



# Goshen Town Topics

## Spring 2024

42A North Street, Goshen, CT 06756 • 860-491-2308 • [www.goshenct.gov](http://www.goshenct.gov)

### *From the First Selectman*

We made it through another winter here in Goshen. As winter starts to fade into spring, we as residents think about spring projects around our houses. Well, the same goes for the Town of Goshen, this spring the public works department will be repairing any damaged roads, culverts and catch basins around town before we schedule any paving, chip sealing or grading of the dirt roads. At this time of year, the permafrost is coming out of the ground, please try to avoid our dirt roads unless you live on them, the less traffic the better for all of us. When those deep ruts appear, it's very costly for the town repair, with gravel and machine time.

We didn't receive the grant monies for the East Street North project nor any FEMA monies for North Goshen Road Culverts. As promised, I will report during the Selectmen's meeting on any paving or chip sealing projects this coming year as they are reported from Public Works to my office.

It's budget season, the Board of Selectmen are reviewing Budgets before sending them over to the Board of Finance. In the past two years we were able to reduce our mill rate from 20.6 to 15.6 with the help from some good fiscal planning and property revaluations. We will have some savings from the Region 6 merger with Litchfield, with the creation of Region 20. Our cost for schooling our children will be reduced and some capital expense monies will be coming back to Goshen in July from Region 6. Hopefully we can keep the town's capital expense to an affordable level to maintain our mill rate of 15.6. I have stressed to department heads to keep their wants to a minimum, and focus on the needs of each department. This will keep Goshen financially strong in the future and aid in unexpected emergency projects, like last years rain fall that washed away several roads causing very costly repairs.

We have a new Recycling Coordinator Liza Albreda. Liza brings 15 years of Waste Management and Refuge Business experience, and will be able to give her insight into the importance of recycling and getting the weight down and out of our household solid waste stream, ultimately reducing our tipping fees. The town received notice that our tipping fees are going up from \$116 ton to \$131 per ton. As a town, we should think about putting in a composting facility, where residents can bring their kitchen scraps for composting, just like Litchfield and Cornwall. MIRA (Materials Innovation Recycling Authority) is closing down their transfer station in Torrington in 2027. What is Goshen going to do with their household solid waste? We don't know who is going to purchase the transfer station nor what the future cost burden will be upon our tax payers. We have a recycling contract with USA Hauling. So please recycle, compost and scrap, the future is uncertain.

Also, with this mild winter we are experiencing, my office is receiving reports of Black Bears sightings, they are coming out of hibernation and rummaging through some residents garbage. Please be vigilant of your surroundings and please watch your children at play. And DON'T FEED The BEARS!!

Please contact Chief Hall, if you want to become a volunteer member of the Goshen Fire Company.

*Best Regards,*

Todd M. Carusillo