

TOWN OF GOSHEN  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
**MINUTES – Regular Meeting**  
Town Hall Conference Room  
**June 14, 2016**

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

OTHERS: Allan Walker, Christopher Sanders, Garret Harlow, Mark Harris, Frank McCarthy, Arline McCarthy, Richard Benoit, Michele Fitzpatrick, Lida Exstein, Craig Bothryd, Ed Goodhouse.

Robert P. Valentine called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

IN A MOTION made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to move up item 9a. Lake Weed Committee to be heard at this time. Voted unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS: 9a – Presentation by Lake Weed Committee.

Chris Sanders, representing the Lake Weed Committee, gave a presentation to the Board of Selectmen. He distributed two informational reports: *Goshen's Public Lakes: Our Threatened Community Asset*, and *Goshen's Public Lakes, An Important Community Resource*.

Mr. Sanders gave an overview of the three public lakes, Dog Pond, West Side Pond and Tyler Lake and the vital need to preserve them for environmental, recreational, economic and ecological resources. There are five (5) key threats to Goshen's public lakes:

- **Eutrophication** – fill in of organic material, human activities
- **Invasive Aquatic Plants** – multiple species transported by boats
- **Harmful Algae Blooms (HAB)** – produce toxins that kill wildlife, storm water runoff, fertilizers, failing septic, natural sources.
- **Lack of education** – by homeowners and users of lakes, rain water, detergents
- **Impact of surrounding environment** – road storm water runoff, chemicals on roadways, pesticides, construction projects, land development, agriculture

**A decline in the quality of the lakes will lead to a decline in the assessed value of these properties.** This will result in upward pressure on the mill rate and pressure to decrease municipal services. The three (3) public lakes represent 15% of Goshen's grand list. Adding Woodridge Lake, the four (4) residential lakes represent over 50% of Goshen's grand list.

Long term plans have been started: a Lake Weed Committee, under the Board of Selectmen, was organized for the three lakes. Limnologists (study of bodies of fresh water with reference to plant and animal life, physical properties, geographical features) have been surveying aquatic planet population; each lake is planning to engage in mechanical "harvesting" or "hydroraking" of excessive weeds. These infrastructural remedies are expensive; monies have been raised through donations by the lake residents. Tyler Lake and West Side Pond are forming 501c3 non-profit associations. Dog Pond and WSP have garnered \$26,300 in 2016. Recurring fund raising events are planned. Strong pursuit of foundation grants are in place. Town resident financial support is being proposed to help meet the cost overall of \$83,900. The Lake Weed Committee will present a request to the Board of Finance of only \$30,000 - (\$10,000 per each lake) which represents 40% of the need. The task is to preserve the quality of the three lakes for generations to come. An article highlighting these lake issues will be in the upcoming edition of "*Town Topics*".

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The Board of Selectmen will produce a recommendation to the BOF for this request at their June 21, 2016 meeting

IN A MOTION made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to add to the agenda items 9c, Bid-Shelbourne Drive, 9d, Job Description-Public Works Clerk, and 9e. Personnel Evaluation. Voted unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS: item 9c Bid - Shelbourne Drive Drainage Project:

Millennium Builders, Inc. 50 Inwood Road Rocky Hill, CT 06067	\$123,800
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Trade Mark Contractors, LLC 72 Cold Springs Road Bristol, CT 06010	\$103,500
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IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to forward aforementioned bids to Garret Harlow, Public Works Supervisor, for review and recommendation. Voted unanimous.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was VOTED to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2016 meeting as \*corrected. Motion carried with Steven M. Romano abstaining. \*Correct spelling in last paragraph on page 1 – interment.

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES: Bob Valentine reported that the Tax Collector's Report – April 30, 2016 was corrected. A "cell" in the program incorrectly stated the 2013 Collection rate.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND WARRANT: June 16, 2016. IN A MOTION made by Steven M. Romano. seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to approve the warrant and payroll of June 16, 2016 in the amount of \$52,210.31. It was noted included in the warrant was the payroll in the amount of \$11,793.32 and the warrant in the amount of \$40,416.99. Voted unanimous. Items included in this warrant were payments of invoices from Connecticut Seal Coat, Ron McCarthy Surveyor, USA Hauling & Recycling, and TOCE Bros. Tire Company.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Allan Walker questioned whether the BOF can respond to the Lake Weed Committee request with a different amount? The answer from the Board was yes.

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FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT: Exercising his line item veto privilege, Governor Malloy decreased the proposed State budget by \$20 million from the municipal aide. Bob Valentine as of yet has not been advised to exactly what municipal items are included.

Included in issues discussed among the members of Northwest Hills Council of Governments, NWCOG, members decided to be more careful and selective in submitting to the State legislators their list of priorities as it pertains to local, small municipalities. This action emanating from the past budget session, which was fraught with many essential items being sacrificed for non-essential items.

A task order has been given to David Battista, Lenard Engineering, regarding drainage calculations for Cottage Grove Rd; another task order was given to Mr. Battista for work on Milton Road. Both roads will be undergoing major work.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

### OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Appointments – Bob Valentine reported that Gail Lavoie has accepted reappointment to Zoning Board of Appeals.  
IN A MOTION made by Robert P. Valentine, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to reappoint Gail Lavoie to the Zoning Board of Appeals, term expiring April 23, 2018. Voted unanimous.
- b. Plan of Conservation & Development – Roads – Bob briefly reviewed the draft report to address the issue of too narrow right-of-ways and the removal of old stone walls which serve as delineation between town roads and resident property lines. An ordinance is being considered.

### NEW BUSINESS:

- b Special event permit - Litchfield Jazz Festival  
IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to approve the Special Permit to the Litchfield Performing Arts, LLC to hold the Jazz Festival on August 6<sup>th</sup> and August 7, at the Goshen Fairgrounds. Voted unanimous.
- d Job Description – Public Works Clerk  
IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to amend the Public Works Clerk job description: from 450 hours/yr. to 350 hrs./yr.; delete compute sand sales; draft topics for the *Annual Report* and *Town Topics*. Voted unanimous.
- e Personnel Evaluation  
IN A MOTION made by Robert P. Valentine, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to increase the hourly wage of the Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman by \$.50/per hour retroactive to June 1, 2016, based on a favorable six month evaluation. Voted unanimous.

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Executive Session for Pending Litigation  
IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was  
VOTED to move into executive session for pending litigation at 6:10 p.m. Voted  
unanimous.

The Board of Selectmen moved back into open session at 6:27 p.m. No action was  
taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Robert P. Valentine, it was  
VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide