

Town of Goshen  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**8 13, 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; Michael Exstein; Robin Christopher; Susan Wheeler

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 July 30, 2024:** In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson; the **motion** was made to approve the minutes of July 30, 2024. Voted unanimous.

3. **Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – August 8, 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 \$60,143.25. Payroll in the amount of \$39,770.05 and the warrant in the amount of \$20,373.20. Voted unanimous. Included in the warrant were: Legal Fees - \$4,848.00; Dime Oil - \$3,344.46; Library Connection - \$1,904.77; City of Torrington - \$1,952.16.

**Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – August 15, 2024:**

In a **motion** made by Scott Olson, second by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the total warrant in the amount of \$99,712.57; Payroll in the amount of \$20,755.24 and the warrant in the amount of \$78,957.33. Voted unanimous. Included in the warrant were Vision Govt. Systems – 13,590.00; Quality Data Systems - \$18,850.32; Library Windows - \$10,000.

4. **First Selectman's Report:**

With reference to the Board of Education meeting (Region 20), it was found that Former Superintendent , Chris Leone had submitted cuts to the overall budget; the upcoming Referendum Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> will be presented without any of these cuts. Hence, the \$3.65 million "shortfall". I encourage everyone to Vote "No". Make them go back to the drawing board. The BOE budget being presented will certainly bring an **increase** to Goshen's budget/mill rate.

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

5. **Correspondence:**

Todd has received a formal notice from Donna Molon of her resignation from Agent for the Elderly. It must be accepted by the Town Clerk first.

The town of Goshen has donated \$3,000 to the Susan B. Anthony Foundation; they were thoughtful to send a letter of thanks and appreciation.

The Housatonic Valley Association sent their "thank you" for our donation.

**6. Old Business:**

There is an opening in Goshen for a part-time Deputy Animal Control Officer.

There is an opening in Goshen for a part-time custodian to work at Camp Coc.

**6a. Appointments:** None

**7. New Business:** None

**7a. 190 Sharon Turnpike – Discussion on selling to Land Trust**

Todd spoke with some members of the Land Trust Committee. He is in favor of selling this land to the Land Trust inasmuch as they expressed interest as such. Dexter Kinsella conceded to the Land Trust as having a great interest in keeping this parcel as open space. Scott Olson would yield to the will of the people. Per Todd, if this land were to be purchased by the Land Trust, the funds would back into the general Fund then Todd would ask the Board of Finance for matching grant monies for the project at 38 Torrington Road. The Board of Selectmen will negotiate with the Land Trust accordingly.

**7b. New Ordinance: Title 78 – *PASSIVE RECREATION ORDINANCE* FOR VOTED OR GIFTED TOWN OWNED PROPERTIES. (Attached)**

The Ordinance *Passive Recreation* was read aloud by Selectman Scott Olson. This Title 78 Ordinance was created by Todd Carusillo and was approved by town counsel. A posting of a Town Meeting will be forthcoming. Dexter Kinsella stated that he understood that the Passive Recreation Ordinance will be presented at a Goshen Town Meeting. There is no hunting on any town owned land. Scott Olson asked if some clarification can be obtained as to whether Goshen would be more “at risk” with Passive Recreation.

**7c. Special Event Permit – Goshen Agricultural Fair - August 31; Sept. 1; Sept. 2**

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, it was **voted** to accept request for permit from the Goshen Agricultural Society to hold their Agricultural Fair on August 31<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup>, and September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voted unanimous.

**8. Other Business:** None

**8. Public Comment (Two (2) Minutes)**

Michael Exstein asked if he could receive more information on Newcomb Rd. and Brooks Road when fill-in will be completed. Todd will call Public Works to have them pack stones in or make other adjustments to meet the completion. He further asked how does new Region 20 communicates with Goshen? How does one get an explanation of what has happened. Todd stated that Region 20 needs to become more transparent. Their budget shows personnel overstaffing accompanied with very high wages. Also, Chris Leone was eliminating 6 buses at \$60K each saving \$360K. from the budget. Goshen people must show up at the referendum and upcoming BOE meetings and vote “no”.

Henrietta Horvay stated education budget is getting out of hand, that Goshen people must show up and get involved. The education budget is something Goshen people *must get out and vote for* but she votes no to every budget. Also, she stated, the Selectmen should have a town meeting to vote this ordinance into place.. Attend the Town Meeting to vote on the ordinance. We must consider the offer coming from the Land Trust Committee.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

August 13, 2024

Page 3

Scott Olson Goshen asked Todd to get clarification on Passive Recreation.

Robin Christopher cited “no hunting” on the Passive Recreation Ordinance is good.  
She also gave her heartfelt thanks for the referendum, which provided a fair opportunity to vote.

Susan Wheeler stated she agreed with Henrietta Horvay inasmuch as people must get together; subject “this is what is happening”. She also gave “thank you” to Henrietta Horvay for all that she does.

Marissa Wright gave a “thank you” to Goshen’s Board of Selectmen, Todd, Dexter and Scott, for holding the referendum; a big “thank you” very much to the poll workers. A big “thank you” to all of the supporters who voted to protect 190 Sharon Turnpike.

**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

## **Title 78**

### **Passive Recreation Ordinance for Voted or Gifted Town Owned Properties**

Be it ordained by the legal voters of the Town of Goshen in a lawful meeting assembled:

1.The Town of Goshen hereby provides provisions that are permissible for properties that are voted or gifted as: **Passive Recreation**

**Passive Recreation definition:** Passive recreation refers to recreational activities that do not require prepared facilities like sports fields. Passive recreational activities place minimal stress on a site's resources; as a result, they can provide ecosystem service benefits and are highly compatible with natural resource protection.

#### **What are Permissible Uses of Passive Recreational Activities?**

•Hunting • Camping • Hiking • Wildlife viewing • Observing and photographing nature • Picnicking • Walking • Bird watching • Historic and archaeological exploration • Swimming • Cross-country skiing •snow shoeing • Bicycling • Running/jogging • Climbing • Horseback riding • Fishing •Dog walking •Yoga• Community gardening/Farmers Market• Kite Flying •Tot lot• Metal detecting with site amenities for such activities include picnic tables, photo stands, boardwalks, paved paths for handicap accessibility, pathways, benches and pedestrian bridges with requirements of public restrooms. **There will be no hunting on town owned lands.**

**This ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper having circulation in the Town of Goshen.**

**Adopted: TBD**

**Published: TBD**

**Effective: TBD**