

Town of Goshen  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Tuesday, September 1, 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: None

**1 Call to order:** Robert P. Valentine called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**2. Approval the minutes of the meeting of August 25, 2020:**

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of August 25, 2020. Voted unanimous.

**3. Matter Arising Out of the Minutes:** None

**4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – September 3, 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 September 3, 2020 in the amount of \$34,167.40. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$14,593.07 and the warrant in the amount of \$19,574.33. Voted unanimous. Included in the warrant were: Dime Oil Company- \$3,205.06.

**5. Public Comment:** None

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

Currently the Governor's Executive Orders (ref. COVID-19) were set to expire on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> but the Governor has extended his order to February 9, 2021. There was one (1) additional case of COVID-19 in Goshen confirmed Friday, August 28, 2020.

Bob Valentine stated there was some misinformation published in the Republican American today (9/1/2020) regarding a "regional" parks and rec director position between the Town of Goshen and Litchfield. Denise Raap, First Selectman of Litchfield, recently contacted Bob inquiring if Goshen would consider working with Litchfield sharing a recreation director because Litchfield's Recreation Director recently retired. After discussion, Denise revealed that because of Litchfield's union contract, Litchfield would have to be the employer of any Recreation Director working with Litchfield and Goshen. In that Goshen would have no say in the work rules, salary or benefits, Bob did not think the arrangement would be in the town of Goshen's best interest, after all, Goshen already has a very competent Recreation Director. However, he agreed there are *programs* that can be worked on cooperatively.

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Bob took the opportunity to pay respects to George Schuster, who passed away last week. Mr. Schuster a lifelong resident of Goshen, was well known by almost everyone in town. A veteran of the Vietnam War and active member of the American Legion Post. George served on the Goshen Agricultural Commission, and was active in many organizations serving Goshen and its residents. He was known to be one who always helped his neighbors and volunteered whenever needed. He will be missed by many.

At the Board of Finance meeting held last Wednesday, Bob was able to review Contingency Adjustments and stated that the amount over-budgeted came to only \$26,699.32. The largest adjustment was due to increases of \$17,473.57 for tipping fee paid to MIRA for solid waste. The estimated use of fund balance for 2019/2020 fiscal year was \$532,598.00. The actual amount came to \$157,651.94. The overall favorable amount can be attributed to the “spending freeze” that was put in place as well as sound management throughout the year. Bob thanked everyone for their hard work in managing the towns funds. He also distributed a “draft” of Capital Expense requests given to the Board of Finance:

- Accessor, software update, in anticipation of 2022 revaluation, \$14,200.
- Fire Company funds for ambulance and fire truck replacement, \$122,000.
- Public Works replacement of truck 4 and truck 9. (Truck 4 is a 1994 with 120,000 miles and truck 9 is ten years old and is starting to have problems) and Major Road Projects for work on School Hill Road and Sucker Brook, \$361,300.
- Woodridge Lake drainage improvements, \$20,000.
- Update of the Employee Salary Matrix, 2,500.

The Board of Finance will meet Wednesday, September 9, 2020 to consider the aforementioned expenses.

From the Planning and Zoning meeting of last week, a favorable recommendation was made on making Tyler Ridge a Town road. The next step would be for the Board of Selectmen to call a Town Meeting for the town’s people to be able to vote on accepting the road as a Town road.

Region 6, Superintendent Chris Leone advised that the increase in new students (24) to the district has been offset by the number of students who will be “home-schooled” this year. Right now, this number is “fluid” inasmuch as actual numbers are taken on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

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**7. Correspondence:** Pat Reilly sent his thanks to the town employees for their good wishes for his recovery. He is doing well and will visit the Town Hall soon.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to add to the agenda, under item 9. New Business, 9a. Tax Collector Report – August 31, 2020. Voted unanimous.

**8. Old Business:**

**8a. Town Continuation of Operations: RE: COVID-19 Governor Lamont's Executive Orders:**  
See page one, Selectman's Report.

Library Director, Lynn Steinmayer notified Bob Valentine that she would like to request the Library Board "open-up" the Library to the public a little more than is currently allowed. They would work within the protocols currently set in place.

**8b. Appointments:**

In a **motion** made by Robert P. Valentine, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to reappoint Mark Beeman to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate, for a term ending April 23, 2022. Voted unanimous.

**8c. Discussion of Capital and Non-recurring Appropriations** – See page 1

**9. New Business:**

**9a. Tax Collector's Report - August 31, 2020:**

The Collection Rate – collected less refunds vs. total budgeted (August 2019) grand list is \$105.10% of the collectable taxes as of August 31, 2020

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to receive the Tax Collector's Report. Voted unanimous.

**10. Any Other Business: None**

**11. Adjournment:**

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:29 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide