

A Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 10th day of March, 2005 at the Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York.

Present:

Honey Bernstein	Supervisor	Douglas Bloomfeild	Councilman
Kenneth Newbold	Councilman	Louis Cappella	Councilman

Absent: Richard Roberts, Councilman

Also Present: John Cappello, Town Attorney

A. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Bernstein opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. AMENDMENT TO AGENDA – NONE

C. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

D. OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes:

Work Sessions – 12/13/04, 1/10/05, 1/24/05, 2/7/05

Regular Meetings – 12/16/04, 1/03/05, 1/13/05, 1/27/05, 2/10/05, 2/23/05

Councilman Cappella made a Motion to approve the minutes as read. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Bloomfield. Motion carried 4 to 0.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. CDBG Resolution** – Supporting Community Development Program and Urging Congress to Restore Funding

RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND URGING CONGRESS TO RESTORE ITS FUNDING

Introduced by: Councilman Douglas Bloomfield

Seconded by: Councilman Kenneth Newbold

Date of adoption: March 10, 2005

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program was enacted, and Signed into law by President Gerald Ford, as the centerpiece of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; and

WHEREAS, the CDBG program has as its primary objective "...the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income;" and

WHEREAS, the CDBG program has considerable flexibility to allow communities to carry out activities that are tailored to their unique affordable housing and neighborhood revitalization needs; and

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), in FY 2004 CDBG provided funds for thousands of activities, assisting over 23 million persons and households through such activities as expanding homeownership activities, eliminating slums and blighting influences, improving infrastructure such as roads, water and sewer systems, libraries, community centers, adult day care and after school care for children, homeless housing facilities, employment training, transportation services, crime awareness, and business and job creation; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Goshen uses CDBG funds in the amount of \$85,000. to repair restrooms in the Town Park and for work on our Senior Center.

WHEREAS, The President's FY 2006 budget proposes to completely eliminate the CDBG Program; and

WHEREAS, should such a proposal be enacted, it would have a devastating effect on the Town of Goshen's CDBT program in that funding for such worthy past municipal projects as the installation of brick sidewalks in the Village, the construction of the joint Town and Village Senior Center and the improvement of restrooms at the Town's only municipal park to allow for handicap access, would not otherwise occur and all similar future projects are seriously jeopardized without such funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Goshen hereby call on the Congress to preserve the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program within the Department of Housing and Urban Development and provide a FY 2006 funding of at least \$4.7 billion Overall, with no less than \$4.35 Billion in formula funding.

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE:

Honey Bernstein	Supervisor	AYE	Kenneth Newbold	Councilman	AYE
Richard Roberts	Councilman	Absent	Louis Cappella	Councilman	AYE
Douglas Bloomfield	Councilman	AYE			

Vote: Resolution carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

2. Resolution – Officer Walls to attend School Resource Officer Leadership Program

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
County of Orange, State of New York**

**AUTHORIZING OFFICER WALLS
TO ATTEND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

Introduced by: Councilman Douglas Bloomfield

Seconded by: Councilman Kenneth Newbold

Date of Adoption: March 10, 2005

WHEREAS, Chief Dennis D. Marsh, has submitted a request to allow Police Officer Walls to attend the School Resource Officer Leadership Program from July 15, 2005 through July 23, 2005 in Appleton, Wisconsin, at a cost of meals only.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED;

That the Town Board approves Police Officer Walls to attend the School Resource Officer Leadership Program from July 15, 2005 through July 23, 2005 in Appleton, Wisconsin, at a cost of meals only.

Vote: Resolution carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

3. Resolution – Authorizing Supervisor Bernstein to sign for Key Bank Account

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
County of Orange, State of New York**

**AUTHORIZING SUPERVISOR TO
SIGN AND CLOSE KEY BANK ACCOUNT**

Introduced by: Councilman Louis Cappella

Seconded by: Councilman Kenneth Newbold

Date of adoption: March 10, 2005

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Goshen has determined that it is in their best Interest to close the Key Bank account.

NOW. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to sign the necessary documents from Key Bank to close the Town's account.

Vote: Resolution carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

4. Resolution – Authorizing Town Board to Approve Salesian Master Plan

Supervisor Bernstein stated the Salesian Advisory Committee has worked very hard, approximately a year, to come up with a proposed master plan for the Salesian property. The Committee presented the plan to the Village and the Town Boards for approval. Attorney Cappello explained to the Board that he had drawn up a Negative Declaration as it will be needed to proceed.

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
Resolution and Notice of Adoption
Of SEQR Negative Declaration
Determination of Non-Significance
Salesian Park Restoration**

Introduced by: Councilman Kenneth Newbold
Seconded by: Councilman Douglas Bloomfield
Date of Adoption: March 10, 2005

WHEREAS, the Town of Goshen Town Board and Village of Goshen Board of Trustees Pursuant to an agreement dated December 11, 2003, formed a committee to explore options to convert the Salesian property to a community park; and

WHEREAS, that committee conducted its review over a 15 month period which included several meetings to discuss the vision for developing said community park; and

WHEREAS, the Town and Village retained the services of Stephen A. Yarabeck, ASLA, to prepare the design; and

WHEREAS, the committee has recommended a proposed plan to the Town and Village to be developed in stages which includes the following features:

Demolition of the Haight Street mansion, which has deteriorated to a condition beyond repair. This demolition would include the salvaging of at least 21 significant architectural pieces. Note: The Town and Village have authorized the demolition of this building under separate resolution and adopted a separate negative declaration under SEQR due to the emergency circumstance which necessitated the demolition of the building to avoid potential injury and cost to secure the area.

Constructing a new garden pavilion, drawing inspiration from the original Haight Mansion octagonal room which will utilize the windows of such room and stand as a sentinel at the edge of a walled garden.

Develop a walled garden to be enclosed by the foundation walls of the original Haight Mansion, which garden would be a theme reflecting the past, such as an historic kitchen or knot garden or reserved for future uses for example a Shakespearean Garden. The

entry to the garden and the park beyond would be a recreated port-cocher canopy reflecting the original that once stood on the site.

Including feasibility studies for potential re-use of the existing school building for one of many potential uses including library, municipal office, community center, or cultural center.

Restore Main Street frontage of park by restoring existing bluestone sidewalk, adding street trees to create an arbored way to shade the walk from afternoon sun and reclaim the gateway to the Village and Town. Restoring the existing wrought iron fence.

Using existing wet areas to locate a bog garden to provide a glimpse of habitat that once existed through the property before the land was put to agricultural use.

Construct an arboretum to include native and ornamental trees to open and close views into the park from North Main Street.

Create a promenade using existing trees lining the storage carriage-way to be supplemented with additional trees to strengthen the main access.

Develop a knoll which in contrast to the great lawn area can be carved out of existing woods to provide a more intimate setting where a counsel ring will be located.

Continue to explore re-use of the existing wooden tower.

Create a civic oval which will be a sheltered formal gathering space adjacent to the school.

Create a poets path and children's story circle.

Utilize existing athletic fields to remain as open area for un-programmed activities such as kit flying, informal play and events.

Create a swimming pond by refurbishing the pump house and explore potential to reclaim the pond. Install a filtering and aeration system and provide a beach, small dock and floating raft. Ice skating would be allowed as weather permits; and

WHEREAS, the Town and Village now wish to accept the plan proposed by the committee with the understanding that the Town and Village will continue the site specific engineering design and other necessary work to implement this plan in stages as time and finances warrant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Goshen Town Board and Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Goshen have considered the proposed action as described in this application, the Full EAF and records of meetings of the committee prepared in support of the plan in accordance with the procedures and criteria set forth in 6NYCRR 617.7, which analyze the relative areas of environmental concern using the SEQR standards and

specifically examine the areas identified and discussed below:

1. Impact on Land. The park project will involve the restoration of the site in a manner that will preserve, supplement and keep protected in perpetuity the important environmental features of the property. There will be minimal disturbance associated with the park development which will involve some paving for the entry road from Main Street to the pond turnaround, approximately 27,227 square feet; construction of swimming pond parking, approximately 10,875 square feet; and proposed library parking if the library is to be located in the park of approximately 3,723 square feet. Prior to any paving work being constructed, the Town will and the Village will ensure that appropriate storm water management and erosion control practices are followed during said construction.

Based on the above, the Town Board and Village Board determine that the project will not result in a significant impacts on land.

2. Impacts on Plants and Animals. The proposed development will include restoring wet areas to exist as a bog garden, replanting and refurbishing several areas which have been disturbed to their more natural conditions and supplementing existing vegetation with significant new vegetation that would include native and ornamental trees and numerous other plantings.

Based on the above, the Town Board and Village Board determine that there will be no Adverse impact on plants and animals.

3. Impact on Aesthetic Resources. The park project will refurbish the property which has served as a gateway to the Village and Town which has been a victim of neglect and disrepair over the last several years.

Based upon the above, the Town board and Village Board determine that there will be no adverse impacts on aesthetic resources.

4. Impacts on Traffic. Prior to any construction, the Town and Village will review in detail the proposed access plans to the facility to determine the most appropriate methods to ensure traffic to and from the site run smoothly.

Based on the above, the Town Board and Village Board finds that there will be no adverse impact to traffic at this time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that based on the rationale and determination set forth above, the Town Board and Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Goshen determine that there will be no significant adverse impacts resulting from this action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Notice of Adoption of the SEQR Negative Declaration, Determination of Non-Significance is made for purposes of Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law and declares as follows;

Title of Action: Acceptance of Salesian Park Plan

Description of Action: Acceptance of the recommendations from the joint committee formed by the Town of Goshen and Village of Goshen Board of Trustees to recommend design of the 50 V acre park to be jointly considered, engineered and constructed by the Town of Goshen and Village of Goshen as time and financing warrant.

Location: Main Street (NYS Route 207), east side of its intersection with Craigville Road, Village of Goshen
Tax Map Section 105, Block 1, Lot 3.1

Contact Person: Hon. Honey Bernstein, Supervisor
Town of Goshen
41 Webster Avenue
Goshen, New York 10924

Hon. Scott Wohl, Mayor
Village of Goshen
275 Main Street
Goshen, New York 10924

A copy of this resolution and notice are sent to:

David Church, AICP, Commissioner
Orange County Department of Planning
124 Main Street
Goshen, New York 10924

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution of Determination and Nonsignificance be deemed Notice of Adoption of SEQR Negative Declaration and Determination of Nonsignificance and shall be filed in accordance with Part 617.12 of the SEQR Regulations on a vote of 4 ayes and 0 Nays. The Supervisor and Mayor declared the resolution was adopted.

Dated: March 10, 2005

Filed in the Town Clerk's Office: March 11, 2005

Councilman Cappella asked if circumstances change and there is some reason the park cannot go forward what is the Town's liability ? Attorney referred to the section in the Negative Declaration stating "the Town and Village will continue the site specific engineering design and other necessary work to implement this plan in stages as time and finances warrant."

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
TOWN BOARD
RESOLUTION GRANTING
APPROVAL OF SALSIAN PARK PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Town of Goshen Town Board and the Village of Goshen Board of Trustees pursuant to an agreement dated December 11, 2003, formed a committee to explore options to convert the Salesian property to a community park; and

WHEREAS, this committee conducted a review which included several meetings to discuss the vision for developing said community park; and

WHEREAS, the committee has recommended the following plan;

Demolition of the Haight Street mansion, which has deteriorated to a condition beyond repair. This demolition would include the salvaging of at least 21 significant architectural pieces. Note: The Town and Village have authorized the demolition of this building under separate resolution and adopted a separate negative declaration under SEQR due to the emergency circumstance which necessitated the demolition of the building to avoid potential injury and cost to secure the area.

1. Constructing a new garden pavilion, drawing inspiration from the Original Haight Mansion octagonal room which will utilize the windows of such room and stand as a sentinel at the edge of a walled garden .
2. Develop a walled garden to be enclosed by the foundation walls of the original Haight Mansion, which garden would be theme reflecting the past, such as a historic kitchen or knot garden or reserved for future uses for example a Shakespearean Garden. The entry to the garden and the park beyond would be a recreated port-cocher canopy reflecting the original that once stood on the site.
3. Including feasibility studies for potential re-use of the existing school building for one of many potential uses including library, municipal office, community center, or cultural center.
4. Restore Main Street frontage of park by restoring existing bluestone sidewalk, adding street trees to create an arbored way to shade the walk from afternoon sun and reclaim the gateway to the Village and Town. Restoring the existing wrought iron fence.
5. Using existing wet areas to locate a bog garden to provide a glimpse of habitat that once existed through the property before the land was put to agricultural use.
6. Construct an arboretum to include native and ornamental trees to open and close

views into the park from North Main Street.

7. Create a promenade using existing trees lining the storage carriage-way to be supplemented with additional trees to strengthen the main access.
8. Develop a great lawn area for un-programmed open passive recreation.
9. Develop a knoll which in contrast to the great lawn area can be carved out of existing woods to provide amore intimate setting where a counsel ring will be located.
10. Continue to explore re-use of the existing wooden tower.
11. Create a civic oval which will be a sheltered formal gathering space adjacent to the school.
12. Create a poets path and children's story circle
13. Utilize existing athletic fields to remain as open area for un-programmed activities such as kite flying, informal play and events.
14. Create a swimming pond by refurbishing the pump house and explore potential to reclaim the pond. Install a filtering and aeration system and provide a beach, small dock and floating raft. Ice skating would be allowed as weather permits; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2005, the Town of Goshen Town Board adopted a Resolution and notice of Adoption of SEQR Negative Declaration, which is attached hereto and incorporated into this resolution as if fully set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Goshen Town Board accepts the committee's Salesian Park Plan as submitted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Goshen will continue to work in tandem with the Village of Goshen to implement, finalize design and construct the park as time and financing warrant.

Motion made by Supervisor Bernstein, seconded by Councilman Newbold. Vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays whereupon the resolution was declared adopted by the Town of Goshen Town Board.

Dated: March 10, 2005

Filed in the Town Clerk's Office on March 11, 2005 see file for Full Environmental Assessment Form.

Councilman Newbold said he would like to thank all the members of the committee, Supervisor Bernstein and Mayor Wohl for all the time and effort they put into this project.

Supervisor Bernstein said the estimated cost for proposed phase I is approximately \$700,000.00, with the total being approximately 1.6 million.

Supervisor Bernstein said many thanks to the Salesian Advisory Committee and this Town Board as most members of the Board attended most of the meetings.

5. RESOLUTION – Approve Biodiversity Study

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
County of Orange, State of New York**

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE BIODIVERSITY STUDY

Introduced by: Councilman Louis Cappella
Seconded by: Councilman Douglas Bloomfield
Date of Adoption: March 10, 2005

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it would be in the best interest of the Town of Goshen to take part in a Biodiversity Plan for the Open Space Plan adopted by the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town has hired the Wildlife Conservation Society to prepare a biodiversity map and text for Goshen’s Open Space Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Wildlife Conservation Society has submitted the biodiversity map and text to the Town for its review and approval. Board approves the biodiversity map and text for Goshen’s Open Space Plan as attached.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town board approves the Biodiversity map and next for the Open Space Plan in the form attached and made part of this resolution.

Upon roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Bernstein	AYE	Councilman Bloomfield	AYE
Councilman Roberts	Absent	Councilman Newbold	AYE
Councilman Cappella	AYE		

Vote: Resolution carried by a vote of 4 to 0.

5. Resolution – Support Association of Towns on Property Tax Reform

Supervisor Bernstein explained that the New York Association of Towns has advised the Board that a non-partisan group established in Ulster County in a cooperative effort between the Town Governments and various other municipalities have formed the Ulster County Supervisors Association. She said it seems that these municipalities pay 80% of their property tax to the local school districts. They are in the process of trying to find an equity formula for funding public education. They are asking for other municipalities around the state to support these efforts. They are asking for a resolution of support by making a resolution and sending it to the Governor, Legislators, etc.

RESOLUTION

Introduced by: Councilman Douglas Bloomfield
Seconded by: Councilman Louis Cappella
Date of Adoption: March 10, 2005

By action of the Town of Goshen, N.Y. Town Board, adopted at its meeting on March 10, 2005, it was

RESOLVED that the following recommendations be submitted to New York State Senators and Joseph Bruno, New York State Assembly Representatives and Sheldon Silver, and Governor George Pataki, with a letter on behalf of the citizens of the Town of Goshen urging their immediate attention.

WHEREAS THE RESIDENTS OF THE town of Goshen have collectively considered the Local issues of greatest concern to them and identified high property taxes as one of the highest priority among the; and

WHEREAS funding for local governmental services, including public education, is provided primarily through a tax on the estimated value of property; and

WHEREAS the welfare of Goshen’s homeowners is jeopardized by the rapid increase in the costs of public education and the inability of many homeowners to pay these increased costs; and

WHEREAS the increasing burden of public education on taxpayers also impacts on the ability to raise other taxes to provide services and to fund Town-specific and local initiatives important to the well-being of the community.

THEREFORE the Town Board of the Town of Goshen appeals to New York State

public officials to implement new measures for financing public education, including the following suggested action:

1. Ensure equity in a formula for funding public education based on the taxpayers' ability to pay.
 2. Decrease the revenue raised from tax sources based on the value of dwellings.
 3. Refrain from imposing state mandated requirements upon school systems without corresponding state funding.
 4. Adjust the formulas on revenues earmarked as aid to education from State lottery and other future gaming activities so that the annual percentage is substantially increased from current levels.
 5. Maintain the enhanced STAR exemption for the Town's neediest citizens, but also increase the STAR exemption for senior citizens specifically at all income levels.
 6. Regain Lost tax revenue from the above actions through income tax.
- Resolved and Executed at Goshen, New York, this 10 day of March 2005.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Honey Bernstein	AYE	Douglas Bloomfield	Councilman	AYE	
Kenneth Newbold	Councilman	AYE	Louis Cappella	Councilman	AYE
Richard Roberts	Councilman	ABSENT			

Vote: Resolution carried by a vote 4 to 0.

7. Resolution – Approve Purchase of Police Vehicle Chevy Tahoe 4 x 4

TOWN OF GOSHEN
County of Orange, State of New York

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE
PURCHASE OF A POLICE CAR**

Introduced by: Councilman Douglas Bloomfield
Seconded by: Councilman Louis Cappella
Date of Adoption: March 10, 2005

WHEREAS, the Town of Goshen Police Department has advised the Town Board of its need For a new police vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has considered this request and determines that it is in the best interest of the Town to purchase such vehicle

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Town Purchase a police car identified as 2005 Chevrolet Tahoe 4 X 4 at a cost not to exceed \$30,294.82.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Bernstein	AYE	Councilman Newbold	AYE
Councilman Roberts	Absent	Councilman Bloomfield	AYE
Councilman Cappella	AYE		

F. FINANCES

Councilman Newbold made a Motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Voucher #2005-0325 to Voucher #2005-0512 amounting to \$232,560.43. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Cappella. Motion carried 4 to 0.

G. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Nick Petraglia asked about the large No Trespassing signs at the entrance to the Salesian Park. He said the signs are scary and would discourage people from going in there. The Board informed Mr. Petraglia of the vandalism already evident in the park and the potential of dangers during demolition of the mansion and work being done on the school

building. It is hoped the work will be completed on the demolition and renovation of the school so that the park will be safe for the public to enter.

Reynold Andrews asked about the annexation requests coming before the Board. Supervisor Bernstein answered saying that a lot of the developers would like to hook into the Village sewer district. In this case they would remain in the Town of Goshen, but would use the Village sewer. Mr. Andrews felt all of this building will put an enormous strain on our schools.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Bloomfield made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Cappella. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Valma Eisma, Town Clerk