

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, November 10, 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: Chris Sanders, Cindy Barrett, Judy Armstrong, Colleen Kinkade, Tom Weik, First Selectman of Morris, Emily Olson – Register Citizen; John McKenna- Republican American.

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

At this time, Bob Valentine explained the newly purchase electronics equipment for facilitating hybrid meetings which includes a 75” TV screen, speakers, microphones and camera.

2. Approval the minutes of the meeting of November 3, 2020:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of November 3, 2020 as corrected. Selectman Harris merely “received” the public comments following his stating the position of the BOS to “Hawkers and Peddlers” law for the town of Goshen. His comments were not to be construed as an apology.

Voted unanimous.

3. Matters Arising Out of the Minutes: None

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – November 12, 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 November 12, 2020, in the amount of \$44,025.67. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$29,864.76 and the warrant in the amount of \$14,160.91. Voted unanimous. Included in the warrant were: Eversource (street lights) \$1,030.39; Trinity Health (medic) \$2,240.00.

5. Public Comment: Cindy Barrett stated the Hybrid meeting set up is wonderful. Emily Olson would like copies of the Rules of the Hybrid meeting to publish.

6. First Selectman’s Report:

Bob Valentine reported that he has been working with Ted Orr from *Yucatech* to setup the new system which will facilitate a hybrid meeting which includes in person and electronic attendance. This meeting tonight is being conducted in HYBRID form to demonstrate the operation and feasibility of conducting such meetings. These types of meetings are now allowed by Executive Orders of Gov. Lamont during this pandemic. Using Zoom meetings a

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hybrid meeting will allow individuals to log into a meeting and also vote on meeting agenda items. (A sample question was launched to those in attendance at this BOS meeting and the process went accurately and smoothly.) *An important component of Zoom meeting voting is it can be done anonymous.* For the upcoming Annual and Special Town meeting on the Monday, November 16th, only registered voters or “Electors” will be able to attend the meeting by Zoom computer log in due to the fact that everyone logged in will be able to vote electronically. Those wishing to attend remotely but not vote will be able to phone into the meeting and hear the proceedings. The meeting will also be open to the public for in person attendance following required protocol for social distancing, wearing of masks, sign-in and temperature check. The meeting will be held in **the Goshen Center School Gymnasium** at 8:00 pm

The Goshen Library has been returned to full, normal staff this week. The *Shared Work Unemployment Program* conducted during the pandemic has been suspended.

The established protocol for COVID 19 extends to the Goshen Fire Company and Goshen’s EMS personnel and as such are covered under the town’s insurance policy for workers’ comp if they contract or are suspected of contracting COVI-19. This comes under Governor Lamont’s Executive Order 7-J J J.

The ***Annual Report for the Town of Goshen*** has returned from the printer. Copies are available at Town Hall and the Goshen Town Website.

Bob reported his attendance at the initial meeting of the working group on collaboration between Region 6 School District and the Litchfield School District. Bob emphasized the outstanding work done by Superintendent Christopher Leone in creating the current cooperative program. The Central Offices of both districts have been combined to avoid duplication of efforts, the Business Offices have been integrated and shared bus services will soon be contracted. To be discussed by the working group are the possibility of further cooperative efforts including regionalizing parts of both school districts. Fair and equal representation of each town will be a priority. Some potential initiatives will require legislative action particularly equal representation of each town.

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. Letter of Recommendation of Rebid for Dried Screened Road Sand.** Voted unanimous.

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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. Warning: Annual and Special Town Meeting** and item **9b. Rules of Hybrid Annual and Special Town Meeting November 16, 2020**

Voted unanimous.

8. Old Business:

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

TAHD has reported that one new case of COVID-19 this week. Litchfield County has 4 patients hospitalized. Governor Lamont has extended his Executive Orders to February due to the uptick in cases of COVID 19.

(It's important to understand that the above roll-back regulations pertain to private gatherings, Church gatherings and businesses – **not municipalities**. Goshen's upcoming Annual Town Meeting is not in violation of any of these "roll-back" changes.)

8b. Appointments: None

8c. Letter of Recommendation of rebid for Dry Screened Road Sand

In his letter of recommendation for Dry Screen Road Sand, Supervisor of Public Works, Garret Harlow has recommended *Segalla and Gravel, Inc.*, North Canaan, CT to be the selected supplier having submitted the lowest price for both pick up and delivered.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to accept the recommendation of Supervisor, Garret Harlow for supplier of dry screened road sand to the Town of Goshen. Voted unanimous.

9. New Business:

9a. Warning: Annual and Special Town Meeting of Town of Goshen:

Selectman Dexter S. Kinsella read aloud the legal warnings of Hybrid Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting to be held Monday November 16, 2020 at 8:00 p.m., Meeting I.D. 872 2796 9911. **(See attached)**

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adopt the call of the *Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting to be held Monday, November 16, 2020 @ 8:00 p.m.* Voted unanimous.

9b. Rules of Hybrid Annual and Special Town Meeting: Read aloud by Robert P. Valentine.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adopt the *Rules of Hybrid Annual and Special Town Meeting, November 16, 2020*. Voted unanimous. **(See attached)**

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10. Any Other Business: Selectman Mark S. Harris reported that the Planning & Zoning Commission updated the plan for Affordable Housing. As such, will be looking for the BOS to work to move this initiative forward.

1. 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.

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide