

TOWN OF GOSHEN
TOWN BOARD MEETING

August 22, 2013

M I N U T E S

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 22nd day of August, 2013 at the Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York.

Present:	Douglas Bloomfield	Supervisor
	Philip Canterino	Councilman
	Louis Cappella	Councilman
	George Lyons	Councilman
	Kenneth Newbold	Councilman

Also Present:	Dennis Caplicki	Attorney for the Town
	Priscilla Gersbeck	Deputy 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

Tax Certioraris were added to the Executive Session.

C. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (agenda items only)

None at this time.

D. REPORTS

Councilman Canterino: The new Police Chief is doing well. He has implemented new programs with training. He has already submitted his preliminary budget.

Councilman Lyons: Reporting for the JRC, all of the summer programs have ended. There was an increase in use of every program. For example; 500 kids attended the summer day camp. The Halloween party will be on October 26th. Zumba classes currently held in the Senior Center will be switched back to the school in September.

Councilman Newbold: Announced that Supervisor Bloomfield has set up a meeting on August 27th with the residents of Hambletonian Park to review the improvements to their subdivision. He has received positive feed-back from residents in Arcadia Hills and Hambletonian Park who have noticed savings in their water bill. Last weekend, the Tour de Goshen was a huge success with the best attendance in recent years.

Councilman Cappella: The Highway Dept. completed chip-sealing parts of Cheechunk Road and finished working on 6 ½ Station Road. This week the Highway Dept. will begin work on Reservoir Road. The heavy rains last week, delayed the Hartley Road culvert project which is now back on schedule. On another note,

the Senior Center is sponsoring an AARP basic driving course for those who want to save money on their insurance bill.

Supervisor Bloomfield: Reported that meetings with the CSEA Union are getting closer to an agreement. Secondly, all of the non-union employees have signed up with the new (MVP) health insurance company. Hopefully, the union employees will also sign up. Furthermore, our Budget Officer is working on the first draft of the 2014 budget and is confident that the Town will be able to meet the 1.66% threshold. The building of the O & R power distribution plant is quickly progressing. This plant will service backup for the entire community of Goshen and for the new Orange Regional Hospital.

(Change of order)

E. NEW BUSINESS:

1. INFORMATIONAL REVIEW OF THE ORANGE COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL "NEW FILM OFFICE" BY DAWN ANSBRO

Dawn Ansbro from the Orange County NY Film Office distributed information packets to the Board Members. She is the Executive Director of the OC Arts Council who is visiting County Municipalities promoting the new film office initiative. Film making offers a tremendous economic opportunity for our County. In turn, our County has a great deal to offer film makers such as: variety of locations, talented actors and support resources. To attract film makers, the County offers a 30% tax credit to film makers on their qualified cost such as set design, building, housing and food etc. She is asking municipalities for pictures (to post in the data bank) of locations suitable for filming use. Her office is the liaison between a municipality and the film industry.

2. A STATUS REVIEW OF TOWN OF GOSHEN ASSESSING DEPARTMENT AFTER SEVEN (7) MONTHS OF CONTRACTING OPERATIONS WITH THE COUNTY OF ORANGE REAL PROPERTY TAX OFFICE.

John McCarey, Director - Real Property Tax Service, presented the Board with a review of the first seven months that the County has contracted with the Town Assessing Department. [Full report in Clerk's office]

In Summary:	Number of Deeds Filed	Jan 13 thru June 30	121
	Number of Small Claims	54 filed in 2012	51 in 2013
	Total Assessed Value	increase of 8,800,221 from 2012	
	Taxable Value	increase of 10,009,450 from 2012	
	Equalization Rate	62.50 in 2012	67.00 in 2013

Mr. McCarey announced that this year every resident in Orange County will receive a letter from the State Dept. of Taxation & Finance to re-register either on line or by phone for the Basic Star exemption. This will no longer be done in the Assessor's Office. The process will identify Basic Star applicants by their Social Security Number. NYS found certain residents abusing the system by registering for the exemption owning multiple homes. The State will save millions of dollars using the new registration system.

Praise was given to Francine Niesolowski for her dedication and assistance in helping the County employees adjust to the office and in familiarizing them with the parcels in Goshen.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TAX CERTIORARI PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF STACK PROPERTY SECTION 12 BLOCK 1 LOT 51

This property is a renovated brick building located on Route 17M. Ownership has filed for a reduction for the 2012-2013 tax year assessment.

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
RESOLUTION**

Settling of Tax Certiorari Claim; James Stack, Section 12 Block 1 Lot 51

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Philip Canterino

SECONDED BY: Councilman George Lyons

DATED: August 22, 2013

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York, held at Town Hall in said Town on the 22nd day of August, 2013

WHEREAS, James Stack has commenced tax certiorari proceedings against the Town of Goshen in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Orange for the 2012-2013 tax assessment year bearing Orange County Index #005525/12 and

WHEREAS, It appears from the recommendation(s) of the Town Assessor, the Town's Appraiser, and Dennis P. Caplicki, Esq. Counsel for the Town of Goshen in the aforesaid proceedings, and upon a thorough investigation of the claims, that any further proceedings and litigation by the Town would involve considerable expense with the attendant uncertainty of the outcome and that the settlement of the above matter(s), as more fully set forth below, is reasonable and in the best interests of the Town; and

WHEREAS, James Stack is willing to settle these proceedings without interest, costs or disbursements, in the following manner;

- (1) That the proceeding for the 2012-2013 tax year be confirmed at an assessment of \$85,000

That petitioner's real property taxes for the year 2012-2013 be adjusted accordingly and that the petitioner be reimbursed, if paid, for any overpayment, without interest, if paid within ninety (90) days of notice of entry, or be credited with the corresponding decrease in taxes, as the case may be; and

That the petitioner agrees to waive the right to challenge the 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 real property tax year assessments pursuant to RPTL Section 727.

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the proposed settlement as set forth and described above is hereby accepted pursuant to Section 68 of the Town Law and it is further;

RESOLVED, that the Assessor of the Town of Goshen, Dennis P. Caplicki, Esq. and Matthew J. Caplicki, Esq. as Attorneys for the Town of Goshen, and Douglas Bloomfield, Supervisor of the Town of Goshen be and they are hereby authorized to take any and all steps and sign any and all documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this resolution;

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor, Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson, Louis Cappella	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson, George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>		

Vote: Resolution carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

2. DISCUSS AND APPROVE RESOLUTION TO MODIFY THE PRIOR ADC MAPLEWOOD LITIGATION STIPULATION AND DEVELOPER AGREEMENT PROVISIONS

Negotiations have not been completed for approval.

G. FINANCE

Councilman Newbold made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Accounts Payable Check run for 08/22/2013 amounting to \$196,892.40. Councilman Lyons seconded the motion.

On A Voice Vote, the motion passed: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Canterino, Cappella, Lyons, Newbold
0 NAYS

H. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

James Cimino commented on property sales and appraisals.

Joel Markowitz commented on the status of posting audio files.

I. ADJOURNMENT: 8:30PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilman Lyons made the motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following;

1. P.D. Personnel Case Status Update
2. CSEA Negotiations Status Update
3. Tax Certiorari Status Update
 - Gurda Farms
 - Mulrad
 - Realty Equities LLC
 - Craigville Associates

with the intent not to return. The motion was seconded by Councilman Newbold. Motion Carried

Priscilla Gersbeck, Deputy Town Clerk