

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday December 9, 2022

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

PRESENT: Todd M. Carusillo, Mark S. Harris, Dexter S. Kinsella

OTHERS: Henrietta Horvay; Audrey Blondin; Bernie Harrington; David Boisvert; Dawn Wilkes; Pat Reilly; John McKenna, Republican American: Doreen Deary; Josephine Jones; Chis Sanders; Peter Kujawski; Cindy Barrett;

1. Call to order: Todd M. Carusillo called the meeting to order at 10:03 p.m.

2. Discussion of Flag Moratorium and/or Ordinances:

Todd Carusillo has given some consideration to flags being flown on Town property. We hope to have consensus of what flags will be flown.

Mark Harris stated that he has spoken to eight (8) attorneys regarding this political issue. The Federal Supreme Court has issued an opinion also. "Once political flags are allowed on Town property – other than the usual USA Flag, State of CT flag, and US Military flags – it is difficult to deny other flags to be flown. When request is denied, the issue then goes to court, wherein the legal fees are responsibility of the town."

If a political group rents a room in a Town owned building, they can be allowed to fly their organization's flag. Dexter Kinsella suggested that in this type of case, an "ordinance" would then apply citing a "political" organization. It would be difficult to have to decide on a case-by-case basis. He cited a famous case that took place in Boston. An "ordinance", then consideration can be given to identify if the group is political, religious, etc. Mark Harris stated and ordinance would *protect the town*.

Todd Carusillo stated that particular case cost Boston *millions* of dollars in legal fees. Mark Harris felt that an ordinance in place would give protection to the town. If we had an ordinance in place, a public hearing could be held. Dexter Kinsella stated he would like to see the townspeople weigh in. He felt a "Special" Selectmen's meeting can then be held for this. See attached proposal.

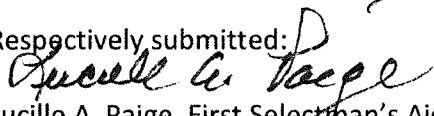
3. Discussion of Term Limits – Selectmen, Town Clerk, Treasurer:

Todd stated he regularly attends the NWCOC meetings (area towns in the northwest corner). Most feel 2-year term is great because if a selectman doesn't work out, the town can vote in another individual in a short period of time, rather than having to wait 4 years. Todd himself is not in favor of a 4-year term.

Mark Harris found that of all the towns in the northwest corner, only 6 have 4-year terms of office. Dexter Kinsella sees only the negatives aspects of a 4-year term for selectman. This issue can be discussed further with a meeting of Goshen's Selectmen. Mark Harris stated that the consensus is the Goshen Selectmen remain at 2-year terms.

4. Adjournment: In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella,, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectively submitted:


Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide

ORDINANCE REGARDING THE DISPLAY OF FLAGS
ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the legal voters of the Town of Goshen in meeting assembled:

1. No flag other than the flag of the United State of America, the State of Connecticut, the National League of Families POW/MIA flag and the official services flags of all branches of the armed forces of the United States of America may be flown, affixed or otherwise displayed on any property owned by the Town of Goshen other than the display of the official flag of the Goshen Fire Company, Inc. on the town-owned property located at 181 Sharon Turnpike, Goshen, CT.

This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication thereof in a newspaper having circulation in the Town of Goshen.

Received Dec 12, 2022 12:38 PM

Attest 

Asst. Goshen Town Clerk