

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, August 20, 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: Henrietta Horvay; Marissa Wright; Renay Kajawski; Susan Wheeler; Marianne Stilson;
Janet Hooper

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 13, 2024: In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson; it was **voted** to approve the minutes of August 13, 2024. Voted unanimous.

3. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – August 22, 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 \$89,552.10. Payroll in the amount of \$28,327.40 and the warrant in the amount of \$61,224.70. Voted unanimous. Included in the warrant were: DEEP- \$1392.00; Sepples Tree Co.- \$ 6,125.00; Target Enterprises - \$30,432.72; USA Waste - \$9,821.95.

4. First Selectman's Report:

Back to School Giveaway – Goshen, Warren, Morris & Litchfield – Wednesday, August 21st – 4 P.M. at Goshen Town Hall. CT Photo ID required. New clothing, shoes, backpacks.

REMINDER: The referendum regarding the Region 20 School Budget is Thursday, September 12th. Todd urges Goshen residents to take the time to participate in this *extremely important* event.

The July weight of recycling increased from 137 up to 164 tons. July's invoice for Tipping fees were \$21,529.85 PLEASE RECYCLE!

Fire Watch Policy - \$45.00 for administrative fees; other neighboring towns have this same policy. The BOS will vote on moving fees to \$50.00 per hour, same as the other towns.

5. Correspondence:

Todd has received the official letter from Donna Molon of her resignation from Agent for the Elderly. We accept her resignation with regrets noting her good work and accomplishments .

Friends of Dog Pond sent their thank you for the \$16K; the \$1,000 extra went for extra weed treatment; the original \$15,000 is the same amount the other two lakes receive.

Marissa Wright has requested permission to access the property at 190 Sharon Turnpike.

Dexter Kinsella added that Joe Pedone advised that the Maple tree located at the Town Garage needs to be trimmed. Billy Gelormino may be the person who does their tree trimming.

Scott Olson mentioned that *E-Blast* on the website can be utilized with reference to the importance of the Region 20 BOE referendum 9-12-24. This is critical time for Goshen residents; be informed and exercise their rights at the referendum. Todd Carusillo gave examples of what can happen to Goshen's mill rate if residents do not participate in this crucial Region 20 referendum. He urges the Board of Ed go back to the drawing board giving an example of unnecessary "extras" contained in this BOE budget and how these extras can negatively affect Goshen's current mill rate.

6. Old Business:

6a. Appointments: None

7. New Business: None

7a. Special Event Permit – Goshen Agricultural Fair

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, it was **voted** to give final approval for the Special permit for the Goshen Agricultural Society to hold their annual Goshen Fair, August 31st; Sept. 01 and Sept. 02 (2024). Voted unanimous.

7b. Set Date for Special Town Meeting for the new Title 78 Land Ordinance:

This activity will be tabled until a response is received from the Land Trust should they choose not to buy it.

8. Other Business:

Scott Olson spoke regarding the Annual Town Meetings in Goshen. Complaints have been received from residents that 8:00 p.m. is late to begin these meetings. This time-slot was chosen years ago when farmers needed time to complete their daily chores. Clint Thorn is investigating changing this time ordinance to 7:00 p.m.

Scott Olson made a motion to get the change in time for public meetings ordinance from 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., to get on the "call" for the next Town Meeting to change the ordinance; seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella. Voted unanimous.

9. Public Comment (Two (2) Minutes)

Marianne Stilson stated that the State has passed new law regarding Air B & B issues for private residences. Noise issues are among other reasons to give attention to this. She is very pleased that the referendum went well with machines, ballots, etc.

Janet Hooper mentioned there is a clothing give-away tomorrow here in the parking lot and that she hopes Erin Reilly knows about it, that the Shane Kinsella Fund helps kids go to camp. Secondly, she is hoping further action is taken regarding the "Human Resources" task force. Lastly, she is glad the issue with 190 Sharon Turnpike went to the Land Trust before final decision is made. Todd Carusillo stated approximately 2,100 residents are on the voters list.

Renay Kujawski stated when there is a Town Meeting, residents find it difficult to find parking places. Todd Carusillo agreed that it is difficult to find available parking places. Scott Olson agreed in that has been a lot of discussion about this. Scott Olson suggested that perhaps when there is referendum, a venue out of town can be utilized.

Marianne Stilson suggested that maybe a Town Meeting can be held via "zoom"; can a paper ballot be used at a separate time? She expressed her thanks to all the workers who participated that night.

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Henrietta Horvay stated that the 8:00 p.m. "late" time was not just for farmers; there were/are many residents who work out of town.

Referendums are guided by State Statues. Region 20 is compliant with State Statues. The former Region 6 historical materials have been available to the three towns, Warren, Morris and Goshen.

Susan Wheeler publicly thanked Todd Carusillo for keeping the mill rates as low as they are. With reference to the shortfall in Region 20's budget, there is equipment not being utilized. People are struggling. She is sad to hear about the "shortfall" in Region 20's budget. Ms. Wheeler didn't realize how the "tipping fees" for garbage are calculated. Todd Carusillo explained how the residents pay for these tipping fees.

Marianne Stilson stated that early voting should be given a reasonable amount of time; the average time can be handled within 3 days, especially for small towns (the Secretary of State was visiting at Nodine's where Marianne garnered this information). She also received information from Sen. Steve Harding that changes will be made regarding the early voting time elements, etc.

10. Adjournment:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:49 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectively submitted:

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide