

TOWN OF GOSHEN

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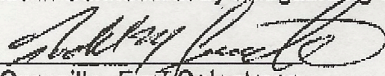
TODD M. CARUSILLO, FIRST SELECTMAN

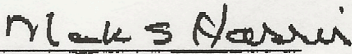
Statement of Support to Maintain All Vital Services at Sharon Hospital

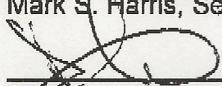
The Gosken Board Of Selectmen stand in support of maintaining Sharon Hospital as a full-service hospital for the following reasons:

1. Sharon Hospital is a major cornerstone of community of the northwest corner of the State of Connecticut. As such, to have no maternity units/service at Sharon Hospital is unthinkable, not to mention being unsafe for a mother in labor. Young families will not feel safe, this change in maternity services will be a strong deterrent to having young families locate to this area. Without these services, and the loss of young families moving to our area, local businesses and schools will suffer. Our communities in this corner of the state look forward to the growth of young families, therefore it is essential to have Sharon Hospital preserve their labor and delivery service.
2. It is almost impossible to imagine Sharon Hospital without an Intensive Care Unit (ICU). To say these services are critical to our local communities would be an understatement. ICU is critical to residents of all ages in the northwest corner; vital to every resident regardless of age – from newborns, young children, middle-aged to the elderly. For certain, primary care doctors will be hesitant to be affiliated with a hospital lacking an ICU unit. A decrease in primary care physicians will lead to an exit of citizens of all ages, including young working people up to the age's retirees. These demographics that are a major support of the plan to reconfigure Sharon Hospital.
3. To say the maintenance of after-hour surgery is not a basic need to success of healing and recovery for our citizens is unthinkable, almost outrageous. Accidents and grave illnesses almost never happen between the hours 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Connecticut, especially in the northwest corner, must support vital healthcare.

Therefore, be it resolved that we ask our State Legislators and Congressional members to do everything in their powers to create the changes needed to ensure the well-being of our rural communities in Connecticut by safeguarding equal access to healthcare for all our residents.

Signed: 
Todd M. Carusillo, First Selectman


Mark S. Harris, Selectman


Dexter S. Kinsella, Selectman