

TOWN OF GOSHEN  
TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION

May 5, 2008

MINUTES

A work session of the Town Council of the Town of Goshen was held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2008 at 7:30pm at Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York.

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

Also Present: Susan Maysels Deputy Town Clerk  
Dennis Caplicki Attorney for the Town

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bloomfield at 7:30pm.

**1. New Hire: Jennifer Hart as Part-Time Accounts Payable Clerk**

Councilmember Cappella made a motion to hire Ms. Jennifer Hart as part-time Accounts Payable Clerk in the Town Budget Department at the starting rate of \$13.50 per hour, to be increased to \$14 per hour on September 1, 2008 subject to satisfactory probationary review. Councilmember Canterino seconded the motion.

Discussion: Supervisor Bloomfield explained that the vacancy was advertised and several applicants were interviewed. The personnel investigation has been satisfactorily completed on Ms. Hart. Since she will not be driving any Town vehicle, no drug screening is required. Ms. Hart also works part-time as a Police Dispatcher for Town of Warwick, and for a local real estate agency. Her twenty hours per week will be Monday & Tuesday 9am to 4pm and Thursday 9am to 3pm. As a part-time employee, she will not receive benefits.

On a VOICE VOTE, the motion passed: 5 Ayes Bloomfield, Canterino, Cappella, Lyons, Newbold  
0 Nays

**2. New Hire: Kenneth Cardini as Seasonal DPW Laborer**

Councilmember Cappella made a motion to hire Kenneth Cardini as a Seasonal DPW Laborer at \$14 per hour without benefits, to work a maximum of 1040 hours for the remainder of 2008. Councilmember Newbold seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Cappella informed Council that Mr. Cardini is seasonal Highway Department help who will not be driving any Town vehicle, so no drug screening test is required. The background investigation is underway by Town PD and the independent service used (investigation costs \$150 per person). Councilmember Cappella explained that Highway will not be hiring a full time MEO this year.

On a VOICE VOTE, the motion passed: 5 Ayes Bloomfield, Canterino, Cappella, Lyons, Newbold  
0 Nays

### **3. Introduction of New Town Court Clerks to Council**

Supervisor Bloomfield will arrange for the two new Clerks to attend the next Council meeting for introductions.

### **4. Set Public Hearing for Community Development Block Grant Proposal.**

Councilmember Lyons made a motion to set the CDBG public hearing for May 22, 2008 at 7:30pm at Town Hall. Councilmember Canterino seconded the motion.

Discussion: Supervisor Bloomfield explained that the CDBG grant can be used for water & sewer district projects as well as townwide projects if the districts meet all the criteria. A public hearing is necessary before an application for any project can be submitted. The purpose of the public hearing is to get project suggestions from residents.

On a VOICE VOTE, the motion passed: 5 Ayes                      Bloomfield, Canterino, Cappella, Lyons, Newbold  
0 Nays

### **5. Discussion Regarding RJ Smith's Echo Lake Business Park Proposal.**

RJ Smith has requested that Council pass a Resolution requesting that NYS grant the Town a small parcel of land located along Route 17M in the corner of the State's Mid-Hudson Psych Center property for highway purposes. This land would provide access to the proposed Echo Lake Business Park. The bulk of the acreage for this Business Park lies behind the Mid-Hudson Psych Center.

Councilmember Lyons stated that he is reluctant to vote in favor of a Resolution accepting this property before any real details of the Business Park development are known. He believes the development has merit based on the limited info he has at this point, but would not want the acceptance of the property to signal Council support or approval of the development. Councilmember Canterino said that it's unwise for the Town to be the only entity taking action on a conceptual project. After discussion, Council agreed that the Developer should complete the approval process including the subdivision map, SEQR, etc., conditioned upon the Town accepting this property. Although Council is in favor of business development in this location, it does not want the Town to accept ownership of this property, and then have the project abandoned. Attorney Caplicki will communicate this policy to the Developer.

### **6. Discussion Regarding Amending Town Code Chapter 73: Peddling & Soliciting**

Due to resident complaints, Town Clerk staff has requested that Council consider prohibiting commercial door-to-door soliciting in the Town of Goshen. Most residents find the intrusion of peddlers at their door very annoying, and some feel unsafe with strangers, mostly male, trying to talk their way into the house. This would not, and cannot apply to religious, non-profit, political or non-commercial entities.

Council discussed the benefits to residents, and believe a fine for violation should be included for those who solicit illegally. Attorney Caplicki was asked to draft an amendment to Town Code Chapter 73 prohibiting commercial door-to-door peddling & soliciting. It will be considered at the May 19<sup>th</sup> work session.

### **7. Update on Plans for Departmental Cost Reductions**

Town departments have been asked to work on a plan to reduce fuel consumption by 10%. According to Councilmember Canterino, Chief Marsh is working on a plan for the Police Department. Councilmember Cappella reported that Highway is also working on their plan and it will include consolidating the transportation of personnel to job sites and reducing vehicle idling times. Councilmember Newbold asked that all Department Heads be asked to keep thermostats low and unnecessary lights off. Supervisor Bloomfield asked

Councilmembers to ask all Department Heads to gather cost reduction and conservation suggestions from their employees.

**7a. Fuel Dispensing System Cost Allocation**

Allocating the cost of the fuel dispensing system to Departments and entities using Town pumps is being calculated by Councilmember Cappella and Highway Superintendent Andryshak. A surcharge per gallon will be added to fuel to cover Town costs. A letter of notification regarding the surcharge will be sent to non-Town entities such as Fire Companies, Dial-a-Bus partners and Joint Recreation. The surcharge should include administrative costs such as a percentage of staff time, environmental liability insurance which for those tanks is \$1145 annually, etc.

**8. Discussion Regarding Joint Recreation Workers' Compensation Insurance Coverage.**

Councilmember Canterino made a motion to require the Goshen Joint Recreation Commission to carry its own Workers' Compensation Insurance policy to be paid through its budget which is shared equally by the Town and Village. Supervisor Bloomfield seconded the motion.

Discussion: The JRC does not have independent coverage, but is under the Town's policy since their employees are paid through the Town's payroll at present. The cost of this JRC insurance must be shared 50%-50% by Town and Village. Councilmember Lyons as Liaison to the JRC will call the Town's insurance agent tomorrow to get procedure and quotes for an independent policy.

On a VOICE VOTE, the motion passed: 5 Ayes                      Bloomfield, Canterino, Cappella, Lyons, Newbold  
0 Nays

**9. Update on RFP for Phase 2 of DPW Fuel Dispensing System**

Councilmember Cappella reported that the Request for Proposals for phase 2 of the new fuel dispensing system is complete and ready for release. Council will vote on issuing the bid at its next meeting.

**10. Discussion Regarding Town Hall Elevator Damage and Repairs**

Supervisor Bloomfield reported that the hatch above the elevator and the main hatch over the stairs were in the open position during a heavy rain. An investigation resulted in no information about how the hatches came to be open, so perhaps they were blown open. The result is that the elevator is out-of-order again. An insurance claim will be filed again, and repair parts have been ordered.

**11. Discussion of Rotophase Electric Power Failure and Repairs at Scotchtown Water District.**

Supervisor Bloomfield reported that the rotophase converter at Scotchtown District failed and needed immediate replacement at the cost of \$4500. Replacement parts were not available due to the age of the rotophase.

**12. Update on Excess Police Vehicles**

Councilmember Canterino reported that Chief Marsh is doing a detailed inventory on all PD vehicles that will be checked against the Town's insurance policy to insure that all are covered. PD vehicle #276 is being used by PD for spare parts. Councilmember Canterino will provide a full report by the next meeting.

**13. Discussion Regarding NYS DOT Grant for Orzeck Road Improvements**

Councilmember Cappella stated that on several occasions, Mr. Fusco has been told that the Town wants the project modified as discussed many times, i.e. paving, turn around and guide rails. For about six months Fusco Engineering has been "in contact" with NYS DOT regarding the Town's desire to scale down the original

Orzeck Road project for which the Town received the grant. Supervisor Bloomfield and Councilmember Cappella will communicate this once again to Mr. Fusco.

**14. Executive Session**

Councilmember Newbold made a motion to go into Executive Session, without intent to return to public meeting, to discuss (a) Water & Sewer Department personnel issues, (b) Interstate Waste System host community negotiation, (c) Indiana & Cedar Swamp Roads legal clarification, (d) Caggiano negotiation, (e) American Cleaners legal dispute, and (f) Phillip Cappadora v. Town of Goshen. Councilmember Lyons seconded the motion.

On a VOICE VOTE, the motion passed: 5 Ayes  
0 Nays

Bloomfield, Canterino, Cappella, Lyons, Newbold

Council entered Executive Session at 9:30pm  
No actions were taken in Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Susan Maysels, Deputy Town Clerk