

TOWN OF GOSHEN
TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION
April 21, 2008

A work session of the Town Council of the Town of Goshen was held on the 21st day of April, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. 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
	Kenneth Newbold	Councilman
	Louis Cappella	Councilman
	George Lyons	Councilman

Also Present:	Dennis Caplicki	Town Attorney
	Valma Eisma	Town Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bloomfield at 7:35 p.m.

1. BRIAN MITCHELL - RECREATIONAL VARIANCE: Brian Mitchell approached the Council and explained he is seeking a variance on his property which is located in an A1 zone. He now has a landscaping and sod business there and has been approached by a sports group that would like to lease field space for soccer fields. He has eighteen acres available that could be turned into soccer fields. He presented his plans to the Council and produced a map showing a layout of the fields, parking, etc.

The Council studied the plans and discussed at length the problems of a zoning change and the various steps Mr. Mitchell would have to take and what would be required of him to obtain this variance. They also reviewed the problems this type of recreational facility could create when located in an agriculturally zoned area, such as the spraying, spreading, etc., common in a farming community. After a lengthy exchange of information the Council and Attorney Caplicki suggested Mr. Mitchell should hire an engineer and sit in on one of the Building & Zoning staff meetings. In that meeting, he would meet with a group of engineers and planners who would be able to give him an idea of the process to follow and the cost involved. Supervisor Bloomfield explained that what he is asking for is not just a variance, but a change in our Town Zoning Law.

2. INTENT TO BE LEAD AGENCY FOR SQRA REVIEW FOR PROPOSED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

Will be placed on April 24th agenda.

3. FIRST INVESTORS, INC. 457 PROPOSAL: Supervisor Bloomfield said he met with representatives of First Investors, Inc. about providing a 457 proposal to the employees of the Town. The 457 is very similar to a 401K and has been asked for by the PBA. The Council decided to ask Chief Marsh to set up a meeting for the representatives of First Investors to come in and make a presentation, and to notify the Supervisor so he can include the rest of the employees.

4. HIRING PATRICA POMPOSELLO, PART TIME JUSTICE CLERK AT \$12.76 PER HOUR

EFFECTIVE APRIL 14, 2008: Will be placed on April 24th agenda.

5. HIRING HEATHER CHARBOUNEAU, PART TIME JUSTICE CLERK AT \$12.76 PER HOUR

EFFECTIVE APRIL 14, 2008: Will be placed on April 24th agenda.

The Council expressed concern that they have not been informed of the status of the hires and the fact that they may be working without a background check. Councilman Lyons said he had expressed some time ago

that new employees must come before Council prior to their employment and he still felt this should be done. Supervisor Bloomfield said he would meet with the Justices to discuss these items.

6. STATUS OF RFQ FOR PHASE II OF DPW FUEL DISPENSING SYSTEM: Attorney Caplicki said he had the specs, and it will soon be placed on an agenda to allow it to go out to bid. Supervisor Bloomfield reported he had received the check from Anne Rabbit for \$4,546.00 for phase I of the fuel dispensing system. He said he had also received \$50,000 from Senator Larkin for the I & I Study for Hambletonian Park.

7. CSEA MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT SIGNED: Supervisor Bloomfield reported he had signed the Memorandum of Agreement for the CSEA bargaining unit and will be working with the Budget Officer to compile the retro active payments.

8. RECOMMENDATION TO AMEND TOWN CODE CHAPTER 73: PEDDLING & SOLICITING: Supervisor Bloomfield explained the Town Clerk's office has submitted a request to the Council to consider prohibiting commercial door-to-door soliciting entirely. The Council discussed the problem at length and all agreed they are not in favor of this type of soliciting. However, non profit organizations are allowed and cannot be prohibited. Supervisor Bloomfield asked Attorney Caplicki to research the legal ramifications should the Council decide to prohibit commercial door-to-door soliciting. This item will be placed on the next work session agenda.

9. AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE NEW YORK STATEWIDE MASS TRANSPORTATION OPERATING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: Supervisor Bloomfield explained this is an annual agreement between the Town and the State in reference to Dial-A-Bus operations.

Councilman Newbold made a Motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign the New York Statewide Mass Transportation Operating Assistance program. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Canterino. On a voice vote, the Motion passed unanimously.

10. TOWN VEHICLE DURANGO – NEAL HALLORAN MEMO: Supervisor Bloomfield reported that this vehicle was just in the garage for a transmission problem and now the Building Inspector is saying it needs a new transmission. After discussing the problem it was decided the Supervisor would contact the garage and find out why it was not taken care of when it was in the garage previously.

11. COST CONTAINMENT DISCUSSION: Supervisor Bloomfield said he would like the department heads of the Highway and Police Departments to submit a written proposal of how they could cut their costs by 10% in the near future. There was a lengthy discussion as to how everyone should cut costs wherever possible, and all the grants the Board can and will apply for. Grants are coming in and continually being sought for the water districts as well as all Town capital improvements.

Supervisor Bloomfield informed Council that Hambletonian and Arcadia Districts will see substantial increase due to the Village's assessment this year. Hambletonian will increase \$44,000; Arcadia will see a \$63,000 increase. Stonehedge will see an assessment for its new well and Scotchtown for its new tank. Small rate increases are expected to be necessary to cover any negative fund balance and modest operating cost increases.

Councilmember Cappella stated that unnecessary costs are being expended for repairs due to poor workmanship in culvert construction by developers within subdivision. Supervisor Bloomfield will follow up on this with a review of the specs in the Town Code.

TOWN CLERK ANNOUNCEMENT

Town Clerk, Valma Eisma told Council that the Deputy Town Clerk, Susan Maysels informed her that she will be resigning her appointment at the end of June in order to move back to California. Ms. Eisma informed

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Council that she intends to appoint Priscilla Gersbeck as her full time Deputy once Ms. Maysels leaves the post.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Councilmember Cappella made a motion to adjourn the public meeting and enter into Executive Session, without intent to return to public meeting, to discuss (1) Caggiano negotiations, (2) Indiana Road legal clarification, (3) IWS negotiation, (4) Sullivan litigation, and (5) code violation by a house in Arcadia Hills. Councilmember Newbold seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

Submitted by:

Valma Eisma, Town Clerk