

**TOWN OF GOSHEN**  
**TOWN BOARD MEETING**

February 22, 2018

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 22nd day of February, 2018 at the Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York.

Present:           Douglas Bloomfield       Supervisor  
                  George Lyons            Councilmember  
                  Kenneth Newbold       Councilmember  
                  John VanDerMolen       Councilmember

Absent:            Melissa Gallo            Councilmember

Also Present:    Kelly Naughton, Esq.    Attorney  
                  Priscilla Gersbeck     Town Clerk

**A.     CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bloomfield at 7:30 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B.     AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA**

**C.     PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (agenda items only)**

None at this time.

**D.     REPORTS:**

**Councilperson Van Der Molen** reporting for the Senior Center; The Valentine's Day pizza party was a success. The St. Patrick Day luncheon will be held on Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon. Catherine's Restaurant will cater the traditional lunch at \$15 per person. The Senior Prom will be held 5-7pm on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. As in the past, the Goshen High School Interact Club will host the event. An AARP Defensive Driving class will be held at the Senior Center on April 30<sup>th</sup>. At a Senior Commission meeting, it was noted that the Senior activities came in \$6,400 under budget.

Secondly, reporting for the Police Dept., there is discussion at the State level, of having a Judge & ADA on call, 3-11pm and mid-night shift at the County Government Building for night time arraignments.

**Councilperson Newbold** noted the Highway Dept. assisted in a water main break at Arcadia Hills on February 15<sup>th</sup>. As always, a job well done by our highway crew.

**Councilperson Lyons** reported for the Highway Dept.; it was brought to attention there is a persistent problem with someone knocking over the stop sign at the intersection of Conklingtown Road and Reservoir Road. Highway has replaced the stop sign four times this week and additionally had a speed limit sign on Arcadia knocked down this morning. A passerby stated the damage was being caused by a white pickup truck. The Police Dept. are looking into this matter. Brush cutting has been done on Farmingdale Road, inside Hambletonian Park, Farmingdale Heights and along Arcadia Road. Cold patching the widespread damage in the form of potholes continues town wide. Earlier this month there were four snow storms and one surprise ice storm. Two of the Highway trucks slid off of Craigville Road during the surprise ice storm of Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>. Both trucks had to be towed out of a ditch. Fortunately, there were no injuries. At the Town Board meeting on Monday night, it was voted to transfer more funds into the DPW account – DB Fund for road maintenance.

Councilperson Lyons referenced a letter from Mr. Kenneth Haverlan, Risk Control Field Representative, regarding a recent visit. The purpose of the visit was to update the general operations and practices of the Town and meet with some of the Department Managers. No recommendations were made, meaning we had an excellent report. **Supervisor Bloomfield** along with Broderick Knoell attended a workshop on the Utilization of Salt on Highways. The State of New York DOT explored the problems associated with salt distribution. Three main areas of concern are: (1) environmental contamination, the salt might affect the aquifer (2) public safety, to put it down before the road conditions are dangerous and (3) cost, to purchase equipment to optimize the amount of salt distributed. On another note, along with John McCarey, OCRP Director and representatives from Cypress Creek Renewables (Davis Solar) recently met with GCS Superintendent and associates. This meeting covered a proposal in the amount of \$10,000 per kilowatt with a 2% escalator. Supervisor Bloomfield and Councilperson Gallo met with Orange/Ulster BOCES District Superintendent, Mr. Hecht, to initiate and explore the possibility for fields our JRC can use to play sports on. Lastly, the Town will be vigilant regarding noise and dust pollution from Tilcon quarry operations. Violations will be addressed immediately.

**E. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. COMMUNITY ENERGY SOLAR HAS PROVIDED THE TOWN OF GOSHEN A LETTER OF INTENT FOR THE GLENMERE LAKE SOLAR, LLC SOLAR PROJECT TO BE BUILT AT 1199-1249 PULASKI HIGHWAY. THE TOWN OF GOSHEN NEEDS TO RESPOND WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS HOW THE PROJECT WILL BE TAXED.**

A letter was received from Joel Thomas, Manager of Community Energy informing the Town of plans to construct a solar system named Glenmere Lake Solar LLC. In meeting with John McCarey, OCRP Director, it was decided to offer Glenmere Lake Solar LLC a similar PILOT as presented to Davis Solar.

Therefore, the Supervisor will respond by letter that the Town of Goshen will require a contract for payments in lieu of taxes with Community Energy & Glenmere Lake Solar, LLC as developers and the owner of the property, the terms of which will be determined after further discussion.

**2. DISCUSS A REVISED DIAL-A-BUS SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE SAME.**

The US Dept. of Transportation requires that the Town have in place a Substance Abuse Policy for the Dial-A-Bus employees. A revised policy was presented to include changes mandated by the USDOT to include drugs in the opioid category. The changes have been made with the guidance of RLS & Associates (who is contracted by DOT to ensure transit systems remain in compliance).

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to adopt the "Town of Goshen-Chester Dial-A-Bus Substance Abuse Policy" as presented and authorize the Supervisor to sign the same. Councilperson Van Der Molen seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilperson Lyons noted in the policy, there is a sign-off page for the employee's file acknowledging and understanding the policy.

On A Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen  
0 NAYS  
1 ABSENT

**3. DISCUSS AND APPROVE REQUEST BY THE TOWN OF GOSHEN HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO HIRE AN "ON CALL" DIAL-A-BUS DRIVER TO PROVIDE DISABILITY AND VACATION RELIEF.**

The Dial-A-Bus employs one full time driver working 40 hours per week and one part-time driver working 20 hours per week. The part-time driver doesn't free-up enough time for the full time driver to take vacation, disability, illness etc. Consequently the full time driver is exceeding the allowable "banked" time.

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to hire an "on call" Dial-A-Bus driver to provide relief when needed. Councilperson Van Der Molen seconded the motion.

On A Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen  
0 NAYS  
1 ABSENT

**4. SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR TOWN OF GOSHEN CITIZEN INPUT INTO POSSIBLE 2019 ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM PROJECTS.**

Under this Program, a variety of physical improvements are eligible depending on the economic needs of the community. Further information can be obtained in the Town Clerk's office. The Town will be considering projects to be submitted to the Orange County Community Development Program for 2019.

Supervisor Bloomfield made the motion to set a public hearing for citizen input for the 2019 Community Development Block Grant program to be held on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter, at Goshen Town Hall, 41 Webster Avenue, Goshen, NY. Councilperson Newbold seconded the motion.

On A Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen  
0 NAYS  
1 ABSENT

**5. ACCEPT THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER THOMAS SANTOSUOSSO WHO HAS GAINED FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT WITH THE WASHINGTONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

Councilperson Van Der Molen made the motion accept the resignation of Police Officer Thomas Santosuosso. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

On A Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen  
0 NAYS  
1 ABSENT

**6. REVIEW AND APPROVE REQUEST BY POLICE CHIEF JAMES MCDOWELL TO HIRE MICHAEL A. FIGUEROA AS A PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER.**

Police Chief James McDowell submitted a request to hire Michael A. Figueroa as a part-time officer. Mr. Figueroa has served over 20 years in the New York City Police Department. He is knowledgeable in all aspects of police work.

Councilperson Van Der Molen made the motion to hire Michael A. Figueroa as a part-time police officer for the Town of Goshen effective February 22, 2018. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

On A Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen  
0 NAYS  
1 ABSENT

**F. OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. DISCUSS AND APPROVE RETURN OF A \$37,100.00 MAINTENANCE BOND TO ORANGE AND ROCKLAND UTILITIES, INC.**

On February 21, 2013 the Planning Board amended a resolution of conditional approval requiring Orange & Rockland Utilities to post a landscaping bond to guarantee the survival of the proposed landscaping for at least two growing seasons from the build out date. On February 9, 2018 the site was inspected and confirmed that the landscaping along Cheechunk Road to be in conformance with approved plans.

**TOWN OF GOSHEN**  
Resolution

**RELEASING THE CASH MAINTENANCE BOND BEING HELD BY THE TOWN OF GOSHEN IN CONNECTION WITH THE ORANGE AND ROCKLAND UTILITIES, INC. ELECTRICAL SUBSTATION LOCATED ALONG HARTLEY ROAD AND CHEECHUNK ROAD**

INTRODUCED BY: Councilperson Kenneth Newbold  
SECONDED BY: Councilperson George Lyons  
Dated: February 22, 2018

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York, held at the Town of Goshen Town Hall on the 22nd day of February, 2018, the following resolution was introduced:

WHEREAS, the Town of Goshen currently holds a cash maintenance bond in the amount of \$37,100.00 in connection with the Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. electrical substation application, located along Hartley Road and Cheechunk Road; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is in receipt of a memorandum dated February 21, 2018 from the Town Attorney advising that said monies being held by the Town could be released back to Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. on the basis that the required landscaping was provided and has survived two growing seasons pursuant to the Planning Board's Resolution of Approval, and a bond for such items was no longer necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Goshen Town Board, pursuant to the recommendation of the Town Attorney, hereby releases to Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. the cash maintenance bond held by the Town of Goshen in the amount of \$37,100.00;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to take whatever steps necessary to accomplish the release of the aforementioned \$37,100.00 of the cash maintenance bond to Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor, Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson, George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, John Van Der Molen	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson, Melissa Gallo	<u>ABSENT</u>		

Vote: Resolution carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

**G. FINANCE:**

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Manual A/P runs as of 1/31/18 in the amount of \$202,676.97 and Accounts Payable check run for 2/22/18 in the amount of \$2,361,255.31. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

On A Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen  
0 NAYS  
1 ABSENT

**H. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

**John McCarey**, OCRP Director, distributed copy of a letter from Cypress Creek Renewables accepting the PILOT agreement payments of \$10k/MWac with a 2% escalator. The recommended fair market value assessment for a 2MWac solar energy project in Orange County is \$1 million.

**Sandra Rothenberger** read "Where is the water". [Copy is available in the Clerk's office during business hours.] She outlined proposed developments and proposed business expansions questioning water availability.

**Debra Corr** asked for an update on live streaming/video recording of Town Board meetings. Response: We are looking into different types of operating systems other town clerks use. Issues with release security are of concern. The present sound system will also be upgraded in this process. In the past, two people voluntarily recorded town board meetings for the internet.

**Nick Gallo** questioned what the criteria for a community block grant is. Response: a couple of examples are (1) ADA doors – special projects for elderly & handicapped who have restricted accessibility and (2) shelters/clinics –provisions of public services. [A list of a variety of physical improvements is available in the Clerk's office.]

**Christine Miele** asked if agenda documents can be placed on our web site prior to the meeting. Response: Many times meeting documents come in late. This will be looked into.

**Brad Barnhorst** distributed a map (created by a local resident) that illustrates the frequency of the wind from CPV plant to the center of the Village of Goshen, which is approx. 280 degrees east from CPV plant. On a second page, are plans for the operation of CPV plant (2/21/18) taken from the Wawayanda web site. He is requesting like information be posted on the Town of Goshen web site keeping the residents informed of our air quality. Response: Supervisor Bloomfield wrote a letter to CPV External Affairs Director and the DEC complaining about the situation and what will they do about it. Contacting officials in Wawayanda proved to be of little use.

**I. ADJOURNMENT: 8:15PM**

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to adjourn the meeting for an attorney client meeting. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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Priscilla Gersbeck, Town Clerk