

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, November 17, 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: Cindy Barrett, Pat Reilly

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 November 10, 2020:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of November 10, 2020 as presented. Voted unanimous.

3. Matters Arising Out of the Minutes: None

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – November 19, 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 19, 2020, in the amount of \$103,235.25. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$12,715.42 and the warrant in the amount of \$90,519.83 Voted unanimous. Included in the warrant were: VISA – \$2,560.06; Dime Oil (heating fuel)- \$3,580.58; John Hancock, (pensions)- \$5,565.81; Morton Salt (winter salt) \$12,637.07.

5. Public Comment: Cindy Barrett stated the Hybrid meeting for the Annual Town meeting went very well.

6. First Selectman's Report:

Referring to the Annual Town Meeting, held on Monday, November 16th, everything went well holding the meeting with the "Hybrid" model. Those logging in showed their ID to the registrars to be allowed in. Those attending in person were also checked in by the registrars. A total of 69 people attended, 23 in person, 45 via zoom log in and 1 via phone.

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Bob reported that the regular staff meeting was held today and the "comfort level" of all the staff concerning keeping the Town Hall open was discussed in light of the recent uptick in COVID-19 cases in town. Most felt comfortable and safe given the precautions in place, i.e., temperature taking, masks, sanitizer, social distancing, etc. Due to the availability of documents "on-line" the Town Hall traffic has been greatly reduced. The Library reported there has not been a big increase in visitors since they opened back up to the public without appointments. Bob advised that if the uptick trend continues here in Goshen, perhaps the Town Hall will have to be locked down again. The Public Works department will make an effort to hire on extra "on call seasonal help", should any of the staff have to be quarantined.

Hard copies of the *State Single Audit Year Ended June 30, 2020* and *Town of Goshen Connecticut Audited Financial Statements Year Ended June 30, 2020* were distributed to members of the Board of Selectmen and Fiscal Office.

Bob reported that the hybrid meeting equipment will be mounted to the wall in the conference room for future meetings and Library programs.

7. Correspondence: None

8. Old Business:

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

As of Monday, there are 16 COVID-19 cases for the month of November in Goshen, a substantial increase from previous months. Within those cases; 5 affected in one household; 2 in another household and 4 in another household. For perspective, from March 24 to October 30th there were 21 cases in town. Bob sent a notice out to residents acknowledging the increases and ask that everyone redouble their efforts by social distancing and wearing masks. Mark Harris also posted similar comments on Facebook page, Goshen Chatter.

Community Health and Wellness Center will hold a Pop-up COVID-19 testing this coming Friday Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Testing will be free.

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8b. Appointments: None

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, 9a. Tax Collector's Report – October 31, 2020.** Voted unanimous.

9. New Business:

9a. Tax Collector's Report: October 31, 2020.

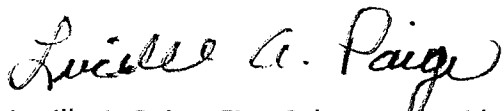
The Board reviewed the subject report. The Collection Rate- collected less refunds vs. total budgeted was 58.58%. In comparison with previous years' reporting, this amount is right on target.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to receive the Tax Collector's Report – October 31, 2020 as presented. Voted unanimous.

10. Any Other Business: Selectman Mark S. Harris reported that Superintendent of Schools, Chris Leone is considering moving to virtual classes due to the recent increase in COVID-19 cases in the member towns and area for the safety of students and staff. This Board of Selectmen wishes to make it known that they appreciate Superintendent Leone's dedication and hard work during these difficult times and support his efforts.

1. Adjournment:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:22p.m. Voted unanimous.



Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide

Received Nov. 19, 2020 @ 10:30 A.M.

Attest 
Goshen Town Clerk