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(802) 247-6455

Town of Goshen

50 Carlisle Hill Road | Goshen, Vermont 05733

## REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

Monday May 22, 2023 6:30pm

Meeting held at Goshen Town Hall

Unapproved minutes

**Members Present:** Bill Mathis, Thomasina Magoon, Tammy Walsh and Timmi Moffi,  
Selectboard Clerk

**Others Present:** Ken Brown, Diane O'Classen, Galena Chernaya, Leo Zhelnin, Dave Sabatini, Rick Toman, Bob West, Elsie Sherrill, Chad Chamberlain, Madine Reed, Fran Vito, Al Gionet, Kathy Mathis, Will Mathis and Lee Baker

Bill called the meeting to order at 6:37

### Additions to the agenda

Diane would like to reinstate the Goshen Citizens Club. The Club will decide on a time to meet and it can be added to the town website.

Ken presents the Selectboard with the winning bid for the mowing contract for the cemeteries and town buildings. There was only one bid received and the contract was awarded to Dave Sabatini. Discussion on breakdown of budget line items for billing. The Cemetery Committee will be asking for a budget increase for cemetery maintenance and upkeep prior to next fiscal year budget being set.

Chad states that Keith Arlund was not present at the Planning Commission meeting for an interview for the permanent ZA position. Chad will add Keith's interview to the agenda for the June meeting.

Rick states he received the folder of residents with outstanding invoices for Brandon Fire Dept services. He made house calls to speak to these residents and discovered insurance companies are unwilling to pay these bills claiming the totals are outrageous. One insurance company stated they would be willing to pay \$500. Further discussion on how this issue and future billing should be handled. Rick will put together a written report for the Selectboard. Additional concern is expressed regarding the human and environmental impact of the foam that the Fire Dept sprays on the fires.

**Public Comment:** Galina thanks the Selectboard and the Road Crew for their exceptional job on the roads. It is greatly appreciated to have the roads in such drivable conditions. Galina also states how nice it is to have the Town Garage and surrounding outside area cleaned up.



Leo also thanks the Selectboard and the Road Crew for all their work.

Elsie also thanks the Selectboard and Road Crew for all their work on the roads

Diane inquires how the chloride will spread without the truck. Tammy states that the town will be contracting for liquid chloride and are also looking into options for having the chloride application contracted out as well.

Thomasina moves to approve the minutes from the 5-8 Selectboard meeting. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

### **New Business**

**Changes to insurance policy:** Thomasina will review the insurance policy and make the necessary changes to vehicles and personnel.

**Changes to Jim Hayes party:** Thomasina states that the Selectboard has been asked to step back from organizing the party for Jim and the announcement has been taken down from the website. Once a new date and details are confirmed it can be reposted.

**Town Hall Rental:** Thomasina has volunteered to be the point person for Hall rentals. Thomasina reads a draft of the Rental Policy. A fillable application will be available online with the deposit/fee being mailed or dropped off before the renter is given the key. Diane questions whether alcohol is permitted in town buildings even with an insurance waiver. Thomaina will research this further. Dave states non residents should be removing their garbage after their event so the contractor is not paying for it. The Selectboard agrees with this. The availability of the hall will be updated on the calendar on the town website.

**Buildings and grounds renovation plan:** Thomasina states “The purpose of the Town Office and surrounding grounds renovation plan is to ensure the historic structure is well maintained and the esthetics of Goshen’s historic town office, listed on the state historic register, presents to it’s citizens and public at large, as the jewel that it is. This includes investing in the surrounding grounds to compliment this building and the historic town hall.” Thomasina speaks on what has been done thus far and upcoming changes and ideas. Further discussion on this subject.

**Payroll Timesheet Policy:** Tabled until next meeting due to Bill having left the meeting early.

**HR Resources Files:** Thomasina has downloaded a checklist for new employee hiring and this will be used going forward.



**Reminder to Committees:** Thomasina reminds committees to submit their agendas and minutes to be posted on the website.

**Christmas Tree Donation:** Thomasina thanks Elsie and Steve for their donation of a new Christmas tree for the Town.

**Open Appointments:** Susanne George has resigned as Treasurer effective today. The Selectboard would like to appoint Vickee Whiting as the Treasurer until elections in March. Thomasina moves to appoint Vickee Whiting as the Treasurer. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

The Selectboard also received a letter of resignation from Barb Walsh as Auditor. Thomasina moves to conduct an independent audit. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

**Technology:** On June 1st Chris Morse will be coming to update the computer system and add a new server. In addition, 3 new cameras will be installed, one inside and one outside of the Town Office and one at the Town Garage. The camera footage will be stored in its own box for 30 days and will require a new policy that states 2 or more Selectboard members must be present to access the footage.

**Refinishing Floors:** Thomasina received a quote of \$2800 to refinish the floors in the Town Office. She will be gathering more quotes.

### Roads

GMNF has awarded the town \$20K in funding for the 2024 fiscal year. This is a large increase and Flora White road will now be included as well. The Selectboard will work with Chris Matrick on these projects and he will be attending the Selectboard meeting on June 12th. Tammy states grading is 98% complete and the plan is to grade once a month or as needed. The Road Crew is continuing to work on pushing off the edges of the road and ditching. Tammy will be working on gathering roadside mowing quotes. The Town Garage clean out is almost complete, approximately 8 yards of fill and salt were removed from inside the garage. The entire right hand wall of the garage is rotted where material was piled against it. This damage will need to be repaired as well as damage where someone ran into the back of the garage and shoved the building about 6-8" off the plate.

**Equipment Assessment:** Tammy states the cost to inspect the green truck is approximately \$3000, not addressing any mechanical issues that may be present. The black truck had the brakes seize while Will was driving it and now is parked and not being used. The grader needs brakes as well. Tammy states she will have the black truck assessed.



**Grants:** The Town is still waiting for a response on the Class II Highway Paving Grant. Grant in Aid for Clean Waterways came through for \$20K. This is a 80/20 match to be used for water mitigation.

**Mileage Certificate:** The State is all set with the Road Mileage Certificate and the changes to South Hill Road form will be submitted.

**Diesel Tank Keys:** All copies of the keys to the town diesel tank have not been returned. Tammy will be changing the lock.

### Old Business

**Roof Estimate:** Thomasina received a quote to repair the leak in the roof and replace the seal around the chimney, from Jason Brutowski for \$300. Jason stated that the bricks in the chimney are deteriorating greatly and will need to be fixed.

Thomasina moves to approve the repair estimate from Jason Brutowski for \$300. Tammy seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Thomasina would like to request access from Rosemary to the locked door in the Town Hall for cleaning as well as performing the blower door test. Galina wonders what other renovation projects can be done to the Town Hall before the end of the fiscal year. Galina is concerned about losing any money from the \$4000 line item that isn't spent. Further discussion on this subject and ideas on what this money can be spent on. Thomasina describes the MERP grant for citizens who are unaware and explains how this will impact Town Hall Renovations. Kathy suggests painting the kitchen and she will donate paint and her time.

**Citizens Concerns:** Bob has informational handouts on the MERP Grant for residents.

Dave would like the gravel washing out into the road on the corner by the cemetery to be addressed. Tammy states that this will be taken care of.

Lee states that someone on 4 wheelers has been tearing up the new cemetery and driving on resident's private property. Further discussion on this subject. The new signs at Goshen Dam have been shot up with bullet holes as well.

Lee also states that he is struggling with a resident who attends the Cemetery Committee meetings. Advice is given as to how this can be addressed through open meeting laws.

Thomasina moves to adjourn. Tammy seconds, meeting adjourned at 8:18

Respectfully Submitted,  
Timmi Moffi



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