could be offered, such as on demand exercise programs through the AARP website, easily projected on the drop-down screen.

The grounds at Camp Cochipianee are used all day long for various exercise, sports, and gathering of friends. With the Recreation office on site, I would have more person to person contact, open up paths of communication, share and hear program ideas, increase program awareness and attendance.

Being in the building on a regular basis allows for the continuous oversight of the property and buildings. The mechanics, maintenance, and general condition of the buildings would be better monitored with a constant on scene presence. As you know, there is a history of positive coliform in the water, the regular running of the water could resolve this issue, as there would always be a flow of water through the pipes and well, preventing stagnant water in the pipes allowing for bacteria to form.

This is the short list of how this move could expand and fulfill the possibilities of the Recreation Department. I would like for you to consider this proposal, ask questions, share concerns and comments. I am available and look forward to meeting with you at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

Thank you,

Erin Reilly
Recreation Director