

TOWN OF GOSHEN

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

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

PRESENT: Robert P. Valentine, Dexter S. Kinsella, Mark S. Harris

OTHERS: Lucille Paige, John McKenna, Republican American, Henrietta Horvay

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

2. Approval the minutes of the meeting of April 21, 2020:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of the minutes of April 21, 2020 as submitted. Voted unanimous.

3. Matter Arising Out of the Minutes: In Public Comment section, where Pat Reilly lauded the efforts of the fire companies extinguishing the fire of an old home on Route 63, in particular it should be noted that the *initial* efforts of the Goshen Volunteer Company to rapidly knock down the fire by entering the building. This accounted for the small amount of loss to the structure. There was only one injury which was minor. A protocol will be created in that injuries must be reported to Fiscal Office as soon as possible, as it involves our insurance (CIRMA).

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant -April 30, 2020:

In a **motion** made by Mark S. Harris, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant and payroll of April 30, 2020 in the amount of \$27,633.23. Included in this warrant were the payroll \$12,270.16, warrant \$15,363.07. Included in the warrant were: Overdrive (audio, e-books) \$3,805.02; Trinity Health Paramedic \$2,880.00.

5. Public Comments: Henrietta Horvay was pleased to have the BOS meetings on audio. She and her husband Walter are doing well (during this pandemic).

6. First Selectman's Report:

Bob Valentine reported that the all town budget requests are now in the hands of the Board of Finance and will be reviewed at their meeting tomorrow, Wednesday 4/29, at 7:30 p.m. and then go forward with a public hearing.

Positive responses to the Town RFP from auditors are being received. Bob is confident that there will be a goodly amount of accounting firms to be reviewed by the BOF in plenty of time by 5/27/20.

Following the success of the senior citizen and children activities coming from the Recreation Commission, more activities are planned moving forward. For example, the long-standing tradition of Annual Senior Picnic has to be cancelled; however, in its place, drive-through picnic/barbeque lunches are being considered. Warren and Morris Rec Departments have joined Goshen to create "fun kits" to the children in these towns, i.e., Kites to fly, various craft projects, etc.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

April 28, 2020

Page 2

Kudos to Selectman Harris for his efforts in securing a heart sign which was mounted to the Town Hall sign.

The Don Kobylenski **Annual Fishing Derby** – in its normal environment – has been cancelled. Notwithstanding, a fishing derby will be held but where the parents take the children out fishing. Contestants will catch fish, but the fish caught will be judged by categories - length, weight, and for the younger kids – the amount of fish caught. Prizes will be awarded accordingly.

Colleen Kinkade, recreation director is working with the Goshen Land Trust and Goshen Conservation Commission to promote the many hiking trails available to the residents. “Zoom” type yoga classes are also being offered to residents to participate in their own homes.

7. Correspondence: None

8. Old Business:

8a. Town Continuation of Operations RE: COVID-19 and Governor Lamont’s Executive Orders:

Information to maintain their business during the pandemic: Face mask distributions are now being targeted to delivery to Conn. Businesses. The Goshen Fairgrounds in one of the “distribution” centers for PPE, in our area.

Bob reported that there are currently 400,000 unemployment applications in the State submitted to the CT Dept. of Labor.

Bob has been advised that Goshen has 12 cases of the COVID-19.

Bob also reported having ordered 3 sheets of plexiglass for the Town Clerk’s Office and the Library. The plexiglass will be used as sneeze shields for the offices.

The Goshen Library has been closed for five weeks. To re-engage our residents, the “book-drop” is being used in reverse to allow patrons to take out books. Book collections will be available on-line; the resident will merely put in an order for patrons to come by and “pick-up” their choice. A wireless door bell has been installed and we look forward to this exchange being very successful.

8b. Appointments:

Inasmuch as Darlene Dimitrii is an “Alternate” on the EDC, she will be asked to replace Carl Condidini as regular member. If she agrees, then a search will begin for the open alternate spot.

c. Budgets:

A Progress Report (snapshot) for the Selectmen was reviewed. This report showed **Operating** increases and decreases in **revenue**; another column showed operating increases and decreases in **capital**.

Capital requests totaled \$993,980.00. Another spread sheet showed **Revenue Projections** and another showed **Budget Projections**.

d. Long Term Recovery Committee:

Selectman Mark Harris, who heads up this Committee, reported that the following segments from the Goshen community will be asked to serve on the main committee, EMS, Fire, Business, Churches, Recreation, Superintendent Chris Leone, agriculture, finance, general health and mental health, general community members. In that this “Committee” will serve as a sub-committee of the Board of Selectmen, the Board will appoint said members. *It is important that residents, who may not be affiliated with any particular group are encouraged to give input as well.*

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

April 28, 2020

Page 3

Allison Fulton, Housatonic Valley Coalition of Substance Abuse, and Northwest Mental Health will also be contacted for her input.

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to add to the agenda under item 9. New Business- 9a. Tax Collector's Summary Report. Voted unanimous.

9. New Business:

9a. Tax Collector's Summary Report:

Tax collections continue to be steady. April 2020 collections - \$57,440.33. These totals are not final and could be subject to change.

10. Any other Business: None

11. Adjournment:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Mark S. Harris, it was **voted** to adjourn this meeting at 5:41 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted:

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide