

Town of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, April 22, 2025
5:00 p.m.

42A North Street, Goshen, CT 06756

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; Audrey Blondin; Janet Hooper; Marianne Stilson; Renee Kujawski;
Dawn Wilkes

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 Tuesday, April 15, 2025. In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, it was **voted** to approve the minutes of April 15 2025. Voted unanimous.

3. Approval of the Payroll and Warrant – April 24, 2025:

In a **motion** made by Scott Olson, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the **total** warrant in the amount of \$40,534.17. The warrant is in the amount of \$13,134.72. payroll is \$27,399.45. Voted unanimous. Included in the Warrant were: Dime Oil - \$3,116.96; Info Quick - \$1,511.25; King & King - \$882.75.

4. First Selectman's Report:

This coming Thursday, April 24, 2025 First Selectman, Todd Carusillo, will conduct his "Meet with the residents" segment, (4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.). All are welcome.

More residents have reported sightings of many bears. PLEASE STAY AWARE.

State Police are out enforcing speed limits - Beach Street, Lyman Lane, Shelbourne Drive, Belshire, Route 63; People are running right through Stop Signs!

The Region 20 Budget hearing took place last night. Unfortunately, 40 people attended (only 13 Goshen residents attended). Region 20 hearing should be \$3.5, however the figure shown now is \$3,530,000; need certification of how/when this was paid.

Governor Ned LaMont has ordered the American Flag to be flown at half-staff, in honor of the passing of Pope Francis.

IMPROV & THEATRE PROGRAM, Wednesday, May 7th – early dismissal day for Grades 3 – 5. Goshen Public Library. Register Children@Goshenpublib.org – register.

5. Correspondence: None

6. Old Business:

6a. Appointments: None

6b. Budgets:

Miscellaneous Employment; Employment Benefits; Elections

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was voted to receive the aforementioned Budgets 2025 – 2026 and forward to the Board of Finance for their review and consideration. Voted unanimous.

7. New Business:

7a. GOSHEN STAMPEDE – June 6th, 7th, 8th 2025:

In a **motion** made by Scott Olson, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was **voted** to approve the Special Permit for the “Goshen Stampede” for June 6th, 7th, and 8th, 2025, inasmuch as all required permits have been executed. Voted unanimous.

In a **motion** made by Scott Olson, seconded by Dexter S. Kinsella, it was voted to add to the agenda under 7b. Town Employees Public Works Benefits. Voted unanimous.

7b. Town Employees Public Works Benefits:

An impromptu meeting of the Public Works employees was called on Monday, April 21, 2025, regarding proposed health benefits increase. The public works employees currently pay 5%; the health care company is imposing an increase to 48.5%. – double their current rate. An economical health care insurance rate for Public Works employees is a great value to the Town of Goshen. Explore solutions to alleviate this financial burden would be the best interest to the town of Goshen. Selectman Dexter S. Kinsella stated he would not support this action if put forth. Selectman Scott Olson agreed with Mr. Kinsella in that the majority of Goshen residents find the excellent clearing of the town roads, in the winter for example, are one of the many safety benefits the residents are assured of. First Selectmen, Todd Carusillo, cited the refurbishing of Holmes Rd to excellent condition done solely by the crew of the Goshen Public Works dept. This can't be understated – the rebuilding of the entire road, saved the town of Goshen *thousands of dollars*.

8. Other Business:

8a. Town Road Maintenance – Supervisor of Public Works:

This report will be given by Garret Harlow, Supervisor of Public Works at next week's meeting, Tuesday, April 29, 2025.

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

Janet Hooper asked “who has the final say?” **She was told the** BOF. Happy Earth Day to everyone. Saturday, 10:15 a.m., April 26th is the Annual Shane Kinsella Children Walk/Run. This event supports the children of Goshen who are interested in competitive activities.

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Audrey Blondin - consideration of budget by referendum – option of either 3 or 4 mils rate increase - Town meeting adjourn to Town Referendum if over 1 mill. Town meeting end of May 28th. Town of Goshen Board of Finance to set mill rate. (First Selectman, Todd Carusillo, when budget gets passed, the Board of Finance will set the new mill rate.)

Susan Wheeler - Town employees is a big deal. BOE meeting is Monday, May 5th. BOE and Town budget – must pay attention. Vote on May 6th – if budget doesn't pass - do another referendum. E-Blast Friday on budget. – Thank you First Selectman, Todd Carusillo for the “E-Blast.”

Marianne Stilson to Todd, Dexter and Scott – mil rate will control referendum. Substantial increase in property taxes will affect every resident.

Renee Kujawski advised about E-Blast.

Dawn Wilkes stated that the Superintendent of Schools to visit Town (This notice was in the “E-Blast that First Selectman, Todd Carusillo is to sent out with Region 20 update.)

10. Adjournment:

In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Scott Olson, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 p.m. Voted unanimous.

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide