

TOWN OF GOSHEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES – Regular Meeting
October 25, 2016

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

OTHERS: Allan Walker, George Zeidenstein

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 18, 2016 as submitted. Voted unanimous.

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES: At the Lake Weed Committee Special Meeting, the two RFP's for weed harvesting at West Side Pond were thoroughly reviewed. The vendor chosen will be announced soon.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND WARRANT: 10/27/16

IN A MOTION made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to approve the warrant and payroll of October 20, 2016 in the amount of \$67,000.24. It was noted included in the warrant was the payroll in the amount of \$21,136.22 and the warrant in the amount of \$45,864.02 Voted unanimous. Highlighted in this disbursement were payments for crack sealing material, and plow blades.

PUBLIC COMMENT: George Zeidenstein, East Street North, inquired about updated information stemming from his previous attendance at the Board of Selectmen's meeting regarding the proposed Wind Turbine project. He asked if BNE Energy, LLC had completed their overlay of the map to bring it up to date. He reported that some issues regarding wildlife and people need to be included in the consideration of certain land uses.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT:

Bob Valentine discussed the recently adopted open space plan and Plan of Conservation and Development and how these plans affect the application of PA490 which allows properties to be assessed at a lower value in order to encourage conservation, rather than being developed. Recent changes to the Plan of Conservation and Development and Open Space plan would limit the use of open space PA490 to lots that are at least two (2) times the lot area for that zone. Currently, excess acres about the zone area are given the ability to utilize PA490. Bob Valentine will consult with Town Attorney Roraback on the changes and how they should be implemented.

The Tyler Lake Protective Association has been granted a permit from DEEP to apply herbicide to a 10 acre area to combat milfoil. The application took place on the 19th of October. As part of the approval, the Lake was drawn down and before treatment, the sluice gate at the dam was closed to keep the flow from downstream until water tests show the herbicide has dissipated.

Bob Valentine has review the Capital Non-recurring and found several items where projects are complete. Bob will recommend to the Board of Finance that these items be zeroed out of those line items.

For energy conservation/savings, new LED light bulbs have been installed in the Town Library. Other departments will have their light bulbs changed over moving forward.

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Bob Valentine reported that a public survey for recruitment of a new superintendent for Region 6 is available on the Goshen Website and encourages everyone to respond.

Bob reported that Public Works had an old “over the rail” mower where parts were cannibalized with another like mower from the Sewer District. The mower can no longer be used effectively and will be placed on municipal auction website for sale. Recently the Woodridge Lake Sewer District gave Public Works an over the rails mower they were not using which will replace the one being sold.

Bob had a meeting with Mike Muszynski, CCM Advocacy Manager to discuss legislative issues in Hartford and how more chief elected officials can become involved, particularly when legislation has a substantial impact on municipalities.

Bob will be traveling, along with several other NWCCOG members to the NECCOG, North Eastern Connecticut Council of Governments along with Mark Greenberg of the Simon Foundation to view and discuss their Animal Control Facilities.

7. CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

8. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Appointment to the Conservation Commission:

IN A MOTION made by Robert P. Valentine, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to re-appoint Anders Nygren to the Conservation Commission beginning November 1, 2016 and expiring October 31, 2020. Voted unanimous.

b. Flora Road Town Property: Bob Valentine is awaiting an additional proposal for appraisal.

IN A MOTION made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to add to the agenda items **8c.** Veterans Property Assessments and **8d.** Stone Wall Ordinance. Voted unanimous.

8c. Veterans Exemption: As a result of recently passed legislation allow municipalities to increase veterans exemption from \$10,000 to \$20,000 taxable property, Bob has reviewed the changes with Lucy Hussman, Town Assessor and Town Attorney Roraback. Goshen adopted the exemption for \$10,000 in 2004. Because of a statue concerning an increase in property values during revaluation and resulting in a requirement to double the veteran’s exemption, Goshen has been at \$20,000 exemption since 2007. Because of the intent of the recently adopted legislation was to increase the exemption from \$10,000 to \$20,000, Goshen will not need to take action to have the maximum exemption because it is already in place.+

8d. Stone Wall Ordinance: The details concerning potential cash bond when stone wall boundaries are removed and the process for permitting a final approval were discussed. Bob Valentine discussed the cost of surveying stone boundary lines with Ron McCarthy, LLS to gain information necessary to finalize the “draft” ordinance.

9. NEW BUSINESS: Tax Collector's Report September 30, 2016

- a. The Tax Collector's Report showed –collected less refunds vs. total budgeted is \$56.24%.
IN A MOTION made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to receive the Tax Collector's Report – September 30, 2016 as submitted. Voted unanimous.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS: NONE

11. ADJOURNMENT:

- IN A MOTION made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide