

TOWN OF GOSHEN
TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION

March 10, 2008

MINUTES

A work session of the Town Council of the Town of Goshen was held on the 10th day of March, 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: Jo Ann Soules Town Appointed Assessor
Susan Maysels Deputy Town Clerk
Dennis Caplicki Attorney for the Town (arrived late)

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

1. Assessment Board of Review Candidates – Town Assessor

Councilmember Canterino made a motion to appoint Ms. Mona A. Branigan to the Town of Goshen Assessment Board of Review for the five-year term beginning October 1, 2007, expiring September 30, 2012. Councilmember Cappella seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Cappella asked if it will be Council policy in the future to replace Assessment Board of Review members when terms end. Supervisor Bloomfield said it would be his preference to consider all interested residents, including incumbents, for appointment to positions as they become available on this Board.

On a ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Canterino	Aye	Councilmember Newbold	Nay
Councilmember Cappella	Aye	Supervisor Bloomfield	Aye
Councilmember Lyons	Aye		

The motion passed 4 – 1.

2. Assessor Attendance at Northeast Regional Assessors' Association in Lake Placid May 2008

Councilmember Newbold made a motion to authorize the Town Assessor, Jo Ann Soules, to attend the Northeast Regional Assessors' Association conference in Lake Placid, New York from May 4th to May 8th with New York State paying her lodging, travel and food and a scholarship paying registration and class materials. Councilmember Cappella seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

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

3. **Workers' Compensation Escrow Account – Wright Risk Management**

John Congdon, VP, Director of Workers Compensation for Wright Risk Management explained the two options to the Town regarding how it sets up its escrow account to be used to pay off its "tail" claims. The Town can (a) authorize WRM-Comp Alliance to set up an escrow account on behalf of the Town at a bank near WRM's office in Garden City into which the Town would periodically deposit funds to cover its claims and WRM-Comp Alliance would pay out the claims and provide a full accounting to the Town, or (b) open a separate Town account for claim payments and give WRM-Comp Alliance signature authority so it can pay out claims.

Council will make a decision on the type of escrow account they prefer after Mr. Congdon provides Council with answers to the following:

- Under option (a), does WRM use interest bearing accounts?
- Under option (b), does WRM provide a surety bond protecting Town if the signature authority is misused?

4. **Request from State Assembly Minority Leader James Tedisco for Support of AB 8775-A: New York State Property Taxpayers Protection Act**

Council requested that the Town Clerk obtain a copy of the full text of AB 8775-A and provide it to Council to read before they take any action, because the Resolution provided by Mr. Tedisco is not clear enough for Council to determine if this bill will be positive for the residents of Goshen. In addition, Councilmember Canterino will discuss it with State Assemblywoman Annie Rabbitt when he meets with her shortly.

5. **Hiring of Kyle Lindland, Part Time in Water & Sewer Department**

Councilmember Newbold made a motion to confirm the hiring of Kyle Lindland, effective February 23, 2008 as Water+Sewer Department part-time employee at the hourly rate of \$16.22. Councilmember Cappella seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

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

6. **Acceptance of Resignation from Joan Gallant, Accounts Payable Clerk**

Councilmember Cappella made a motion to accept the resignation of Joan Gallant, as part-time Town Accounts Payable Clerk effective March 14, 2008. Councilmember Newbold seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Canterino said he accepts this resignation with regret. Councilmember Cappella noted that Ms. Gallant was a dedicated employee. Councilmember Lyons stated that she performed a critical function and was concerned that the payment of Town bills will be delayed. Councilmember Newbold noted that Ms. Gallant was a marvelous employee who will be missed.

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

7. **New Horizons Subdivision – Septic System**

After discussing the merits of the community septic system at this meeting and former meetings, Council will give New Horizons Developer a copy of the Town Engineer, Dennis Lindsay's detailed letter on the subject dated February 25, 2008. The letter addresses Council's concern with the proposed system and offers engineering advice and options.

8. A+ L Acres and Goshen Properties Drainage or Stormwater Management Districts

Town Building Inspector, Neal Halloran and Attorney for the Town Planning Board, Rick Golden arrived to provide Council with information on this item. Attorney Golden stated that there is no legal criterion for district size; it may be an engineering or organizational issue though. Towns are never required to form a drainage district according to Attorney Golden. Before the March 13th public hearing on these properties, the Supervisor and Attorney Caplicki will discuss the following with the Engineer to the Town, Dennis Lindsay: (a) alternatives to holding ponds, (b) management by Homeowners' Associations, and (c) contracting maintenance to a third party. The Planning Board needs to be advised that the Town Council's policy is to reject the construction of stormwater management systems that require routine maintenance, unless all other alternatives, regardless of cost, are explored. If no other alternative is physically possible, Council would require the subdivision's HOA to be fully and permanently responsible for maintenance, liability, repair, replacement, etc.

9. Police Vehicles

The Police Department may have two excess vehicles since the two School Resource Officers with cars are no longer working at BOCES according to Supervisor Bloomfield. One is a 4x4, the other a sedan. Councilmember Canterino will provide the VINs to the Supervisor before the next meeting, and track down the status of the Chief's former gray Crown Victoria with low mileage.

10. Permit Fees & Bonds for Driveways, Curb Cuts and Road Openings

Councilmember Cappella reported that the Highway Superintendent and Town Clerk have requested that Council increase the permit fees and bond amounts for Driveway Construction, Curb Cuts and Road Openings. The current permit fee of \$25 does not cover staff time involved in processing permits. The bond amounts do not cover the cost to the Highway Department of completing the work if the developer/homeowner defaults. At the request of Council, Attorney Caplicki will prepare a Local Law amending Section 82 of the Code. The amendment will change the Section from addressing just Driveway Construction to include Curb Cuts and Road Openings. The amendment will delete the current fee and bond amounts and refer to a new Schedule of fees and bond amounts that will be kept on file in the Clerk's Office. In the meantime, Council requested that Attorney Caplicki prepare a Resolution for the next meeting to increase the Road Opening bond amount from \$250 to \$1500 since it will be some time before this new Local Law will take effect.

11. Executive Session

Supervisor Bloomfield made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss (a) Interstate Waste Systems negotiations, (b) CSEA contract negotiations, and (c) PBA memorandum of agreement negotiation, with the intent not to return to public meeting. Councilmember Newbold seconded the motion.

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

Council entered Executive Session at 10pm
No actions were taken in Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted by:

Susan Maysels, Deputy Town Clerk