

**TOWN OF GOSHEN**  
**TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**March 30, 2020**  
**MINUTES**

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020 at the Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York via video conference due to the recent COVID-19 pandemic.

Present:	Douglas Bloomfield	Supervisor
	Philip Canterino	Councilperson
	Richard Florio	Councilperson
	George Lyons	Councilperson
	Kenneth Newbold	Councilperson
Also Present	Kelly Naughton Esq.	Attorney
	Mary Riso	Clerk to the Supervisor

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bloomfield, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA - none.**

**C. REPORTS**

**Supervisor Bloomfield** reported for the Town of Goshen Police Department. As per the Chief of Police, domestic violence calls were significantly higher than criminal calls during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Supervisor Bloomfield informed us that the start-up at Legoland was postponed due to the curtailed ability to continue with construction at the site. The work on Harriman Drive and the fly-over across Route 17 will continue.

**Councilperson Lyons** stated as per another meeting he attended with the County, there will be aid available that will be listed on the Orange County website. The CARE Act was passed by the federal government (\$2.2 trillion dollars) that can assist businesses in the community. EIDL business loans and \$10,000 small business grants, along with IDA will allocate \$500,000-\$600,000 on the county level. Unemployment pay has been greatly increased in both dollar amounts and length of time to receive the payments, due to the coronavirus issue; ICU beds are at a premium at this point. He reiterated that people need to stay home to keep people from getting ill with this virus.

**Councilperson Florio** reported that Craigville Park is officially closed, as are the other parks in the Town.

**D. OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. REVIEW A STORMWATER CONTROL FACILITY MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH GLENMERE LAKE SOLAR, LLC AND THE TOWN OF GOSHEN AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE SAME.**

Kelly Naughton, Esq. reported that because the Town of Goshen is a MS-4 under the Town code that a stormwater control maintenance agreement is required by the DEC. The DEC provided a sample document that has to be followed and been adopted by the Town code with some minor modifications. Page 2 of the stormwater agreement, item #7 – bond by the applicant has to be in cash only and not cash and letter of credit. The applicant has asked for the letter of credit be added again to the agreement. Attorney Naughton informed the applicant that she would bring this to the board for their decision. Councilperson Canterino asked who is the facility owner, the property owner or the owner of the corporation building? Answer: the owner in this case is Glenmere Lake Solar, LLC, which is why if something happens to the company, there is the bond to deal with the property in the aftermath. It would be decommissioned under a decommissioning bond and the stormwater measurements would no longer be needed. The question came up that if a bankruptcy occurred, the Town could use draw on the bond? Would the property owner have to operate the solar themselves? Attorney Naughton said they probably would not be able to operate it themselves and would have to have another contract with another entity to do so. Another company could be hired in place. The cash bond could be used to decommission and maintain if this were to happen.

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Stormwater Control Facility Maintenance Agreement with South Goshen Solar, LLC and the Town of Goshen. Councilperson Florio seconded the motion. Councilperson Lyons noted that the plans and description were blank on their information. Attorney Naughton clarified they will be attached at a later date, along with Metes and Bounds by Town Engineer Sean Hoffman and the TP 584 Real Estate documents that the Supervisor will be signing.

On a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES                      Bloomfield, Canterino, Florio, Lyons, Newbold  
0 NAYS

Motion carried.

**2. REVIEW A STORMWATER CONTROL FACILITY MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH GOSHEN SOLAR, LLC AND THE TOWN OF GOSHEN AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE SAME.**

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Stormwater Control Facility Maintenance Agreement with South Goshen Solar LLC and the Town of Goshen. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

On a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES                      Bloomfield, Canterino, Lyons, Florio, Newbold  
0 NAYS

Motion carried.

**3. REVIEW AND APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL PHASE OF SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS OF THE GOSHEN SURFACE WATER / BACTERIA INVESTIGATION BY HYDROENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS, INC. AT AN ADDITIONAL COST OF \$12,575.00 AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE SAME. THE INVESTIGATION AND FINAL REPORT IS PROJECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN LATE AUGUST 2020**

Supervisor Bloomfield stated that William Canavan of HydroEnvironmental Solutions, Inc. needs to do this additional testing during warm weather months for realistic data results, with the tests occurring in June and/or July and report completed by late August 2020. No discussion ensued. Motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign an additional phase of sampling and analysis of the Goshen surface water/bacteria by HydroEnvironmental Solutions, Inc. for an additional cost of \$12,575.00 was made by Councilperson Canterino and seconded by Councilperson Florio.

On a Roll Call Vote:    5 AYES            Bloomfield, Canterino, Lyons, Florio, Newbold  
                                         0 NAYS

Motion carried.

**E. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. REVIEW ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES RESULTING FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS (4) FROM GOVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO AND THE TOWN DECLARATION OF EMERGENCIES (2) DATED MARCH 16 AND MARCH 20.**

Supervisor Bloomfield reviewed Executive Orders from Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the Town Declaration of Emergencies dated March 16<sup>th</sup> and March 20<sup>th</sup>. He spoke about Essential and Non-Essential personnel within the Town. Essential staff includes certain members of the Highway Department, Town Police Department, Town Hall Staff (on site and some working from home) and Non-Essential Staff who are being paid but are not working. Supervisor Bloomfield referred to the following for assistance to the public

**IF ONE NEEDS ASSISTANCE OR HAS QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL:**

***FOR FREE CHILD FOOD  
SERVICES @ ORANGE COUNTY BOCES,  
845.781.4353***

***SENIOR CITIZEN MEALS ON WHEELS  
ORANGE COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING,***

**FOOD PANTRY ASSISTANCE**

**ORANGE COUNTY CRISIS CENTER,**

**800.832.1200**

**NYS CORONAVIRUS HOTLINE,**

**888.364.3065**

**2. REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE 2020-2025 "OPERATOR AGREEMENT" BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ORANGE AND THE TOWN OF GOSHEN REGARDING DIAL-A-BUS AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE SAME.**

**▶ THE CURRENT CONTRACT IS FOUR PRIOR CONTRACTS COMBINED INTO ONE.**

**▶ THE SIGNED OPERATOR AGREEMENT IS NECESSARY TO CONTINUE PROVIDING DIAL-A-BUS SERVICES.**

**▶ MAJORITY OF FUNDS ARE PROVIDED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUPPLEMENTED BY NEW YORK STATE.**

**▶ TALKED TO ROB PARRINGTON, DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION.**

Motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign the "2020-2025 Operator Agreement between the County and the Town of Goshen was made by Councilperson Lyons and seconded by Councilperson Canterino. Councilperson Lyons asked if the Town's administrators of the service had a chance to look over the contract and what the ramifications are with the Town of Chester, who the service is shared with. The Supervisor answered that the contract will be reviewed by Broderick Knoell and Michele Radikovits, and the contract with the Town of Chester would have to be looked at if there is a change in service levels with the Town of Chester. Councilperson Canterino noted that the Town of Goshen has a separate contract with the Town of Chester. There may be a need to reconsider the contract with Chester at a later time.

On a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Canterino, Lyons, Florio, Newbold

0 NAYS

Motion carried.

**3. DISCUSS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE CORONAVIRUS ON THE TOWN BUDGET FOR 2020**

▶ REVENUES

▶ GRANTS

▶ CURRENT FUND BALANCES

▶ STANDARD & POORS BOND RATING

▶ STATE COMPTROLLER – ANALYSIS OF COVID19 ON STATE BUDGET

Supervisor Bloomfield reported that in a conference call with the Orange County Executive and other leaders that there is concern about revenues declining. There may be declines in mortgage taxes, in Justice Court fees/tickets and sales tax revenue. There will be shortages in funds from the mortgage taxes and from Justice Court fees in the Town but we have received franchise fees from Merlin for this year and expect to receive them from Time Warner later this year. As far as grants are concerned, we are expecting \$25,000 for Handicapped-Accessible

doors in the front of the building and \$30,00 for the doors at the Senior Center– the work cannot be started due to the pandemic. The roof and windows grants aren't in play at this point. The NYS SAM grant for Arcadia Hill Water tank that was requested to State Senator Metzger may not happen. The Town had a great fund balance coming in to 2020. Our Budget Officer feels we can complete our 2020 budget, because of the strong fund balance in the past and we should be able to pay our employees due to this fact. Supervisor Bloomfield thanked the current board,

as well as past boards for their diligence in putting money away and paying off old debt. Standard & Poor's Bond Rating – during a conference call with S&P, they were extremely impressed with how the Town of Goshen has handled our financial obligations and the Town will hear back from S&P about a Bond Rating increase in the future. State Comptroller Analysis of Covid-19 on State Budget – in a letter dated March 17<sup>th</sup>, there is concern about tax revenues. Any help or assistance from the County and State will most likely not happen this year.

**4. REVIEW AND APPROVE REQUEST BY THE TOWN BUDGET OFFICE NOT TO RENEW TWO 6 MONTHS CD's THAT MATURE ON APRIL 21, 2020 AND TO DEPOSIT PROCEEDS INTO APPROPRIATE CHECKING ACCOUNTS.**

The Budget Officer would rather not renew these two CDs and would like to place the funds in Fund A and in Fund B with Sterling Bank (\$500,000 in Fund A, \$500,000 in Fund B). Councilperson Canterino made a motion for discussion, seconded by Councilperson Lyons. Councilperson Canterino is curious if there are large expenditures that would require these funds to be placed in these checking accounts. Supervisor Bloomfield replied that the Budget Officer does not want to tie up these funds in CDs based on projections of sales tax and mortgage tax. Councilperson Canterino also asked about funds with an investment firm that the Town has employed to manage. He would

like an itemized accounting of these funds. Councilperson Newbold asked if the checking accounts have interest- the answer is no; they are not interest-bearing.

On a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Canterino, Lyons, Florio, Newbold

0 NAYS

Motion carried.

**5. REVIEW WATER & SEWER FUND BALANCE AND HEAR A REQUEST BY THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO TRANSFER \$205,569 FROM ACCOUNT HI (SEWER) TO ACCOUNT SA (SEWER) AND \$159,525 FROM ACCOUNT HJ (WATER) TO ACCOUNT SC (WATER). THE WATER FUND SC WILL THEN BE USED TO RETIRE A \$150,000 BAN AND THE FUNDS IN SA WILL BE USED FOR THE 2020 CAPITAL BUDGET.**

These monies came from hook-up fees from the Heritage of Goshen projects.

Motion to transfer \$205,569 from Account HI to Account SA and \$159,525 from Account HJ to Account SC, with funds from SC to retire \$150,00 ban made by Councilperson Florio and seconded by Councilperson Newbold.

On a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Canterino, Lyons, Florio, Newbold

0 NAYS

Motion carried.

**F FINANCE: AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO PAY MANUAL A/P RUNS AS OF 02/29/2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17,257.06 AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHECK RUN FOR 03-31-2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$223,386.29.**

Motion made by Councilperson Newbold and seconded by Councilperson Florio

On a Roll Call Vote: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Canterino, Lyons, Florio, Newbold

0 NAYS

Motion carried.

