

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, July 28, 2020

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

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

OTHERS: Sean O'Neil; John McKenna-Republican American, Audrey Blondin

1 Call to order: Robert P. Valentine called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Approval the minutes of the meeting of July 21 2020:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of July 21, 2020 as submitted. Voted unanimous.

3. Matter Arising Out of the Minutes: None

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – July 30, 2020:

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll of July 30, 2020 in the amount of \$176,761,41. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$15,706.46 and the warrant in the amount of \$161,054.95 Voted unanimous. Included in the warrant were: King & King, CPA (accounting consultants)- \$1,987.50; New England Asphalt (chip seal)-\$136,906.77; Target Enterpr. (Tamarak Lane) - \$4,730.40.

5. Public Comment: None

6. First Selectman's Report:

The Shared Work Program application (see minutes of June 23, 2020) has been approved. Beginning this week, those employees of our Library will receive unemployment compensation for hours that have been reduced, but continue to work the newly scheduled hours (reduced) in the Library to equal their normal/full work week prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bob reported that he took part in a conference call with Beth Murphy, who represents the *Black Bear Americana Music Festival*. The music festival may not take place this year due to the social distancing, reduced number of attendees and other restrictions in place by Governor's Executive orders and an inability to have a temporary liquor permit.

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Bob has been advised by a member of the Goshen Players, Inc. that the chimneys at the Old Town Hall are in need of repair. The Town holds a façade easement from when the building was transferred to the Goshen Players and must approve any changes to the façade. A formal request will be forthcoming to remove the (2) chimneys (which are not used). Bob feels that the chimneys should remain as originally designed to retain the historical integrity of the building. He would support a fund raiser for the repairs. The Selectmen, having received a copy of the original "Declaration" granting the Old Town Hall to the Goshen Players, will advise as to their decision as to how handle this upon receipt of a formal request.

Mark Harris and Bob Valentine attended the ESF 14, (Emergency Services Functions) *Long Term Recovery* committee, regarding general issues stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic facing municipalities. Selectman Mark Harris described the efforts of the ESF 14 group and a general survey concerning six different categories, from financial to other items that my effect municipalities. The survey will be distributed to the committee members for review. Goshen's *Go Recovery* committee has surveyed seniors and is working on other sectors of town for future surveys. One important issue that is affecting many families is education/child care and care for the elderly. He stated that many grandparents are serving as their family's means for child-care as more employed people are still working from their homes and may be for a while into the future, good internet connections are essential. Recently the Governor allocated \$43 million for internet and connectivity issues from dollars received from the CARES Act.

7. Correspondence: None

8. Old Business:

a. Town Continuation of Operations: RE: COVID-19, Governor Lamont's Executive Orders: Phase 3 of Governor Lamont's Executive orders are still under suspension. At this time there are no new executive orders of town concern.

b. Appointments: It was announced that Richard Reis has submitted his resignation from the Lake Weed Committee. A replacement will be sought.

9. New Business:

a. Goshen Stampede:

Sean O'Neil stated that he felt the Stampede should be permitted at 25% of previous capacity approximately 1,100 people, inclusive of workers, volunteers, performers, vendors, etc. Bob Valentine reminded Mr. O'Neill that the Board of Selectmen must adhere to the Sector Rules, and exercise extreme caution. Mr. O'Neill was advised to submit a "completed" Special Event Permit, with complete, solid details, identifying how the event would be laid out, social distancing precautions, etc.

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The Selectmen will need to have this finalized Special Permit Application in their hands prior to having a formal BOS meeting to discuss this. Bob stressed the need to be extremely careful, in that he does not want to see a spike in COVID-19 infections due to any circumstances that may be overlooked.

10. Any Other Business: Selectman Dexter Kinsella reported that a resident contacted him concerning the shooting range near the Strang Scout Reservation. Bob assured them that the area is overseen by NRA certified instructors and Range officers for programs with Scout Explorers, and is very safe.

11. Adjournment:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:45p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide