

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 23th day of August, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York

Present:

Douglas Bloomfield	Supervisor	Louis Cappella	Councilman
Philip Canterino	Councilman	George Lyons	Councilman
Kenneth Newbold	Councilman		

Also Present: Dennis Caplicki, Town Attorney

A. CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Bloomfield called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and asked Keith Roddy to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. AMMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA: Councilman Lyons said he would like to add a resignation from the Police Department to the agenda. Supervisor Bloomfield said he would place it under New Business as number four.

C. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: No response.

D. REPORTS: Councilman Canterino: reported the Recreation Commission has for some time been discussing the concession stand at Craigville Park. He said the Commission has decided, at least tentatively, at least through 2008, to take control of the concession stand. Councilman Canterino said he is not sure if the Commission will run the stand itself or if they will hire someone to come in and run it. He said there have never been any financial reports handed in from the stand, so therefore, the Commission has no idea of what financial gains can be expected and if indeed there are any. However, while the Commission is in control, all funds earned will be put back into the Joint Recreation and then the Commission feels it will be able to disperse the income more evenly across all the organizations, all the fields, etc.

Councilman Lyons: reported there was a joint training between the Village of Goshen Police Department and the Town Department called Active Shooter. He explained this was a school safety exercise in which both Police Departments would be involved if an incident should occur in one of our schools.

He also reported that Officer Walls, of our Town Police Department, gave the Work Place Violence seminar in the Town Hall in conjunction with the Right to Know training on August 8th, and will be available to do so again for the September 20th class.

Councilman Lyons reported Officers Wilson and Boyd did a Stop DWI seminar for the incoming Freshmen at Goshen Highschool.

He said there have been no meetings of the Growth Committee since the last Town Board meeting and there probably will be no future meetings as their work will now be turned over to the School District who will now act upon their recommendations. The Councilman stated he had read in the paper that there will be a referendum held in December of 2007 asking for seventy to eighty million dollars for expansions of all the existing schools.

Supervisor Bloomfield thanked Councilman Lyons for being on the Growth Committee for the past year on behalf of the Town Board.

Councilman Newbold: reported the water bills have gone out and people really did not realize there would be such large increases. He said the Town Board will be addressing any problems that come to the surface and the Supervisor will be addressing it later this evening.

Councilman Newbold said the Tour De Goshen was held this past Sunday and was very successful. He said he understands it will be the last one held and he would like to thank Brian Dunlevy and his staff for all the work they have done through the years sponsoring this event that brought the Community together.

Councilman Cappella: reported Dial –A–Bus and the Senior Center are doing fine. Highway just started paving this past week in Goshen Hills, a little development off of Reservoir Road. He said the weather has slowed them down some, but it should be finished sometime next week. He reported Highway has just finished striping thirty two miles of road. Councilman Cappella said Highway will be replacing culverts on Everett and Durland Roads to correct the damage caused by the recent storm. He said repairs have been approved by FEMA and once the jobs are completed we will be reimbursed for the costs. He reported the pipes for the culverts have just come in and work will be done some time in this next month or so. During this time the road will probably be closed for a week or two.

Supervisor Bloomfield said he would like to thank Michelle Radakovitz, Highway Secretary and Dispatcher for Dial-A-Bus and Bob Lercara, Deputy Supervisor of the Highway Department and Councilman Cappella for the work they did with FEMA, providing the photographs and the application, etc. FEMA, as a result, is awarding the Town of Goshen \$ 130,000.00 for the repair of the culverts.

The Supervisor reported he has written a Grant and submitted it to the Orange County Planning Department for \$10,000.00 to help us defray the cost of the review of the zoning and coding. He said if it is approved, the Town would receive the money in the calendar year of 2007. The Supervisor followed up with Congressman Hall's office as to the status of the \$400,000.00 Grant for the water line in Hambletonian Park. He said the grant has come out of Committee, passed through the House of Representatives and is now in the Senate. He said it will now be attached to some kind of amendment and that will be attached to some kind of bill and the Senate will reconvene after the Labor Day Holiday.

Supervisor Bloomfield reported the water meters are being installed in the Scotchtown Park Water District and all is going smoothly. However, the Supervisor stated where the copper pipes have had to be cut, to put the meter in, there is a lot of calcium, magnesium, and iron deposits in the pipes. The Supervisor said he was concerned and hoped the flushing of lines the Town does twice a year will help to clear the lines.

Supervisor Bloomfield said back in February and again in April the Board met with the public and reviewed the water and sewer rates. He said at that time, as well as now, the Board has tried to explain that a lot of the increase is due to the Village charges for sewer with the new treatment center expense. This of course influences the Water/Sewer bills for Hambletonian Park and Arcadia. The Supervisor said he hoped if we receive the \$400,000.00 from John Hall it will be used to pay down the debt of the water line, which should help bring down the cost.

The Supervisor explained many of the costs came from water main breaks, fourteen line breaks in Arcadia Hills sewer line in one day. He said in Hambletonian Park we had one or two pumps that needed to be replaced.

The Supervisor reported also he and two other members of the Board had met with Ed Diana, County Executive; Jim Pawliczek, Village of Florida's Mayor; and Village Trustee Susan Fast last Friday. He said they met to discuss odor problems the Village of Florida is having due to the jail hooking into their sewer system. The Supervisor stated that upon hearing of this he wrote a letter to the Mayor of the Village of Goshen to encourage him to approach the County Executive about returning the Orange County Jail to the Village Sewage System to defray some of the costs associated with the new system.

Supervisor Bloomfield said he had received a letter from the County stating that the design of the line we requested to extend the Village water line to the Town DPW and the Police Department has been approved. He said he sent the approval letter off to the DEC as they are Lead Agency over this.

E. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Resignation of Linda Finnigan, Effective August 31,2007 From Full-Time Employment in the Building & Zoning Office.

Councilman Cappella made a Motion to accept Linda Finnigan's resignation from full-time employment effective August 31, 2007. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Newbold. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Bloomfield explained that Ms. Finnigan was resigning her full-time position, but was going to remain in the same position only part-time.

Councilman Canterino made a Motion to rehire Linda Finnigan as a Part Time-Employee at \$13.00 per hour effective September 1, 2007 in the Building & Zoning Office. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Lyons. Motion carried unanimously.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

1, Reduction of Elizabeth Patti's Sewer Bill Giving a Credit Adjustment of \$904.83

Supervisor Bloomfield explained the Board received a request from a resident of Arcadia Hills, Elizabeth Patti, to reduce her sewer bill. He said the sewage paid to the Village is pro rated by the water usage. Ms. Patti's water usage went from May, quarterly bills, 16,000 plus or minus gallons to 27,000, to 23,000 to 29,000 up to 42,000 and then to 92,000. Ms. Patti had a repairman come and a water line leak was discovered under ground. The line was dug up and replaced. Ms. Patti says she does not mind paying for water, however, she does not feel she should pay for sewer, since the water did not go into the sewer, it went into the ground. The Board discussed the problem at the work session and decided to use a calculation of her average normal good times to be 24,300 gallons per quarter. Using this calculation the Board is granting a credit adjustment of \$904.83.

Supervisor Bloomfield made a Motion to reduce the water/sewer bill of Elizabeth Patti, 66 Wedgewood Drive, Arcadia Hills, by \$904.83 due to a mechanical leak. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Lyons. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Authorize Supervisor to Solicit Bids For Survey of Myruski Farm for PDR

The Supervisor explained the Board is negotiating to purchase the Myruski Farm under the PDR program. He said surveying the property is part of the process, and it is time to do this for the Myruski Farm, known as the Brookfield Farm. Councilman Canterino made a Motion to authorize the Supervisor to solicit bids to do a survey of the Myruski farm for PDR. Councilman Lyons seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Appointment of New Assessor for Six Year Term Effective September 30, 2007.

Supervisor Bloomfield reported he had received a letter from the State of New York , Office of Real Property, stating pursuant to Real Property Tax Law, the appointment of an Assessor for a six year term of office, will begin October 1, 2007 and expire September 30, 2013. He explained the Town Board appoints the Assessor for the six year term and currently JoAnn Soules is filling the unexpired term of Eileen Kelly. Ms. Soules is duly certified and retired from Ramapo as their Assessor. Supervisor Bloomfield made the Motion to appoint JoAnn Soules to be the Town of Goshen Assessor for a six year period effective October 1, 2007 to expire September 30, 2013. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Canterino.

In discussion of the Motion, Supervisor Bloomfield said this will have to be done again, probably next November. Since Ms. Soules is retired from another municipality and is not yet age 65, the Town will have to do a 211 waiver. This was done for Chief Marsh. Without the waiver she is unable to collect her retirement and be paid by the Town at the same time. Supervisor Bloomfield called for the vote. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Resignation of Police Officer Brian Prisco: Councilman Lyons read Officer Prisco's letter of resignation which will take effect as of September 1, 2007. Officer Prisco thanked the Board and Chief Marsh, and stated he was advancing his career with the move to the Town of Haverstraw Police Department. Councilman Lyons made a Motion to accept Officer Prisco's resignation. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Cappella. Supervisor Bloomfield said he would like to thank Officer Prisco for his service to us, stating he has done a good job and he will be missed. Motion carried unanimously.

G. FINANCE: Councilman Canterino made a Motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Accounts Payable Computer-Generated Check Run for utilities dated 8/20/07 amounting to \$5,577.14 and Computer-Generated Check Run Dated 8/23/07 amounting to \$278,882.63. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Lyons. Motion carried unanimously.

H. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Jim Thornton said he had a question about the pipeline on Police Drive. He asked if the Board had taken any steps while this design is going through the process? Supervisor reviewed the process taken when the MBTES were discovered and how at the end, we were not responsible, but in the interim the Town provided bottled water to the Police Department, Highway and the surrounding homes. Since we were found not responsible the DEC has taken lead agency of this matter and they are now providing the water. The DEC put a carbon filter system on our well and another carbon filter was put in the bakery outlet up by the County DPW. The DEC has also told the Town Board that if it follows proper procedures they will reimburse the Town for the money they have spent to date to correct the MBTE problem.

Leslie Cosgrove asked about the concession stand at Craigville Park and how it will affect Little League as it depends on those funds? Councilman Canterino answered saying the Chairman has received emails from the Little League about how the Recreation Commission taking over the concession stand will be handled. He said a lot of the funds collected will go to up grade the fields, up to a limited amount. Councilman Canterino said Little League is only one of the private organizations that use our fields. Councilman Canterino read the letter the Commission sent to everyone who uses the fields. The letter said assuming responsibility for the concession stand is to help generate funds to help offset the cost of maintenance to the park and to keep the program costs reasonable. The letter stated the concession will be leased to or operated by a private company with the hope that the funds raised will keep all the Town's recreation programs reasonable. Councilman Canterino said the Commission has never received

any financial statements from any of the organizations so the Commission really does not know if this will be profitable.

Councilman Newbold felt the Town Board should address and comment on this as it will certainly have some ramifications. Councilman Canterino said the Commission would welcome all comments or suggestions.

Councilman Cappella asked if this is a “done deal”. Councilman Canterino answered no, the Commission has been considering this for months and months and 2008 is not here yet. The Board agreed it would like more information from the Commission on this matter. Supervisor Bloomfield suggested the Boards meet to discuss this and perhaps a joint meeting with the Village, Town and Recreation Commission. Councilman Canterino will take this information back to Joint Rec.

Keith Roddy suggested the Commission hire the leagues to run the concession stand. Councilman Canterino said the Commission still does not know if it will be profitable. He suggested Keith talk to some of the parents and see if in the past it has ever been profitable when it was run by the parents or the leagues and come to a meeting and discuss it.

Councilman Newbold said he was absent from the last meeting when the Board voted on whether to forgo the \$2,000.00 application fee for the Town of Wallkill. He said when the Tetz Plant was originally proposed by the Town of Wallkill, which will affect many residents of the Town of Goshen, they were not notified. He said he, Legislator Thomas Pahucki and the Supervisor at that time Honey Bernstein attended the Planning Board meeting and asked for the list of names listed as interested parties. He said they agreed providing the list was no problem, he never received it. They also changed their meeting date to the afternoon so that he was unable to attend. He said since the Town has now joined a law suit that was started by the Town of Goshen residents affected, this will cost not only the private residents, but also the Town of Goshen. “I don’t believe in carrying a grudge, but courtesy works both ways.” “If I had been here I would have voted no.”

With no further comments, Councilman Cappella made a Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel problem, with no intent to return. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Lyons. Motion carried unanimously.

Time: 8:20 p.m.

Valma Eisma, Town Clerk

