

TOWN OF GOSHEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 4, 2020

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

OTHERS: Jim Withstandley; Cynthia Barrett; Amy Tobin

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 28, 2020 Regular Meeting:

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 28, 2020 as corrected (Cynthia Barrett's last name was misspelled). Motion carried with Dexter S. Kinsella abstaining.

3. Matters Arising out of the minutes: Dexter Kinsella asked the next step in annual ADM (Average Daily Membership) assessment for Region 6. Bob Valentine advised he is awaiting word from Town Attorney Roraback to finalize the action to be taken by the three Towns' Board of Selectmen.

The RAT's Committee has been invited to the BOS meeting of February 11, 2020 to join in discussion MIRA's plan for redeveloping their WTE (**waste-to-energy**) and recycling facilities.

4. Approval of Payroll and Warrant – February 6, 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 February 6, 2020 in the amount of \$27,114.97. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$14,539.25 and the warrant in the amount of \$12,575.72. Voted unanimous. Included were payments for: Dime Oil (Heating) \$3,086.35; Eversource \$2,381.09; Valk Mfg. (snow plow blades) \$2,225.10.

5. Public Comment: Jim Withstandley asked about the ADM (Reg.6 schools) regarding the Selectmen from each of the three towns coming to agree with the proposed "5%" maximum increase in a town's assessment due to student enrollment changes. Bob described the effect of the "5%" cap, and the benefit for each town therein.

Cynthia Barrett asked if residents can have more than one (1) recycle bin, if needed. Bob will check with USA Hauling as costs may be a factor.

Amy Tobin asked if discarded food from the GCS cafeteria, is composted

Cynthia Barrett asked if the Solar Panels (behind the GCS) can be expanded for the "town". Bob Valentine explained that it was not economically feasible for the town, due to Eversource rate classes.

6. First Selectman's Report:

Bob's report contains subject matters relative to the items under 8. Old Business. See below.

7. Correspondence: None

8. Old Business: None

8a. Appointments:

Bob Valentine reported having received three resignations:

Chris Sanders has resigned from his position on the Region 6 Board of Education.

Chris Sanders has also resigned from his position on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Leya Edison has resigned from the Recycling and Trash Committee.

8b. Budgets: Budget 2020-2021:

The following budget submittals were reviewed and discussed individually:

Town Clerk	Conservation of Health
Planning & Zoning	Street Lights
Zoning Board of Appeals	Conservation Commission
Civil Preparedness	

8c. MIRA:

Bob Valentine shared with the Selectmen, a letter (rec'd January 29, 2020) from MIRA (**M**aterials **I**nnovation and **R**ecycling **A**uthority). The letter is attempting to gauge a "statement of interest" in the project to refurbish MIRA's WTE (**W**aste **T**o **E**nergy) and recycling facilities to operate for another 30 years. The aggregate cost they project is \$330 million. Major factors are whether the State would help with the cost with "bonding" and incorporating the use of renewable electricity. Via this letter, MIRA is trying to determine next steps for this project and whether the current MIRA municipalities would support this development project (which may produce a tipping fee of \$145./ton). They state in this letter their intentions of working with the legislature for various supplement revenue sources to reduce the proposed tipping fee, which would be imposed if this major overhaul of their facilities were to move ahead. MIRA's goal is to be consistent with those of the State to provide *in-State* disposal options satisfactory to the municipal customers. Goshen is contracted with MIRA, out to fiscal year 2027. MIRA would like to modify that agreement mid-summer, to be a 30-year contract which would change their pricing structure.

Bob Valentine has this item on the BOS agenda, for next week February 11th, and has invited the Citizens Committee for Recycling and Trash (RAT's) to attend and give their input on this important issue.

9. New Business: None

10. Any Other Business:

Selectman Mark Harris attended the meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission, held on Tuesday, January 28, 2020. He expressed how informative and thorough Marty Connor presented "*Commissioner roles and responsibilities*" to those in attendance. Subjects covered were Legal Basis of Authority, Membership, Terms of Office, Alternates, Powers and Duties and Combined Planning and Zoning Commissions.

11. Adjournment:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide