

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, January 26, 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: Cindy Barrett

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

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of January 19, 2021:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of January 19, 2021 as amended. (Tyler Lake Heights representative *will meet* with representatives.) Voted unanimous.

3. Matters Arising Out of the Minutes: None

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – January 28, 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 28, 2021 in the amount of \$33,685.52. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$26,055.64 and the warrant in the amount of \$7,619.88. Voted unanimous.

5. Public Comment: Cindy Barrett asked about the tree stumps on Beach St., residue from the tree that was cut down. It was found that debris belongs to a homeowner on Beach St. rather than the town of Goshen.

6. First Selectman's Report:

From last week, there are 3 additional COVID -19 cases in Goshen. In Litchfield County hospitalizations increased to 20 cases.

Torrington Area Health district has reserved 5 doses of vaccine for a clinic on Saturday the 30th for town of Goshen employees over 75ys old. Because all of the town employees over 75 have already scheduled vaccine appointments we are able offer those slots to Goshen residents. The registrar of voters created a list of voters over 75, using the list, Lucille Paige, First Selectman's Aide and Erin Reilly, Agent for the Elderly and Community Care and Hospice have been

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contacting residents to find individuals who have not scheduled or received a vaccination yet. After the slots are filled they will continue help those who are still in need of the vaccine, by helping them register.

Bob reported on the *Affordable Housing Committee* meetings and membership. Members represent several boards in town. The next meeting of the *Affordable Housing Committee* will be held Thursday, February 4, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

The members are:

Bill Commerford	Economic Development Committee
Chris Sanders	Economic Development Committee & Goshen Housing Trust
Cindy Barrett	Planning & Zoning
Don Wilkes	Planning & Zoning
Josephine Jones	Goshen Housing Trust
Marty Connor	Town Planner
Todd Carusillo	Economic Development Committee
Mark Harris	Board of Selectmen
Bob Valentine	Board of Selectmen

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to appoint aforementioned individuals to formalize the *Affordable Housing Plan Committee*. Voted unanimous.

The Board of Finance will hold their monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 27, 2021. The Board will be discussing capital appropriations for this fiscal year. Earlier in the year the board decided to wait to make most appropriations to capital due to the potential effect COVID-19 might have on tax collections. The Board of Selectmen will again ask to prioritize the needs of the Public Works Department and the Fire Company.

Bob has created an updated spread sheet showing the effect additional capital appropriations have on the un-assigned fund balance. He stated that Goshen's mill rate will need to increase to accommodate the capital request and the increases in the Region 6 assessment.

Also of importance, but somewhat smaller expense that cannot be overlooked, is the automatic door opener at the front entrance to Town Hall. This is the third time it has had to be repaired. This automatic door opener is mandated to aide handicapped people to enter safely. Cost of a new unit is between \$6K to \$8k.

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A Board of Selectmen meeting, along with members of the Recreation Commissioners, is scheduled for Thursday, February 4, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. This special meeting will address the hiring process for a new Recreation Director and include discussion on the updating of the duties and responsibilities of a recreation director.

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. The Governor's Executive Orders that expire on February 9, have been extended to April 20th.

b. Appointments: None

c. Budgets:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to accept the Fire Commissioners budget, 2021-2022 for presentation to the Board of Finance for their review and consideration. Voted unanimous.

9. New Business:

9a. The Board of Finance Request for Updated Salary Schedule for Town Employees:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to accept and forward to the Board of Finance, for their consideration, the up-dated pay matrix and merit budget recently completed by Randi Frank Consulting LLC. Voted unanimous.

10. Any Other Business: Selectman Dexter S. Kinsella reported that efforts have been made by volunteers to keep the skating rink clear for skating. Dexter is thinking about ways the rink could be flooded to improve the surface.

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.