

sTOWN OF GOSHEN
Town Board Meeting
May 14, 2020
MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 14th day of May at the Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York via videoconference 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:	Richard Golden	Attorney for the Town
	Broderick Knoell	Highway Superintendent
	Christine Cavaliere	Budget Director
	Mary Riso	Clerk to the Supervisor
	Kirsten Santangelo	Deputy Town Clerk

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bloomfield at 7:30 PM. Supervisor Bloomfield welcomed Attorney Golden back to the Town.

Old Business

- 1. The Town received a check for \$55,688.68 from the workers compensation second injury fund.** The second injury fund is funded upfront by the Town first and when needed, we receive funds back for certain cases.
- 2. Comp Alliance is issuing a 10% "work force reduction credit" for the 6 week period beginning March 16, 2020.**
- 3. The Urbanski Park force main has been replaced.** This was approved by the Town Board at the last meeting. It was noted that there were some leaks found in the line. Councilperson Canterino noticed that there was a pile of dirt remaining. Superintendent Knoell asked if TAM Enterprises would be bringing a York rake to smooth the dirt pile over and if Councilperson Florio would check in on it.
- 4. Soil borings have been completed in preparation for constructing a new water storage tank in the Arcadia Hills Water District.** The boring was completed on May 8th.

5. **The tentative assessment roll for the community, Village and Town of Goshen, has been completed and sent to the Orange County Real Property Tax Office.** The next step is Grievance Day, which is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26th, from 4 pm to 8 pm using Zoom virtual communications (details are on the Town of Goshen web page).
6. **Razing of 6 Larchwood Drive should take place next week.** Everything is ready to go except disconnecting the electric and gas which are being scheduled.
7. **Discuss the sale of the Highway Department motor grader.**

Supervisor Bloomfield noted that this topic had been discussed in a prior meeting.

Superintendent Knoell explained that the grader was purchased used by the Town in 2005 for \$76,000. The grader has been used in the Black Dirt areas and for ditching. The machine sits idle because there isn't an operator for it and he feels that it would be a good time to sell it. There had been previous conversations about auctioning it but recently, the Town of Greenville has expressed interest in purchasing it for the price of \$40,000. He researched auction sites to get an idea of how much a 2003 motor grader would sell for. He feels a sale of the machine as opposed to an auction would be better due to the recent pandemic and the financial situation attributed to it. Additionally, he has a good offer for the machine. Supervisor Bloomfield asked if he had a written offer for the sale; Superintendent Knoell said it was a verbal offer from the Superintendent of Highways in Greenville. Councilperson Lyons asked what would be needed to complete the sale; Attorney Golden advised that the Town of Goshen would need paperwork with the agreed-upon price that states that the Town of Greenville agrees to pay for the grader and it would need to be signed by the two Town Supervisors, even though the sale has been agreed upon by the two Town Highway Superintendents. This sale does not have to go out to bid because it is between two municipalities. Superintendent Knoell noted that the Superintendent of Greenville stated that if the Town of Goshen is in need of the grader after the sale, he will send it to us with an operator for as long as the present Highway Superintendent is in office in Greenville.

Motion to authorize the Supervisor and Superintendent of Highways to sell the 2003 road grader to the Town of Greenville for \$40,000 made by Councilperson Canterino, seconded by Councilperson Florio.

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

New Business

8. **Review and approve a proposed 2020 Town of Goshen Road Program developed by Highway Superintendent Broderick Knoell with financial input from Budget Officer Christine Cavaliere.**

Superintendent Knoell began the discussion, noting that he knows many people in the Town's developments will be disappointed that their developments will not be paved; the thought is that the

Town's more travelled roads will have to be paved first. We cannot ascertain what sales tax will be or what the CHIPS program will yield this year until July 15th when the Governor's office will approve any monies. He would like to schedule projects for Durland Road and 6 ½ Station Road that can be done now, before the other municipalities receive their funds. The other municipalities will most likely wait to July 15th and then there will be a long wait time for us to complete our work on the roads.

Superintendent Knoell explained that this is the reason why he decided to work on Durland Road and 6 ½ Station Road for recycling and repaving, Fox Road (a road off of Durland Road) and dealing with it while Durland Road is being worked on. Hartley Road is in rough shape; that was previously paved but a ½ mile piece from Route 17M to the IWS facility is abysmal. The Superintendent suggests that a full depth reclamation and cement stabilization with 3 inches of binder on top of that. Supervisor Bloomfield reported that he is on conference calls with Orange County and the County Executive reports that New York State is in tough shape financially from this pandemic. The Town may get short-changed with funding due to the shortfall of revenue in the State, including the CHIPS program; we don't know yet. The Budget Director hasn't heard anything about funding from her sources. Councilperson Lyons asked if the Town would still be spending \$828,750 on the roads, with general repairs and improvements. Superintendent Knoell responded that these items are usually separated but that the dollar amount is correct. Councilperson Lyons noted that the efforts of the Highway Superintendent and the Town Board has contributed to very improved roads in the Town but wondered if the paving on Fox Road could be deferred until 2021 to save monies. He asked the Budget Officer, after an earlier consultation with the Highway Superintendent about the funds on hand and how 2021 will look. She explained that with Fund B and Fund DB balances and the impact of sales tax and prior payments, that \$200,000 could easily be absorbed for this year and for next year, we should be fine, assuming sales tax comes in at 50% of what was initially expected prior to the lockdown. Superintendent Knoell further clarified the reasoning behind paving Fox Road – it is difficult to get some of the paving contractors back to do small roads once they have completed the bigger ones. It is easier to get them to do everything at once. Fox Road was one of the worst roads for conditions. Councilperson Lyons asked if Durland Road from Route 17A to Route 94 would be repaved and Superintendent Knoell answered that yes, it will be recycled and top-coated. Councilperson Lyons asked if 6 ½ Station Road would be completely repaved and as per Superintendent Knoell, it will be from Cheechunk Road to Route 17M because the road cannot deteriorate past the point of recycling the pavement. Councilperson Lyons asked about Hartley Road. He asked if there was a less expensive way to fix the road. Superintendent Knoell gave two different scenarios but felt that the way he is proposing would be a better fit, due to the shape that the road is in at this point in time. Councilperson Canterino noted that the previous owner of the transfer station was going to pay a host fee to help with the maintenance of the road because their trucks damaged the roads. He stated that he does not want to give the present owner the best of the best roads when they destroy Goshen's roads. He wondered if they could participate in helping with the payment to pave the road. Councilperson Florio asked if a soil boring was ever performed on Hartley Road and Superintendent Knoell answered affirmatively. Results are not in yet. Councilperson Canterino asked Attorney Golden if there is any way to assess a participation fee from the hauling company. Superintendent Knoell stated that the facility needs concrete work but to date, they haven't done it. Attorney Golden said that there is nothing the Town can mandate in this matter because it is legal use of a public road. Indirectly, if they decide to expand operations the use can be pulled from the Town Code that they cannot go over a certain tonnage on the roads. Apparently, this has happened in the past. Supervisor Bloomfield suggested visiting the transfer station to ask if the management would like to

participate in funding the road repair. Councilperson Lyons expressed that he would like to see some work on the roads in the subdivisions, such as Arcadia Hills; Superintendent Knoell stated that catch basins need to be fixed first and at this time, we cannot fix them due to other responsibilities.

Motion to authorize the Highway Superintendent to initiate the 2020 Town of Goshen Road Improvement Program was made by Councilperson Canterino, seconded by Councilperson Florio.

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

Motion carried.

9. Discuss plans for reopening New York State.

The Supervisor explained how the Governor's office divided up the state into regions and how each region has 7 metrics that have to be achieved (certain amount of hospital admissions, ICU and deaths from Covid-19, for example) before it can be opened up. There will be a phasing approach (phase 1- phase 4) to opening each region. He stated that the County Executive believes that Orange County (part of the Mid Hudson Region) will achieve the metrics needed to open the County in the next 14 days. May 25th may be the date that Orange County will be opened if all goes well. Phase One includes: curbside pickup of goods, construction, forestry) – if the region is successful in keeping with the seven metrics, we will go forward to Phase Two in two weeks (professional services, insurance retail, administrative support). Supervisor Bloomfield asked the County Executive if that meant that the County would be open for DMV service and the like, but he wasn't sure yet. Phase Three is restaurants and food services and Phase Four is arts, entertainment, and recreation. Recreation will impact our summer plans for the camp program at Urbanski Park. He spoke with Stephanie Johnson of Legoland and was advised that the company will continue with construction at the site once Phase One can begin. Councilperson Lyons asked that if Phase Four is completed, would summer camp be held but the Supervisor cannot be sure if it will.

10. A proposed plan to safely reopen the Goshen Senior Center has been developed by Program Coordinator, Bonnie Mayefsky, and sent to the Orange County Health Department for review and approval.

Bonnie wants a plan in place to reopen when the Governor's Office gives permission to do so. This plan is solely for the Center and not for activities such as bus trips. Attorney Golden pointed out a minor error in the verbiage of the plan that needs to be corrected.

11. A proposed plan to safely reopen the Goshen Town Park is also being prepared for Orange County Health Department for review and approval.

Supervisor has been dealing with Trish Sherlock of Parks & Recreation to safely open the Parks in the Town if the summer camp program can commence. Hereto, the Governor's office permission is required - Phase Four of the State plan.

12. The final 2020 equalization rate has been established by the New York State Real Property Tax Office.

The new rate is 56.00% versus 2019 rate of 61.00% of the Fair Market Value of homes in Goshen has risen significantly. Some discussion ensued as to how the Fair Market Value is arrived at using the equalization rate.

Finance

13. Approve year to date budget transfers as requested by Budget Officer.

The Budget Officer, Christine Cavaliere explained that the 5/7/2020 and 5/14/2020 budget transfers are within each department. The April 23rd transfers was for retroactive pay for the Police Department that had to be funded.

Motion to approve the year to date budget transfers of 5/7/2020, 5/14/202 and April 23rd as requested by the Budget Officer was made by Councilperson Lyons and seconded by Councilperson Florio. Councilperson Lyons asked if all the backpay issues with the Police had been taken care of and the Budget Officer stated they were.

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

Motion carried.

14. Authorize Supervisor to pay Accounts Payable check run for May 14, 2020 in the amount of \$66,751.52.

Motion to approve the Supervisor to pay Accounts Payable check run for May 14, 2020 in the amount of \$66,751.52 was made by Councilperson Newbold and seconded by Councilperson Lyons.

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

Motion carried.

The Supervisor noted that a late item arrived at 4:00 PM this day and will have to be acted upon at the next Town Board Meeting. The Budget Director explained that she had spoken to the Information Technology provider for the Town, Bob Sarvis regarding the need for a new server for the Town's computers. The server the town is using has been repaired with parts about two years ago. The current server does not have enough capacity for all departments to save documents. We cannot back-up work on the current server and documents must be saved to USB sticks. Mr. Sarvis quoted a price of \$12, 200 from Dell Technologies, New York State contract rate. The quote expires May 30th.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilperson Lyons and seconded by Councilperson Florio.

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

Motion carried.

Councilperson Newbold asked that we keep an eye opened for our elderly neighbors- he works with the Food Bank and many of the elderly are too proud to ask for help with food insecurity.

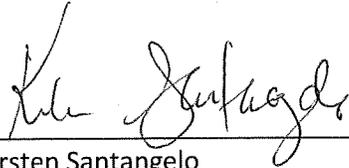
Adjournment

Motion to close the Town Board meeting was made by Councilperson Lyons and seconded by Councilperson Canterino

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

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM.



Kirsten Santangelo
Deputy Town Clerk