

**TOWN OF GOSHEN**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Regular Meeting  
**Tuesday, January 21, 2020**

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

OTHERS: Jim Withstandley; Pat Reilly, Alan Walker, Chr. Bd of Finance

**1** Call to order: Robert P. Valentine, First Selectman called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

**2. Approve the minutes of the January 14, 2020 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 January 14, 2020 as presented. Voted unanimous.

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

**4. Approval of Payroll and Warrant – January 23, 2020:**

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll for January 23, 2020 in the amount of \$262,167.31. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$27,266.53 and the warrant in the amount of \$234,900.78. Voted unanimous. Included were payments for: Lenard Engineering: \$5021.35; Morton Salt, (winter road salt): \$6,686.43 and \$24,546.77; S&S Asphalt (Milton Rd.), \$57,621.77; Westchester Tractor (Hitachi Wheel loader) \$123,191.25.

**5. Public Comment:** Jim Withstandley asked the delivery of the new truck at Public Works. Bob Valentine reported that the expected delivery is tentatively at the end of the month.

**6. First Selectman's Report:**

Bob Valentine reported that the employee evaluations are almost complete, with everything going well.

Bob and the Fiscal Office have been busy finalizing the initial budget submissions for the Board of Finance. Bob will be asking the Board of Finance to approve a merit budget for employee increase for the coming year.

At the next meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission, Marty Connor will review the legal responsibilities of municipal Planning and Zoning Commissions, and limitations.

**7. Correspondence:** None

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to add to the agenda under 8. Old Business, 8d. Shane Morehouse Kinsella Memorial Children's Fund (SMKF) Update. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to add to the agenda under item 10. Any Other Business: 10a. Tax Collector's Report – 12-31-19. Voted unanimous.

**8. Old Business:**

**a. Appointments:** None

**b. Budgets:**

The review of the second set of budgets will begin next week.

**c. MIRA:**

Continuing the discussion from the BOS meeting of January 14, and the Board having reviewed the Power Point presentation given by MIRA (**M**aterials **I**nnovation and **R**ecycling **A**uthority) on January 8, concerning where MIRA is currently, with potential changes to their solid waste system and recycling- having been directed by DEEP to work with Sacyer-Rooney for the development of a new facility for both municipal solid waste (MSW) and recycling. Proposed was for MIRA to bond \$330 million dollars to refurbish its facility in order modernize it, working with Sacyer-Rooney who would also operate the facility. Because of the costs to refurbish the facility and the cost to have Sacyer-Rooney operate it, the tipping fees for member towns would go up sustainably from the current rate of \$83.00 per ton to \$91.00 per ton starting July 1, 2020 . Future tipping fees could be as high as \$145.00 per ton depending on several factors. 1. Would be whether the State would be willing to help by bonding the construction costs instead of MIRA, substantially lowering the operational costs. 2. To allow MIRA's trash to energy facility to be consider a renewable energy with appropriate tax credits allowing the sale of electricity at \$0.11 per kw instead of the current \$0.04 per kw. Also discussed as part of the presentation was the option of hauling MSW out of state to large landfills in Ohio or Virginia. In the end, MIRA would like to see MSW stay in state and work out a 30 contract with member municipalities while working to create savings for its operations. To that end, MIRA will be sending an MOU to member towns asking that they commit to a long term contract for both MSW and recyclables. The intent being that that MOU would be brought to Town Meeting sometime in mid-summer.

The aforementioned overhaul of the trash to energy (recycling) program will need the input of the Goshen's **RAT (Recycling and Trash)** Commission. Keeping up with the actions forthcoming by MIRA and the State will be essential to the residents of Goshen.

**d. Shane Morehouse Kinsella Fund:**

Selectman Dexter Kinsella reported on the activities of the Shane Morehouse Kinsella Fund, inasmuch as "guidelines" for financial distribution have now been created. Their main function is to assist Goshen children with financial aid. The meetings (calendar) for this organization has been created and is available on Goshen's website.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was **voted** to adopt the Guidelines for the Shane Morehouse Kinsella Fund. Voted unanimous.

**10. Any Other Business:**

**10a. Tax Collector's Report- December 31, 2019**

The report was reviewed by the Board of Selectman. The Collection rate-collected less refunds vs. total budgeted is 67.13%, which is in line with past tax activity at this point in time.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris it was **voted** to receive the report of the Tax Collector, December 31, 2019 as submitted. Voted unanimous.

**11. Adjournment:**

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide