

TOWN OF GOSHEN  
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION  
**October 9, 2012**  
MINUTES

A work session of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 9th day of October, 2012 at 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

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

**1. ADOPT RESOLUTION CONTRACTING WITH THE COUNTY OF ORANGE REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICE FOR ASSESSING SERVICES FOR THE YEARS OF 2013 and 2014**

Attorney Caplicki summarized the following resolution before the Board Members. This resolution refers to section 1537 of the Real Property Tax Law. It allows the Town Board to negotiate and/or contract with the County for "joint" assessment services. This type of resolution is subject to a permissive referendum.

**Resolution Removing the Function of Assessment Services by the Office of Town Assessor and Assigning Said Duties to the Orange County Real Property Tax Service Office**

RESOLUTION ELIMINATING ASSESSMENT SERVICES BY THE OFFICE OF TOWN ASSESSOR

WHEREAS the Town Board of the Town of Goshen (the "Town") in the interest of economy and efficiency of operation has investigated and reviewed the functions served by the office of Town Assessor, and

WHEREAS the County Real Property Tax Service Office has the ability to provide assessment services to the Town, and

WHEREAS section 1537 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York permits the Town Board of Goshen, to enter into negotiations and agreement with a County

for "joint" assessment services, including the appointment of the person to perform the assessing services, subject to permissive referendum.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Goshen, in regular session duly convened, as follows:

Section 1. It is the intent of the Town Board to enter into negotiations in anticipation of executing an agreement with the Orange County Real Property Tax Service Office, pursuant to the provisions of Real Property Tax Law section 1537, to provide assessment services to the Town of Goshen, including the appointment of the individual to perform the assessing services.

Section 2. Pursuant to the provisions of Real Property Tax Law section 1537(1)(c), the approval of the agreement with the County for assessing services would be taken up by the Town Board no sooner than November 24, 2012, as the instant Resolution is subject to permissive referendum for a period of forty five (45) days.

Section 3. This resolution is subject to a permissive referendum and the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed, within ten (10) days after the adoption of this resolution, to publish or cause to be published, once a week for two consecutive weeks, in full, in the "*Independent Republican*" a newspaper having a general circulation within said Town, a Notice in substantially the following form:

TOWN OF GOSHEN, NEW YORK

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on October 9, 2012, the Town Board of the Town of Goshen, in the County of Orange, New York, adopted a resolution entitled:

"Resolution Removing the Function of Assessment Services by the Office of Town Assessor and Assigning Said Duties to the Orange County Real Property Tax Service Office"

an abstract of such resolution, concisely stating the purpose and effect thereof, being as follows:

FIRST: Pursuant to the provisions of Real Property Tax Law section 1537, the Town Board is desirous of eliminating the function of assessment services from the office of Town Assessor of the Town of Goshen, effective December 31, 2012.

SECOND: It is the intent of the Town Board to enter into negotiations in anticipation of executing an agreement with the Orange County Real Property Tax Service Office, pursuant to the provisions of Real Property Tax Law section 1537(1), to provide assessment services to the Town of Goshen.

THIRD: Pursuant to the provisions of Real Property Tax Law section 1537(1)(c), the elimination of assessment services by the office of Town Assessor would be taken up by the Town Board no sooner than November 24, 2012, as the instant Resolution is subject to permissive referendum for a period of forty five (45) days.

DATED: October 9, 2012

Valma Eisma  
Town Clerk

Section 4. The Town Clerk is hereby directed, to cause said Resolution to be published, in summary or in full, in the newspaper referred to in Section 3 hereof, and hereby designated the official newspaper for said publication, in accordance with New York State Town Law Section 90.

Councilman Kenneth Newbold made the motion to accept the Resolution Removing the Function of Assessment Services by the Office of Town Assessor and Assigning Said Duties to the Orange County Real Property Tax Service Office. Councilman Philip Canterino seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Supervisor Bloomfield noted that the County will provide a part-time assessor, part-time assistant assessor and a part-time data collector. The Town will employ one full time clerk or two part-time clerks. The County will charge us \$16.50 per parcel (around \$91,000) for 2013. The Town & Village of Chester and Deer Park have joined their Assessment services with the County. Goshen will be the third municipality.

Councilman Canterino: there will be a substantial cost savings. Eliminating two of the salaries in the Assessor's Office will save the Town around \$30,000. The office will always be staffed.

Councilman Lyons inquired if we needed to make this a local law or have a public hearing? Response: Not required.

Councilman Cappella inquired if a revaluation of properties would be in the future. Response: With the County taking over, Chester and Goshen will probably be at a 63% equalization rate. There is no reason for a reval in the foreseeable future.

Attorney Caplicki reminded the Board that the County Legislator still has to give the final approval. We don't expect opposition.

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 STATUS OF PROCESSING RFP'S (request for pricing) TO REHAB SANITARY SEWER MANHOLES AND CATCH BASINS**

Councilman Cappella reported on the estimated engineering costs to prepare bid specifications to rehabilitate several (12+) manholes in the Arcadia Hills and Hambletonian Park subdivisions. For Phase 1 - *Design Services/RFP Preparation* and Phase 2 - *Bidding Services* totaling \$1,350. To prepare plans and specifications for stormwater catch basin reconstruction & replacement to about fifty (50) stormwater catch basins throughout the Town for Phase 1 & 2 as aforementioned totaling \$4,200. In both cases, Phase 3, *Construction & Project Administration* feasibly could be done "in-house". The Town should have responses to the RFP'S by October 18<sup>th</sup>.

**3. REVIEW THIRD ITERATION IN DEVELOPING THE 2013 TOWN OF GOSHEN FINANCIAL BUDGET**

Supervisor Bloomfield stated that the first iteration was at 9½% which went down to 6½% and is now down to 4.09%. The probability of the Town getting down to the 2% or less will happen. In translation, \$13,475.00 (2.1%) will have to be taken out of the whole budget to bring us to the 2%.

**4. SEE ATTACHED NOTE THAT CAME WITH OUR QUARTERLY STOA (STATE TRANSPORTATION OPERATION ASSISTANCE) VOUCHER. IT COMMENDS MICHELE RADAKOVITS FOR “NO ERRORS” IN REVENUE, PASSENGER OR MILEAGE REPORTING**

Cambridge Systematics personnel met with Michele Radakovits from the Goshen - Chester Dial-A-Bus on December 9, 2011. The review of operating records included examining Goshen - Chester Dial-A-Bus monthly figures for FY 2011 for both revenue passengers and revenue miles and compared them to the OPT 5B figures previously submitted to Orange County. The following was observed: No errors in revenue passenger reporting and No errors in revenue mileage reporting. *Congratulations* to Michele. She wears many hats in the Highway Dept. and this is quite an accomplishment.

**5. DISCUSS AND PASS RESOLUTION TO CLOSE THE SALESIAN ACQUISITION ACCOUNT, THE AUDIT OF WHICH HAS JUST BEEN COMPLETED BY OUR INTERNAL AUDITOR**

This account was set-up in 2003 when we purchased the Salesian Property. In closing the account, the money left over will be returned to the Fund A account. Memo delivered to the Board as follows:

**BOARD RESOLUTION TO CLOSE SALESIAN ACQUISITION (HS) CHECKING ACCOUNT AND TRANSFER FUNDS TO TOWN'S GENERAL FUND**

“WHEREAS, the Village of Goshen and Town of Goshen entered into an Intermunicipal Cooperation Agreement to purchase and develop the Salesian Property on October 29, 2003 which authorized the Town to purchase the property through the following two mechanisms;

1. By passing of a bond resolution; or
2. Funding of the purchase through general Town funds for park and open space to be funded by a general tax on both Town and Village residents; and

WHEREAS, all remaining bond payments are being paid out of general Town funds; and  
WHEREAS, the HS- Salesian Acquisition checking account contains an unused balance of \$54,215.87.”

Councilman Lyons made the *motion* to authorize the closing of the HS-Salesian Acquisition checking account and the transfer of funds to the Town’s general fund. Councilman Cappella seconded the motion.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilman Newbold made the motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. REQUEST TO CHANGE P.D. CLERK SCHEDULE
2. DISCUSS STATUS OF AL TURI LANDFILL LITIGATION
3. DISCUSS P.D. PERSONNEL CASE
4. REVIEW PROPOSED CONTRACT BY GOSHEN HUMANE SOCIETY TO PROVIDE DOG CONTROL OFFICER SERVICES
5. DISCUSS P.D. CHIEF STATUS (MARSH)
6. DISCUSS POTENTIAL CONTRACT CHANGES IN REGARD TO WORKMENS COMPENSATION, MEDICAL AND LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICIES

with the intent not to return. The motion was seconded by Councilman Canterino. Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:00PM

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Priscilla Gersbeck, Deputy Town Clerk