

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

May 7, 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; Audrey Blondin; Michael Leonard; Marianne Stilson; Marissa Walker; Robin Christopher; Bernie Harrington

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 April 30, 2024:** In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, the **motion** was made to approve the minutes of April 30th. Voted unanimous.
3. **Matters Arising out of the minutes:** Selectman Scott Olson took issue with the Pay Matrix; in that he stated the employees need to understand it. Scott felt the application to Planning & Zoning did not have the “spirit” that was needed. We are the Applicant; we did not do a good job. We are accused of lack of clarity are not being transparent. Dexter Kinsella agreed. Scott Olson inquired with Garret Harlow and found that the office was closed to file it. It could have waited to next year. He feels the Town can make no progress by submitting this now. Thanks to Todd Carusillo for bringing, it to the employees attention.

9b. Application to P&Z regarding 190 Sharon Turnpike (as read on the April 30th agenda) discussion as to why we should not go forward Motion was temporary. The “spirit” was absent in the discussion. First Selectman stated that this item went before the P&Z for approval for the future.

4. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – May 9, 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 \$49,480.43. Included in this warrant were the payroll in the amount of \$28,098.35 and the warrant in the amount of \$21,382.08. Voted unanimous. Included were Cargill Salt – \$5,146.17; Dime Oil – \$1,440.77; J.W. Truck Repair – \$2,108.76.

5. First Selectman’s Report:

Todd Carusillo received a letter of resignation Allen Kinsella from the Goshen Inlands and Wetlands Commission.

The Affordable Housing Committee has their first meeting this Saturday, May 11, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.

First Selectman Carusillo received a response from the Woodridge Lake Property Owners’ Association, Inc. regarding the Speed Humps for improvement for public safety. The letter is a formal confirmation, on behalf of its lot owners and residents. The Town of Goshen will install three (3) speed humps in 2024 to improve safety within the community. Selectman Dexter Kinsella, while pleased that this project will go forward, he wants input from Garret Harlow, Supervisor of Public Works. He wants to see a copy of the actual road design. Todd Carusillo sent the “hump” design onto Dexter Kinsella and Scott Olson.

There is a “Black Bear” lecture being held. Registration is needed to attend this seminar – *Living with Bears*. Posting is on the DEEP website. Deadline for registration to attend is next Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

Todd received a letter from the Recreation Director as to the timelines of the use of Camp Coch. Camp will be in session June through August- 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m. week days. It will be closed during those hours.

First Selectman Todd Carusillo can be contacted for BOS minutes, Town appointments, new hires, etc. Public can call him or stop by his office with questions.

6. Correspondence:

Selectman Scott Olson received a letter from Lee Kennedy, Clerk of the Library Board of Directors about her minutes.

Correspondence was also received by Scott Fellows, Marissa Wright and Lori Carey.

7. Old Business:

7a. Fire Commissioner Seth Breakell – Feasibility Study – Needs Assessment

Mr. Breakell spoke about the “Needs Assessment” of the Goshen Fire Company. Implored the Fire Company to step back and rethink. The Fire Company has no intentions of having a stand-alone building behind the Fire Company. 2nd Fire Company meeting -this assessment is needed; some of the equipment is under cover. At the 1-27-24 meeting there were two options – keep the staircase or not replace continuous list of vehicles; overhead doors, etc. We want to do our due diligence. At what cost? A feasibility study was done on a line-item in the fire budget (\$15,000). It was part of a feasibility study. Should we hire firm at a tentative cost \$30K or \$40K ? The Fire Company has done its due diligence. The Fire Company is out of room at the current Fire House; vehicles and equipment have to be moved to *answer a fire call*. The Goshen Fire Company clearly needs an updated “assessment”. Space behind the Fire House- *Fire equipment needs to be stored inside the building*. There are 14 new homes that have been added to the population; what does the future hold as the Town grows.

Selectman Scott Olson stated that the location for the building is his first choice to build behind the Fire Company. 190 Sharon Turnpike can be a back-up. Money for the feasibility study can come from the new budget.

A new cold storage building can accommodate the Fire Company and Public Works. Use of the grant money. Selectman Dexter Kinsella stated there was a *Town Meeting* – for the purchase of the land at 190 Sharon Turnpike. The Town voted “yes” for it. Dexter Kinsella feels his legal obligation to the Town is to go with the results of that vote – *his elected duty*. He added that Public Works, Fire Company, and Education and their future needs are important to the Town of Goshen. Currently what we now have is not adequate for the future. Scott Olson stated that Mark Harris said the vote was for the purchase for the land only.

7b. Appointments:

In a **motion** made by motion made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Todd M. Carusillo, it was **voted** to appoint Andrew Savage to the Inland/Wetlands Commission beginning June 2, 2024. Voted unanimous.

8. New Business:

8a. Call for Annual Budget Meeting and Special Town Meeting – Town of Goshen (Attached)

The “call” for the Annual Budget Meeting and Special Town Meeting was read aloud by Scott Olson.

A **motion** to give warning and adopt was made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Todd M. Carusillo. **Voted unanimous**. The signatures were completed accordingly.

9. Other Business: None

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

Sasha Schwartz was a New York public school teacher for 16 years. She is very disappointed with what has taken place in the last few months. We must trust the Library and the people who work here. Banning books is a dangerous practice. Let us trust and support Goshen's librarians and Civil Servants.

Charlotte Jones stated that she thanks Scott Olson for his comments about Board appointments.

Michael Leonard stated the Selectmen should follow the POCD.

Marianne Stilson stated the *Bear Seminar* is also on "zoom". Cannot the Boards and Commission conduct their own meeting (via zoom)? Can the "recording secretary" facilitate the process of conducting the zoom process? If you have an opposing view, let the Selectmen know; don't wait for a person to resign from a Board for Commission.

Bernie Harrington asked if there are any State regulations regarding the vehicles of the Fire Dept. (leaving the premises for 15 minutes); Town vehicles blocking Fire equipment. Todd Carusillo will look into the Statutes.

Audrey Blondin asked if the *Bear Seminar* will be on zoom. She referred to Selectman Kinsella's stating his responsibilities/duties to Town. Also, if the building planned for Public Works (at 190 Sharon Turnpike) does not work out, will the money in the budget for the "feasibility study" be removed from the budget? Todd Carusillo stated the money (\$15,000) has been removed from the budget requested by the Board of Finance. Ms. Blondin asked if the Board of Finance can explain why they took it out? Can adjustments to the budget be made at the "Town Meeting"? The funding was cut; is it the duty of the Board of Selectmen and taxpayers to resolve? Ms. Blondin stated that, "then this budget (coming forward) needs to be voted down."

Renae Kajowski stated she is confused. What is the sequence of steps you're suppose to follow to get this project to move forward.

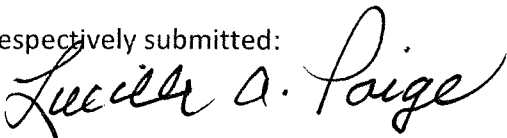
Henrietta Horvay stated that in reference to the budget, the hearing is next Wednesday night; People have a right to speak at a public hearing. People can vote and finalize the budget at the May meeting.

Marissa Wright stated that this whole project lacks transparency. The people have spoken loud and clear. Equipment (4) borrowed from the NWCOG at the property can be stored at the FEMA property adjacent to Public Works (has completed a soil study). This small, temporary facility can be utilized for Public Works. Try to create a win/win situation; preserve the land.

11. Adjournment:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectively submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucille A. Paige".

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide

WARNING
HYBRID ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING AND
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF GOSHEN

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87688944445>

Zoom is viewing only
Voting will be held in person ONLY

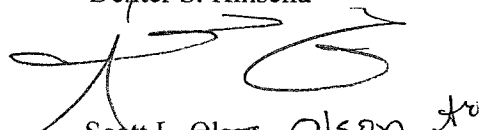
We, the Selectmen of the Town of Goshen, hereby give warning to persons legally entitled to vote thereat that the Annual Budget Meeting and a Special Town Meeting will be held in the Cafeteria of Goshen Center School in said Town of Goshen on Wednesday, May 29, 2024 at 8:00 p.m. for the following purposes:

1. Upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance, to consider and act upon a budget for the Town of Goshen for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.
2. To authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and receive any state or federal grants for the benefit of the Town, provided that any appropriation of municipal funds shall be approved in advance by the Board of Finance, and if the amount exceeds \$20,000, a town meeting.
3. To elect one member of the Board of Education of Regional School District #6 from the town of Goshen for the term to commence July 1, 2024 until the finalization of Regional School District #6.
4. To take such action as the voters deem best with respect to the enactment of an ordinance entitled "Farm Machinery Tax Exemption Ordinance.". A copy of the proposed ordinance is on file and available for inspection at the office of the Goshen Town Clerk, 42C North Street, Goshen, Connecticut.

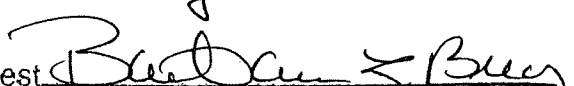
Dated at Goshen, Connecticut, this 7th day of May, 2024.


Todd M. Carusillo


Dexter S. Kinsella


Scott L. Olsen Olson Jr

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Received May 8, 2024 @ 9:00 AM.
Attest 
Goshen Town Clerk