

TOWN OF GOSHEN  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
**MINUTES – Regular Meeting**  
**October 18, 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 11, 2016 as submitted. Voted unanimous.

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES: NONE

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND WARRANT: 9/29/16

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 \$51,031.52. It was noted included in the warrant was the payroll in the amount of \$12,575.96 and the warrant in the amount of \$38,455.56 Voted unanimous. Highlighted in this disbursement were payments to Sterling Benefits (employee health insurance) and USA Hauling & Recycling.

PUBLIC COMMENT: George Zeidenstein, East Street North, inquired about updated information regarding the proposed Wind Turbine project. He asked to see a map of where the proposed structures are to be constructed, process of change of land use. Bob Valentine explained that BNE Energy and the Torrington Water Company have not yet produced a clear and concise map of construction. He added that moving forward, it may be prudent for the town of Goshen to file legal “intervenor” status.

Allan Walker inquired as to the participation/use of the new Goshen/Cornwall Senior Bus. Publicity is going out with area fliers to Senior Social gatherings, Goshen Library, Goshen Community Care & Hospice, Agent for the Elderly (Debbie DiPietro), Town Topics, local church organizations, etc. Bob Valentine has appeared on Cablevision’s Neighborhood News, etc. Several beginning trips proved to be very successful. Strident efforts are being made to ensure all Goshen families are aware of this vital source of transportation.

FIRST SELECTMAN’S REPORT:

Bids have come in for the weed harvesting at West Side Pond. A special meeting of the Lake Weed Committee will be held on Thursday, October 20, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. to review the proposals.

Bob Valentine reported on the very good meeting with excellent attendance of the *Goshen Business Circle* held at A.J.’s recently. This group of Goshen businesses is moving forward with promoting businesses here and collaborating with town government. Amy Tobin was chosen Chairman, Dawn Wicks, Steve Drezen were chosen as co-chairman and Lynn Steinmayer was chosen as secretary.

A Search Committee has begun setting up meetings to recruit a new Recreation Director. Until a new Director is in place, Patty Ives will serve as Interim Recreation Assistant. The Search Committee hopes to have a new Director in place by mid-December.

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Bob Valentine also gave notice of the invitation received from the Susan B. Anthony Project to the Counselors in Training (CIT) who worked at Camp Coch this past summer, to attend their 28<sup>th</sup> Domestic Violence Candlelight Vigil on Wednesday, October 19, 2016, 6:30 p.m. to be held at Coe Park in Torrington. This vigil will recognize the exceptional supportive program facilitators, such as the CIT's and their involvement with students while at the Camp.

On Wednesday, October 19, 2016, Bob Valentine will meet with Mike Muszynski of CCM (Connecticut Council of Municipalities) to ask this groups' help with various issues with the legislature.

The Commissioner of Public Health has proposed a plan to *consolidate* all state health districts from the current 73 down to 8, via a modification of the existing statute. To do this, CPH wants to charge 1.5% of the total operating budget of each municipality; for Goshen \$150,000 compared to the current \$16,000. This move would create a tenfold increase in cost. This announcement came at the Northwest Hills Council of Government (NWCOG) meeting on October 13, 2016. The new "county health districts" would have a director appointed by DPH. Goshen and towns in our district would lose local control; it would be managed by the state, rather than community based. NWCOG will write a letter to Governor Malloy on behalf of the 21 municipalities NWCOG represents. At this time, there are no deficiencies in our local TAHD. With the help of CCM, a proposal will be put forward to create a task force to study any possible changes to the current system of health districts. Bob Valentine feels strongly that this overhaul "is a solution looking for problem".

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

### 8. OLD BUSINESS:

**8a. Veterans Exemptions** – Bob Valentine will have legal clarification from shortly.

**8b. Town Property, Flora Road** – Bob Valentine is awaiting feedback from the local appraisers.

**8c. Stone Wall Ordinance – Ordinance Concerning Highway Boundary Stone Walls:** "Highway boundary stone wall means a stone or masonry wall, or portion thereof, located on or adjacent to the boundary between a town highway and the property of the adjacent owner, which thereby constitutes a monument which determines, either directly or as point of reference, the limits of the highway commonly known as the "highway line" or the "street line" which delineates the limits of the public highway". A process needs to be created for the application, inspection and refund forfeiture of a bond. A discussion took place on the need to have surveyor fees on a sliding scale. Also discussed was the distance/measurement of the *portion* of the stone wall to be dismantled in conjunction with the A-2 survey requirements.

### 9. NEW BUSINESS:

IN A MOTION made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Steven M. Romano, it was VOTED to add to the agenda under Any Other Business, 10a. 2017 Meeting Calendar. Voted unanimous.

### 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

**10a.** A calendar of meeting dates for 2017 was distributed for review. Adjustments to accommodate several holidays were made.

IN A MOTION made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to accept the 2017 schedule of meetings dates as amended. Voted unanimous.

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11. ADJOURNMENT:

IN A MOTION made by Steven M. Romano, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide