

**Town of Goshen**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Tuesday, January 19, 2021**

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

Zoom Conference Link: <https://zoom.us/j/379444182>

Meeting ID #: 379-444-182

Option 2: Dial-in number: 1-929-205-6099

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

**OTHERS:** Colleen Kinkade, Recreation Director; Scott Fraher, President, Goshen Agricultural Society

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

**2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of January 12, 2021:**

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of January 12, 2021 as presented. Voted unanimous.

**3. Matters Arising Out of the Minutes:** Selectman Harris reported that the Tyler Lake Heights representatives met with representatives from Aquarian in an effort to resolve the issue of chlorine in their water.

**4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – January 21, 2021**

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll of January 21, 2021 in the amount of \$49,639.61. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$12,314.84 and the warrant in the amount of \$37,324.77. Voted unanimous.

Included in the warrant were: ESO Solutions (charting program GFC) \$3,302.63; MIRA (municipal solid waste Tipping Fees) \$11,410.49; Waterway (GFC) Fire Hose Inspections, \$3,370.32; USA Hauling (recycling contract) \$7,330.50

**5. Public Comment:** Goshen Recreation Director, Collen Kinkade announced her resignation, effective, Monday, February 15, 2021. She has accepted the position of Litchfield Recreation Commission. Mrs. Kinkade extended her sentiments to all the residents and children of Goshen for their kindness and support they have extended to her over the years in all the activities undertaken by the Recreation Department. The Board of Selectmen thanked her for years of service, dedication to Goshen with their sincere appreciation for all her hard work. They extended best wishes to her in her new endeavor.

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Scott Fraher, President of the Goshen Agricultural Society, was looking forward to some direction for upcoming events for 2021 that may be held at the Goshen Fairgrounds. Who is setting the rules, and who has final authority for setting up the number of event attendees. Bob Valentine responded that Sector Rules created by the Department of Economic and Community Development per the Governor's executive orders, sets the limits for the number of people allowed at open events in Connecticut. It is hoped that those rules will change as more people are vaccinated against COVID-19 by late summer or early fall.

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

COVID -129 vaccinations are beginning for Phase 1b. There are an estimated 1.3 million individuals included in this phase including individuals 65 and older, people with underling health conditions 16 to 64 and essential workers. Initially, individuals 75 yrs and older will be vaccinated.

Now that the legislature has returned into a new session, there may be changes in the Governors ability to extend or issue executive orders concerning COVID precautions. More vaccine is coming into the pipelines. The current executive orders expire February 9<sup>th</sup>. Bob sent a letter and flyer to Goshen residents concerning the availability of vaccine for seniors over 75 yrs. u-sing the town **"News and Announcements"**. There are three different ways seniors can sign up.

COVID-19 hospitalizations last week were relatively stable in Litchfield County, at the same time there were an additional 4 cases in Goshen.

Bob Valentine has received the *final* report of Goshen Compensation Review for 2021 from Randi Frank Consulting, LLC. In that the report concludes that Goshen remains competitive with the labor marketplace, the report also recommends a 2.5% merit budget. This final report will be presented to the Board of Finance at their next meeting on January 27, 2021.

A discussion took place on replacement of the position of Recreation Director. In that there exists a pandemic and it is the middle of winter, there is no rush to fill that position immediately. Bob Valentine will speak with the Chairman of the Recreation Commission, Don Patterson, and discuss the vacancy moving forward. Perhaps the new Recreation Director can be a part time position with another individual working solely with the summer camp position. This time element renders an opportunity to take fresh look at this position. The Recreation Commission will meet January 25<sup>th</sup> and perhaps both the Recreation Commission and the Board of Selectman can meet together after that, to discuss ideas and suggestions.

### **7. Correspondence: None**

**8. Old Business:**

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

See item 6, First Selectman's Report.

**b. Appointments:** None

**9. New Business:** None

**9a. Budgets: 2021-2022 – None**

In reviewing submitted budgets, the Fire Commissioners budget is currently at 83% for clerical wages while at this time it should be at 54%. Therefore, it can be expected that the end of the fiscal period in June, their budget may be well over 100%.

**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 5:40 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide