

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, August 25, 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

OTHERS: Audrey Blondin, Courtney Fern, John McKenna, Republican American

1 Call to order: Robert P. Valentine called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

2. Approval the minutes of the meeting of August 18, 2020:

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of August 18, 2020. Voted unanimous.

3. Matter Arising Out of the Minutes:

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – August 27, 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 August 27, 2020 in the amount of \$1,469,616.36. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$23,572.21 and the warrant in the amount of \$1,446,044.15. Voted unanimous. Included in the warrant were: John Hancock (pensions) \$5,417.28; RSD # assessment \$1,431,473.00.

5. Public Comment:

Courtney Fern, expressed concern for an elephant at RW Commerford.

Audrey Blondin, expressed her thanks for a “job well done” during and after Isis storm to maintain assistance/help to the Goshen residents. To this end, she asked how residents can get on a list to be contacted during emergencies.

Bob directed her to the town web site to sign up for notifications.

Ms. Blondin felt the “Ballot Boxes” for the Absentee Votes cast in the recent primary worked very well.

Ms. Blondin stated that she was relieved to know that the Goshen Stampede will not take place this year at the Goshen Fairgrounds. Bob stated that the Goshen Agricultural Society Board of Directors voted to reject events involving large numbers of attendees at this point in time.

6. First Selectman's Report:

Bob Valentine reported that in an effort to update the town's purchase policy a committee consisting Don Sage, Fire Commissioner, Ned Bixler of the Board of Finance and himself are asking boards, commissions and department for their input for improvements. They will have until the end of the month to submit comments. Selectman Kinsella felt it important to maintain the intent of the policy, which is to arrive at the best value.

Currently the Governor's Executive Orders (ref. COVID-19) expire on Wednesday, September 9th. However, it appears that perhaps these orders may be extended.

Bob continues to work via his position on ACIR to suggest that changes should be made to Statutes that would allow boards and commission meetings virtually and in person in the future, as well as town meetings.

The Tyler Ridge Subdivision (created in 2008) has now completed the final monumenting of the corners and mapping. The Planning & Zoning Commission will be considering recommending the town take the subdivision road as a town road at their meeting tonight.

Bob brought forward a recommendation that capital appropriations for the current year be considered by the selectmen for recommendation to the board of finance given most were tabled when the budget was adopted.

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 item 8. Old Business; 8c. Discussion of Capital and Non-recurring Appropriations. Voted unanimous.

8. Old Business:

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

Per reports from the Torrington Area Health Department, there have been no changes in the number of COVID-19 cases in Goshen.

8b. Appointments: None

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8c. Discussion of Capital and Non-recurring Appropriations:

Discussed were potential appropriations for capital project that were tabled when the current budget was adopted. They include Fire Company and Public Works vehicles as well as PW road projects as well as monies for the Assessor's office and updating the employee pay matrix

Now that tax collections are on par with previous years, the board agreed to suggest to the board of finance that they consider some of the capital requests.

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 5:47 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide