

**TOWN OF GOSHEN**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Regular Meeting  
**Tuesday, December 17, 2019**

PRESENT: Mark S. Harris, Robert P. Valentine, Dexter S. Kinsella

OTHERS: Jim Withstandley; Pat Reilly; Allan D. Walker, Chr. Board of Finance

**1** Call to order: Robert P. Valentine, First Selectman called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

**2. Approve the minutes of the December 10, 2019 Regular Meeting:**

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 10, 2019, as presented. Voted unanimous.

**3. Matters Arising out of the minutes:** Bob Valentine attended the meeting of the Economic Development Commission held on December 16, 2019. The members are enthusiastically moving ahead with crafting a “5-year” plan.

**4. Approval of Payroll and Warrant – December 19, 2019:**

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll for December 19, 2019 in the amount of \$643,530.47. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$13,667.03 and the warrant in the amount of \$629,863.44. Voted unanimous. Included in this warrant were payments to Dime Oil (gasoline, diesel, heating oil) \$7,589.59; S&S Asphalt (Milton Rd.) \$567,365.09; Stirling MEHIP (health insurance) \$17,469.20; USA Hauling (Recycling) \$7,330.50.

**5. Public Comment:** None

**6. First Selectman’s Report:**

Bob Valentine met again with Tom Weik (Morris) and Tim Angevine, (Warren) to further discuss the ADM (Average Daily Membership) to avoid large swings in assessments due to changes in each town’s student populations. Under consideration is limiting and changes in assessment, due to changes in student population, to no greater than 5% on an annual basis.

Bob Valentine attended the Northwest Hills Council of Governments meeting last week wherein the members were advised of a grant – Regional Performance Incentive Program – available to the towns. This may be an avenue to pursue for the Regional Animal Control Facility under consideration for Goshen, Torrington and Litchfield. Bob will attend a meeting in Torrington on Wednesday, December 18, with the three town leaders for further discussions.

Bob Valentine reported on his meeting with the COST Board of Directors where the discussions centered around issues to help set the platform for the legislative session to begin in February. In addition, a potential for a Special Legislative Session in January where it is hoped that bonding would be approved for TAR (Town Aid Road Funds). Funds that normally would have been distributed to the towns from August, with the second payment in January have not yet been made. For Goshen approximately \$270,000.

Bob Valentine also attended the meetings of the Fire Commissioners and Recreation Commission Monday, December 16, 2019. He reiterated the circumstances of the Region 6 assessment and the increase of \$553,251 to Goshen's assessment for the coming year which may result in a 1 mill increase for tax payers. He urged both commissions to be cognizant of the potential increase as they formulate budgets for the coming year.

Bob also attended the Economic Development Commission meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> to be part of the discussion on their 5 year plan.

**7. Correspondence:** None

**8. Old Business:**

**8a. Appointments:** None

**9. New Business:**

**9a. Tax Collector's Report - November 30, 2019**

The Selectmen reviewed the report – Collection Rate – collected less refunds vs. total budgeted is 57.79% In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to receive the Tax Collector's Report, November 30, 2019 as presented. Voted unanimous.

**10. Any Other Business:**

Selectman Dexter S. Kinsella reported on the initial meeting of the Shane Morehouse Kinsella Memorial Fund. He reported the group discussed the criteria required for fund distribution. Their meetings will be on a quarterly basis - March 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup>. Individuals and organizations will be invited to apply for funding. The next meeting will be held Thursday, January 9, 2020, at the Town Hall. An agenda will be made available accordingly.

**11. Adjournment:**

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:27 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide