

TOWN OF GOSNOLD SELECTBOARD

April 14, 2023

Meeting took place at Gosnold Town Hall and via Zoom

In person: Sarah Berry, Stewart Young, Gail Blout, Sarah Smith, Lisa Wright, Seth Garfield, David Warr, Bonnie Veeder, Paula Dimare

Via Zoom: Leo Roy, Dix Leeson, Tally Garfield, Sara Lehner, Paul Lehner, Carlyn Nunes, Phil Houha, Bill Arding, Duane Lynch, Marla Garfield, Nancy Wilder, Pam Bunker, Adam Patch, Michael Milanowski, Ann Conway, Michelle Carvalho

Meeting open @ 10:32 AM

SELECTBOARD:

A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 10, 2023. Duly seconded. So moved. Unanimous vote.

The Green Community designation will require an article on the Annual Town Meeting warrant.

Warrants were reviewed and signed.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER:

Stewart reported that he has been in touch with Matt Gutwill for the position of Public Safety Officer. Matt is waiting to hear about another position he may be hired for. Currently there are no other candidates for the position.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY:

Town priorities have been outlined and updated each year in this document, it's an important tool for applying for grants and proving the town is following best practices. The summary of all of the work completed in the past decade is impressive. *A motion was made to approve the updated version of the Community Development Strategy. Duly seconded. So moved. Unanimous vote.*

FUEL FARM:

A barge is coming over on Monday and will commence work on Tuesday. The fuel building will begin next week. There is currently about a 3-week delay in the project.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

David Warr reported that in order to amend an order of conditions there must be a public meeting to officially do so. The Conservation Commission has approved the Amended Order of Conditions for the relocation of the public bathroom and the reinforcement of the fuel tanks. A public hearing will take place on May 12.

WIFI:

The town continues to consult with CCG through the Collins Center so they can coordinate with Verizon.

BUNKERS:

Will Saltonstall is working with a structural engineer and Manny Capriotti may be interested in the masonry work.

ASSESSOR:

Pam Bunker reported on the current values, there has been no change in values since the spring revaluation. The new tax rate has not been set.

A Tax Classification Hearing opened @ 11:00 AM. Pam recommends a single tax rate for the Town of Gosnold.

The Notice of Public Hearing:

A public hearing will be held at the Gosnold Town Hall on Friday, April 14, 2023 @ 11:00 AM. In order that the Gosnold taxpayers may present their views on the issue of allocating the local property tax levy among the five classes for the fiscal year 2023.

Pam explained the five classes and recommends to the Selectboard that they do not adopt:

Open Space – *A motion was made to not adopt Open Space Classification*

Residential Exemption – *A motion was made not adopt Residential Exemption*

Senior Means Tested Exemption – *A motion was made to not adopt Senior Means Tested Exemption*

Small Commercial Exemption – *A motion was made to not adopt Small Commercial Exemption*

Pam recommends the Selectboard adopt a single tax rate and accept the residential factor of 1. *A motion was made to accept the single tax rate and accept the residential factor as 1. Duly seconded. Unanimous vote.*

A motion was made to close the Tax Classification Hearing. Duly seconded. So moved. Hearing closed @ 11:11.

Pam indicated she would like to move away from Vison and work with PK and will get costs associated with this change.

AVALON: Avalon will open for the 2023 season on May 19.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

School: The proposed school operating budget is \$64,654.00. This is for salaries, building costs, and maintenance. ESSR III grant will pay for some of the building upgrades and the Green Community grant will help pay for HVAC and improved air quality.

WATER:

Beginning FY2024 there will be an annual water surcharge associated with the debt service from the water project. There will be an increase in water rates as the operating budget will be increasing mostly due to additional water testing.

SOLID WASTE:

Tipping fees have increased and the cost of mattress disposal will increase. Mass DEP will require all mattresses to be recycled which will increase disposal costs.

ELECTRIC:

The electric light budget is significantly overspent, mostly due to the increase in fuel costs and the town will need to finance the overage of about \$100,000. There was discussion about implementing a surcharge at the end of the fiscal year, and it certainly looks like the KW rate will increase soon.

BEACH CLEANUP:

Laura Ludwig of the Center for Coastal Studies presented the beach cleanup project which took place earlier in April with a group from Cornell and some local volunteers. The goal was to clean up ghost fishing gear. They collected 400 smashed lobster traps and over 200 whole traps. Any traps with ID tags will be shared with the Division of Marine Fisheries, Laura will have a full report of all debris collected in the near future.

CEMETERY:

The new cemetery fence will be installed soon.

USCG VISITOR CENTER:

The new roof will be installed next week.

A motion was made to adjourn. Duly seconded. Unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned @ 1:39 PM

Respectfully submitted by: Lisa Wright

Sarah Berry

Gail Blout

G. Stewart Young

GOSNOLD SELECTBOARD

June 2, 2023