

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

June 25, 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: Cindy Barrett; Audrey Blondin; Dawn Wilkes; Janet Hooper; Krista Rizzo; Eric Warner, *The Goshen News*; John McKenna, *Republican American*; Josephine Jones

1. Call to order: Todd M. Carusillo called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of June 18, 2024: In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, the **motion** was made to approve the minutes of June 18, 2024 with corrections. Voted unanimous. (Ms. Paige also acknowledged and apologized in the public portion of the meeting.)

Mr. Felix Sambucco was not appointed Assistant Fire Chief; rather recommended by the Republican Town Committee.

Krista Rizzo asked why the BOS selected 6/27/24 for the meeting to vote for the BOE in that it was in conflict with R20 BOE meeting at the James Morris School.

3. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – June 27, 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 \$310,345.61. Payroll in the amount of \$32,111.12. and the warrant in the amount of \$278,234.49. Voted unanimous. Included in the warrant were: Comer (Chip Seal) - \$199,799.40; Target Materials – (perforated pipe used on Town Hill Road) \$28,026.90.

4. First Selectman's Report:

The Region 20 BOE vote will take place, Thursday, 6/27/24 @8:00 p.m. Todd has had a conversation with Atty. Chip Roraback. There is no conflict. 6/27/2024 is the vote. Krista Rizzo solved the conflict.

Some residents were upset with those individuals who did not bring I.D.'s (and therefore were unable to vote). Todd attended the previous meeting regarding the school budget. It was short, rubber stamped; \$3 million dollars divided among the schools will make the budget for Goshen to go back up. All BOE members should take a closer look at the Towns' budgets. Scott Olson announced a special meeting on Thursday, June 27th. "I had no knowledge that there was a "conflict".

5. Correspondence:

Todd Carusillo a letter from Josephine Jones and quite a few other Goshen residents – letters requesting the BOE meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall and then walk over to the Gym for the vote.

6 Old Business: None

6 a. Appointments: Alternate to the Board of Fire Commissioners.

In a **motion** made by Scott Olson, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to appoint Felix Sambucco Alternate on the Board of Fire Commissioners. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Scott Olson, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella it was **voted** to add to the agenda, item 7a. Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, July 26th, July 27th and July 29th. Voted unanimous.

7. New Business:

7a. Falcon Ridge Folk Festival – July 26th, July 27th, July 29th

All signatures for approval appear to be in place at this time. A vote for *final* approval will be put before the BOS next week.

8. Other Business:

8a. Seth Breakell – Cancelled.

8b. Upcoming Town Meeting:

Motion by Scott Olson, seconded Dexter S. Kinsella, to schedule a Town Meeting, Tuesday, July 16th to bring petition/vote forward regarding 190 Sharon Turnpike. Voted unanimous.

9. Public Comment: (Two (2) minutes per person)

Audrey Blondin – Procedures, official ballots, this night will have official ballots etc. ? Todd Carusillo gave an overview of the meeting planned for July 16th – explained the ballots, their distribution, the table set ups, etc. Ms. Blondin suggested the possibility of having the time changed for an ordinance, i.e., back to perhaps 7:00 p.m. She also asked how the questions will be put on the ballot regarding the land (190 Sharon Turnpike). Todd Carusillo briefly stated question 1. Should we sell the land? 2. Should we keep the land for future use? 3. Petition: Should the land at 190 Sharon Turnpike be protected as open space.

Josephine Jones –It was refreshing to see people come forward and take responsibility for their errors. Ms. Jones thanked all those for doing so.

Marianne Stilson said that she doesn't think statements should be made to the press until the voting process is finalized. Also, what happened to the "2" minute rule?

Cindy Barrett in the previous minutes regarding the people standing in the cafeteria - 536 people were in the *gymnasium*, not the cafeteria. Hope things are done correctly Thursday night. Perhaps the BOS can consider a time change for their meeting.

Dexter Kinsella stated the time of 5:00 p.m. for BOS was due to bid openings; this was a time more conducive for workers/businesses.

Thy Ho asked for an update on the "hostile environment" in the Library (inasmuch as Lee Kennedy has resigned from "Library Commission Clerk" and another Library employee has resigned? Town and labor attorney have had conversations with Lee. Issue has been resolved. Thy Ho asked if measures for a speedier voting process than the other night; there were four lines; ID's had to be checked. Todd Carusillo assured her that measures are in place to facilitate a speedier process; more people will be there to assist in the process, etc.

Janet Hooper - Lottery for ballot cancelled. Next step? Write name on ballot? Todd Carusillo said brand new nominations from the floor must be made; blank ballots will be distributed. BOE commentary from Todd Carusillo when all will receive clarity.

Human Services to continued? Todd Carusillo, "yes" after the voting question is complete.

Audrey Blondin said one must be a property owner in Goshen and registered to vote in Goshen.

Todd said \$3,000,000 appears to be lost monies. Information from the Superintendent is needed.

Judi Armstrong said the BOE meeting tomorrow from your interpretation, needs more clarity. \$3 million to be paid should go to Children's education. Todd Carusillo stated the \$3 million has not been not accounted for.

10. Adjournment:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:59 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectively submitted:

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide