

TOWN OF GOSHEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES – Regular Meeting
Town Hall Conference Room
March 01, 2016

PRESENT: Robert P. Valentine, Dexter S. Kinsella, Steven M. Romano

OTHERS: Allan Walker

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2016 meeting as amended. Voted unanimous. (Motion for the approval of warrants for 2/25/16 was made by Steven M. Romano and seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella.)

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES: NONE

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND WARRANT: March 3, 2016

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to approve the warrant and payroll of March 3, 2016 in the amount of \$53,126.78. It was noted included in the warrant was the payroll in the amount of \$13,005.33 and the warrant in the amount of \$40,121.45. Voted unanimous. Items contained in this warrant showed the expense for road salt at Public Works.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT:

New furnace at town hall: David Harmon has begun preliminary work on installing the new furnace; the old furnace will be removed on Saturday, March 5, 2016, and the new one installed; continued work will render the furnace to be in full operation on Monday, March 7th.

Budgets that have been received to date by the BOS have been reviewed and have been forwarded to the Board of Finance for their review. More department budgets will be forthcoming.

Bob Valentine has received a letter from the State Department of Public Health, Office of Emergency Services requesting further work on our Local Emergency Medical Services Plan. The plan that was submitted was created and developed by Bob Valentine, Barry Hall, Fire Chief, Jim O'Leary, EOC Director, and Martin Connor, Fire Commissioner. Bob Valentine will work with all of the stake holders to determine the appropriate response.

On Tuesday, March 1, 2016, Bob Valentine attended CCM's "*A Day on the Hill*" in Hartford at the State Capital. Connecticut legislators, heads of municipalities, i.e., mayors and/or First Selectmen made for a large attendance. This meeting afforded the municipalities the opportunity to discuss issues important to them during the current legislative session.

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Bob Valentine had an opportunity to speak briefly with Mayor Elinor Carbone regarding the ACO (Animal Control Office). A formal meeting the Mayor Carbone, First Selectman Leo Paul, Litchfield and Mr. Valentine will be held on Thursday, March 3, 2016 to discuss the budget for ACO.

Bob Valentine was pleased to announce that in his conversations with representatives from CIRMA (regarding Goshen's liability, property and casualty insurance), they offer 0 increase the first year, 3% the second year and 3% the following year.

Due to this year's unusually warm winter and the infrequent need of the use of salt/sand for Goshen's roads, it is anticipated that the salt/sand barns will be full at the end of the winter cycle.

A survey of the salary/wages and benefits of all the municipalities employees' and staffing was done through the North West Hills Council of Government, (NWCOG). The majority of municipalities have their employees contributing to their health benefit plans. The Board of Selectmen will take the opportunity to review the salaries and benefits of Goshen's municipal employees to take into consideration any change in the compensation levels. Steven Romano expressed his views on the "evaluation" system in place. He feels employees should be evaluated annually using categories such as works below expectations, meets expectations, exceeds expectations. Mr. Romano feels there should be individual "merit" recognition, rather than same percentage increase across the board.

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

8a. Appointments – None at this time.

8b. Budgets 2016-2017 – None to be presented at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Board of Finance Chairman, Allan Walker requested a consensus from the Board of Selectmen to contract with Sandra E. Welwood, LLC to perform auditor work for the Town of Goshen 2015-2016. Sandra E. Welwood, LLC was contracted in the previous year for auditing services and was found to have done an exemplary job in conducting Goshen's audit. Mr. Walker will now take the proposed auditor contract to the Board of Finance for their consent.

IN A MOTION made by Steven M. Romano, seconded Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 5:56 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide