

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, August 27, 2024

REGULAR MEETING

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

PRESENT: Todd M. Carusillo, Scott Olson, Dexter S. Kinsella (Zoom)

OTHERS: Susan Wheeler; Cindy Barrett; Janet Hooper; Marianne Stilson; Joshua Kimball

1. Call to order: Todd M. Carusillo called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of August 20, 2024: In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson; it was **voted** to approve the minutes of August 20, 2024 as corrected: Voted unanimous.

1. Marissa Wright was not in attendance at last week's meeting (ref. her request for permission of access to property 190 Sharon Turnpike).
2. The correct spelling of *Renee* Kujawski.
3. The request for access to 190 Sharon Turnpike property included the Land Trust Commission.
4. The signage missing from Henrietta Horvay's comments was Griswold Road.
5. Comments from Scott Olson did not support moving the referendum to an out of town venue due to limited parking, but rather holding a referendum which enables a longer timeline for voting to take place to accommodate parking of voters. His premise was to support 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to accommodate voters. In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson it was *voted* to accept the minutes of 8/20/24 with changes. Voted unanimous.

3. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – August 29, 2024:

In a **motion** made by Scott Olson, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant in the amount of \$89,711.41. Payroll in the amount of \$15,902.46 and the warrant in the amount of \$73,808.95. Voted unanimous. Included in the warrant were: Anthem BC/BS – \$19,396.75; MIRA - \$21,529.85; Pension - \$16,067.65; Tru-Green - \$2,037.98.

4. First Selectman's Report:

REMINDER: The referendum regarding the Region 20 School Budget is Monday, October 14th. Todd urges Goshen residents to take the time to participate in this *extremely important* event. There is a \$3.65 million shortfall. They gave us items under Capital spending which *were not essential*. They need to do cuts; I urge everyone to vote "NO"; band uniforms; country tents; new boiler; district van; new plow truck, etc. etc. "Capital" is supposed to be for the building. They do not have any monies for these items; they are spending monies they do not have. Expenditure for each student currently is \$29,000.

Goshen's Tax Collector is doing well for us: Real Estate 56.09%; Personal Pro 55.70%; Motor Vehicle 98.57%.

5. Correspondence: None

6. Old Business: None

7. New Business:

7a. Land Trust to Speak to the Selectmen – 190 Sharon Turnpike Rd.

The Land Trust Commission cancelled their appearance at tonight's meeting.

8. Other Business:

8a. Camera Bid:

The town of Goshen along with all CT towns must have a surveillance camera for recording activity at the "Ballot Box" in front of Town Hall regarding the upcoming November elections. A single bid received was rejected. *Hector Torres – 8-21-2024 – with software included - \$9,841.00*. Todd Carusillo will refer this issue to Chip Roraback for legal advice on further movement of this issue – to accept for to reject. The bid was \$4,000 higher than the first quote.

9. Public Comment (Two (2) Minutes)

Johanna Kimball asked when the gentleman did the walk through regarding the camera for the Ballot Box, and was asking various questions, did he understand that he needed to send in a bid amount in writing, etc.

Marianne Stilson asked if the BOE fully understand that the voting tabulators must be sealed up for 14 days and the process therein? She also was told the BOE hired an *attorney*. Todd Carusillo was told it was not an attorney, but rather a financial accountant. Ms. Stilson then asked if the BOE checked on this person's background, etc.

Cindy Barrett stated that whether it is a Town Meeting or a referendum, the parking is always an issue. It is not 1940, 1949, 1950 - parking was not a problem; safest place for voting is at Camp Coch. These are busy times for most people.

Janet Hooper asked regarding the two BOE meetings in that there was an interchange - 5:00 P.M. meeting vs. 7:00 P.M. were there discussions? We were told that there was to be a referendum on Litchfield's debt. Todd Carusillo stressed the need to have more transparency from the Region 20 BOE regarding the figures placed under the "Capital" budget – which is designated for "building" repairs and maintenance.

Susan Wheeler asked if Thomas Arolia was at the BOE as a consultant? In addition, she has noticed that several stonewalls are being built on various properties – is there a criteria with the Building Inspector? She was told that stonewalls do not need a permit.

10. Adjournment:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:29 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectively submitted:

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide