

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, August 18, 2020

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

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

1 Call to order: Robert P. Valentine called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

2. Approval the minutes of the meeting of August 11, 2020:

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of August 11, 2020 as corrected: Page 3, Tammy Diehl holds the position of Vice-President, Building Committee of the Goshen Players. Motion carried with Dexter S. Kinsella abstaining.

3. Matter Arising Out of the Minutes: Selectman Kinsella reported his conversation with Henrietta Horvay, Town Historian, wherein she stated that she prefers the chimneys at the Old Town Hall be retained to preserve the historical-structural integrity of the building. She also stated she would gladly be involved in a town-wide fund raising event to support the project.

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – August 20, 2020:

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll of August 20, 2020 in the amount of \$87,935.87. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$17,131.55 and the warrant in the amount of \$70,804.42. Voted unanimous. Included in the warrant were: VISA -\$1,276.00; Connecticare (employee health insurance) – \$15,002.53; MIRA (waste disposal fees)- \$ 13,751.92; Quality Data (Assessor Software) - \$5,650.00; USA Hauling (recycling) - \$7,330.50.

5. Public Comment: Good/positive feedback from Goshen residents during last week's storm. Compliments to the Goshen Fire Company's response; contacts made to shut-ins; Public Works response to downed trees, etc. Unfortunately, the response from Eversource was not favorable. The former "make safe" crews from Eversource were not responsive/timely which suggests changes were made. Bob had discussions with Rep. Jay Case and Senator Craig Minor regarding Eversource's response.

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6. First Selectman's Report:

All *Executive Orders* heretofore in place by the Governor (due to the COVID-19 pandemic), will expire as of September 9, 2020 – limited number of persons in bars, restaurants, public gatherings. As a member of the ACIR (Advisory Committee on Intergovernmental Relations), Bob Valentine will be working with John Filchak, Executive Director of the Northeast Council of Governments on recommendations for extension or legislative actions concerning the Executive Orders.

Bob feels that it would be advantageous to continue to hold zoom type meetings and develop a "hybrid" meeting, i.e., the ability to attend in person or electronically. Having the ability for the public to "log-in" to a Town Meeting should also be considered although details on how to verify a person's identity for voting purposes would need to be worked out.

Bob reported that he visited the Old Town Hall with members of the Goshen Players regarding the chimney repairs. Some needed repairs were visible. However, having a chimney person actually get up on the roof to inspect up close is necessary before moving forward.

Bob reported that he has been contacted by a Woodridge Lake resident, wherein it appears that Optimum/ALTICE has blocked the Woodridge Lake Property Owners from sending bast emails, presumably because they are perceived as spam. Bob has reached out to Optimum/ALTICE in an effort to address this issue.

There have been no new COVID-19 cases since July 17, 2020.

Region 6 schools will resume classes August 26th, initially with half day and the full day in class sessions. There are also contingency plans if COVID-19 becomes an issue.

Bob has been advised by the Principal of the Goshen Center School that there are 20 new students attending this year. This will affect the October 1st ADM. Bob will be discussing this with Superintendent Chris Leone next week.

8. Old Business:

8a. Town Continuation of Operations: RE: COVID-19 Governor Lamont's Executive Orders:

The Goshen Library currently is in Phase 2, where limited participants are by appointment only. The Library Board has approved a Phases 3 but has not implemented it at this point. The Board of Selectmen felt given the Town hall has opened, the Library could implement their phase three with appropriate precautions being put in place.

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b. Appointments: None

8c. Spending Freeze:

The Board reviewed information from the Tax Collector concerning current tax collections in comparison to previous years. This shows that our tax receipts are in line with previous years. Having met collection estimates, the board felt that the current spending freeze could be lifted for the time being.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to lift the spending freeze as adopted by this Board, but to encourage all departments to be conscious of their expenses given the uncertainty going forward. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was voted to add to the agenda under item 9. New Business, item 9a. Resolution: State Homeland Security Grant Program. Voted unanimous.

9. New Business:

9a. Resolutions: State Homeland Security Grant Program:

Bob Valentine read aloud the *Authorizing Resolution of the Board of Selectmen (regarding State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.)* (See attached).

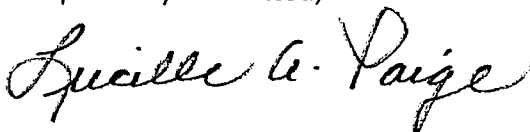
In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harries, it was **voted** to adopt the Resolution attached herein regarding State Homeland Security Grant Program. Voted unanimous.

10. Any Other Business: None

11. Adjournment:

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,



Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide

Received August 20, 2020 11:12 AM

Attest Megan Scanlon
AEST Goshen Town Clerk

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION OF THE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

CERTIFICATION:

I, *Megan Scanlon* ^{ASSITANT} Town Clerk of the Town of Goshen, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Selectman at its duly called and held meeting on August 18, 2020, 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 Robert P. Valentine, as First Selectman, of the 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/she 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 Robert P. Valentine now holds the office of First Selectman and that he/she has held that office since November 15, 2019.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: The undersigned has executed this certificate this 19th day of August, 2020

Name and Title of Record Keeper

Megan Scanlon
ASSITANT TOWN CLERK

