

TOWN OF GOSHEN
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
September 21, 2015

MINUTES

A Work Session of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 21st day of September 2015 at Town Hall, located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York.

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

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| Also Present: | John Swift | Town Attorney |
| | Valma Eisma | Town Attorney |

Supervisor Bloomfield called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m., and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. DISCUSS STATUS UPDATE ON AMY'S KITCHEN AND SCIENCE OF THE SOUL PROSPECTS:

Supervisor Bloomfield introduced Mark Rudolph, a representative of Amy's Kitchen and Science of the Souls. Mr. Rudolph apologized for the lack of communication with the Town Board, but there was a lot of communication during this time with the Planning Board. He stated he was to be here tonight with Tom Richman, however there was a death in his family, and he was unable to be present tonight.

Mr. Rudolph stated he thought it best to start with the history of the project, as the program is the same, but the properties have been shifted. He displayed slides showing the Echo Lake property, and explained this was originally going to be the site for Amy's Kitchen and the Science of the Souls study center. On this slide Amy's Kitchen is at the bottom of the site, and Science of the Souls is on the top. However, there did not seem to be enough land for parking, so they went looking for other properties in the area. They found the Strong property and the ver Hage property. After looking at the properties it was decided that perhaps it would be better to separate Amy's Kitchen and the Science of the Souls on two different pieces of land.

Mr. Rudolph said in doing that, Amy's Kitchen would be on the Echo Lake property, and Science of the Souls on the ver Hage property. However, Science of the Souls did not like this location, as it was so close to the transfer station. It was decided to put Amy's on the ver Hage property, and Science of the Souls on the Echo Lake property. He said this is the plan they have been pursuing.

He pointed out the intersection they are planning on 17M, and showed the road leading into the property, which they will build and maintain. It will be a four way signalized light with left hand turn lanes. He went on to describe the various buildings and their uses.

Mr. Rudolph pointed out that the Science of the Souls is barely visible from the road, giving them the privacy they prefer. He gave a brief summary of the events and the number of people that will be attending each event when they have it. He also pointed out the buildings, and their uses, such as a guest house that will house some of the speakers when they arrive. "It is not a residence, no one will live there".

Mr. Rudolph stated the program is the same as Mr. Richman presented to the Board originally in 2014. He said there is an annual national gathering of about 12,000 people for three days, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, or Saturday, Sunday and Monday. He said this event generates up to four million dollars of economic benefits. There is another annual gathering, held in the Spring or Fall, of 1,500 people that will be held on a weekend, a two day event. There will be weekly, approximately 250 people coming for meetings, and volunteer/service work.

Mr. Rudolph explained the voluntary service and agricultural activity that the members do. This is primarily what the Strong property will be used for.

Mr. Rudolph stated there seemed to be a misunderstanding referring to a dormitory. He explained there is no dormitory. He explained that on the top floor of a center building, they would like to create a space for the volunteers that come in to do a project, there would be cots for them to stay over - night. He said it is really two large rooms, both rooms equipped with bathrooms with showers. He said these could be used when people come to work for a week as volunteers, they do not have to also pay for motel-hotel rooms.

Mr. Rudolph asked for questions from the Board. He answered their questions which concerned the Board as to the progress of the project, the numbers of people that would be staying there, for what length of time, the fact that part of the project (Science of the Souls) will be off the tax rolls, and the economic effect.

The Board thanked Mr. Rudolph for coming and bringing the Board up to date with their progress.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVE LOW BID FOR SANITARY MANHOLE REHABILITATION: Supervisor Bloomfield reviewed the Bid and the Resolution with the Board and the following Resolution was approved.

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
RESOLUTION**

**Awarding Contract to Tam Enterprises, Inc. for Rehabilitation and Sealing of
Manholes in Arcadia Hills Sewer District (Phase IV)**

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Kenneth Newbold

SECONDED BY: Councilman Louis Cappella

Dated: September 21, 2015

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 21st day of September, 2015

WHEREAS, the Town of Goshen (the "Town") has previously requested bids for work in the Arcadia Hill sewer district (Phases IV) to include the rehabilitation and sealing of approximately twelve (12) sanitary manholes so as to reduce infiltration and inflow; and

WHEREAS, bids were submitted to the Town of Goshen for said project by Tam Enterprises Inc., Heitkamp, Inc. and Grant Street Construction; and

WHEREAS, after opening, reviewing, and confirming that said bid proposals were in compliance with the bid specifications and the laws of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, based upon the bids as submitted, the lowest responsible bidder was TAM Enterprises, Inc. with a Total bid amount of \$30,400.00; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Goshen does hereby award the bid for the project including the rehabilitation and sealing of manholes in the Arcadia Hill sewer district to TAM Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$30,400.00 and the Supervisor of the Town of Goshen and the Budget Officer of the Town of Goshen are hereby authorized to sign any and all documents necessary to effectuate the terms hereof.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

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

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

3. REVIEW TWO PROPOSED TAX CERTIORARI SETTLEMENTS AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR AND/OR TAX CERTIORARI ATTORNEY TO SIGN THE SAME:

1. Rachael Markowitz – Montgomery Street, Goshen, New York

Attorney Robert M. Rametta, Esq. , Special Counsel for Tax Certiorari/Claims for the Town of Goshen. He reviewed the Rachael Markowitz Tax Certiorari with the Board, and the following Resolution was approved.

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
RESOLUTION
RACHEL MARKOWITZ
Section 108, Block 6, Lot 18**

**INTRODUCED BY: Councilman George Lyons
SECONDED BY: Councilman Kenneth Newbold
DATED: September 21, 2015**

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 21st day of September, 2015.

WHEREAS, claimant, RACHAEL MARKOWITZ, having commenced tax certiorari proceedings against the Town of Goshen in the Supreme Court of the State of New York County of Orange for the 2013, 2014 and 2015 assessment years bearing Orange County Index Numbers 2013-6114, 2014-5378 and 2015-5421; and

WHEREAS, it appears from the recommendations of the Arnold Silver, Town Assessor, and Robert M. Rametta, 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 matters, as more fully set forth below, is reasonable and in the best interests of the Town; and

WHEREAS, claimant, RACHAEL MARKOWITZ, is willing to settle these proceedings without interest, costs or disbursements, in the following manner: As set forth in annexed Consent Order and Judgement;

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

RESOLVED, that the Assessor of the Town of Goshen and Robert M. Rametta, Esq., Special Counsel to the Town of Goshen; and Douglas Bloomfield, Supervisor of the Town of Goshen be and 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:

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

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

1. Michael Davis – Owens Road, Goshen, New York

Attorney Rametta reviewed the Michael Davis Resolution with the Board. The Board took the following action:

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
RESOLUTION
Settling of Tax Certiorari Claims;
MICHAEL DAVIS
Section 10, Block 1, Lot 97**

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Kenneth Newbold
SECONDED BY: Councilman Louis Cappella
Dated: September 21, 2015

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 21st day of September, 2015:

WHEREAS, claimant, MICHAEL DAVIS, having commenced Tax Certiorari against the town of Goshen in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Orange for the 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 assessment years bearing Orange County Index Numbers 2012-6284, 2013-6092, 2014-5390 and 215-5445; and

WHEREAS, it appears from the recommendations of Arnold Silver, Town Assessor, and Robert M. Rametta, Esq., Counsel for the Town of Goshen in the aforesaid proceeding, 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 matters, as more fully set forth below, is reasonable and in the best interests of the Town; and

WHEREAS, claimant, MICHAEL DAVIS, is willing to settle these proceedings without interest, costs or disbursements, in the following manner: As set forth in annexed Consent Order and Judgement; and

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

RESOLVED, that the Assessor of the Town of Goshen and Robert M. Rametta, Esq., Special Counsel to the Town of Goshen; and Douglas Bloomfield, Supervisor of the Town of Goshen be and are hereby authorize to take any and all steps and sign any and all documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

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

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

4. ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER ALFRED POWELL: Supervisor Bloomfield explained that Officer Powell is accepting a full-time position with another law enforcement agency. His resignation will be effective September 25, 2015. Councilman Canterino made a Motion to accept Officer Alfred Powell's resignation effective September 25, 2015. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Lyons. Motion carried unanimously. The Board thanked Officer Powell for his service.

5. INFORMATION: Supervisor Bloomfield informed the Board that MVP cost for 9/1/2014 – 8/31/2015 came within the budget and well below NYSHIP for an equal number of employees.

6. INFORMATION: Supervisor Bloomfield reported that the Town Hall Cupola project is being re-bid, bids will be opened on October 1st, at 10:00 a.m.

7. INFORMATION: Supervisor Bloomfield announced that O & R Utilities, Inc. will be conducting power line tree maintenance work beginning 9/28 on Gate Schoolhouse Road, Route 6/17M, Hartley Road, Echo

Lake Road, Owens Road, Phillipsburg Road, Smith Road, Wood Road, Scotchtown Road and Axworthy Lane. Work will take about four (4) weeks to complete.

Councilman Newbold made a Motion to adjourn the meeting, go into Executive Session, with the intent not to return to discuss a proposal to settle the Al Turi Tax Certiorari. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Lyons. Motion carried by a vote to 5 to 0.

Time: 8:50 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. Review a Proposal to Settle the Al Turi Tax Certiorari

Valma Eisma, Town Clerk