

TOWN OF GOSHEN
TOWN BOARD MEETING

September 12, 2019

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 12th day of September, 2019 at the Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York.

Present: Douglas Bloomfield Supervisor
 George Lyons Councilmember
 Kenneth Newbold Councilmember
 John Van Der Molen Councilmember

Absent: Melissa Gallo Councilmember

Also Present: Kelly Naughton, Esq. Attorney
 Priscilla Gersbeck Town Clerk

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bloomfield at 7:35 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Item # 6, New Business is deleted

C. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (agenda items only)

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. INTRODUCTION / REVIEW OF WORKING 1ST DRAFT 2020 TOWN OF GOSHEN BUDGET WITH THE TOWN BOARD.

Supervisor Bloomfield reviewed the 2020 Tentative Budget Draft to the Board. On September 26th the Board will approve the Tentative Budget to the Preliminary Budget. The Budget Summary listed a 12.06% decrease to the Village tax rate and a 2.67% decrease to the Town tax rate. He reviewed Open Issues / Changes as follows: (1) Road Program Funding - \$710,100 ► \$1,000,000 (2) Supervisor Position +3% +\$5,000 (3) PBA Contract negotiations (4) Humane Society +\$5,000 (5) Joint Recreation Commission +\$15,000 (6) Justice Court Salary Adjustments: Judges' Salaries +3% + \$2,000, Court Clerk 2 Salary +3% +\$1,000 (7) Deputy Town Clerk: Salary 3% +\$1,000 and (8) Police Chief -211 Waiver- 9/18/19- Increase Salary \$30,000 ► \$55,000. Listed were the salaries of the Highway Superintendent, Budget Officer, Building Inspector, and Town Clerk. He reviewed the Cost of Employee Benefits, Funding for Road Construction, changes in the Taxable Assessable Base and listed the Legoland Community Host Fees.

2. DISCUSS AND ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER PAUL BESSER. PAUL IS RETIRING TO NORTH CAROLINA.

Councilperson Van Der Molen made the motion to accept the resignation of part-time Police Officer Paul Besser, effective September 10, 2019. Councilperson Lyons seconded to motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT Gallo

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE A REQUEST BY CHIEF JAMES MCDOWELL TO HIRE RETIRED VILLAGE OF GOSHEN POLICE OFFICER BASIL KOMONDOROA.

Councilperson Van Der Molen made the motion to approve the request by Chief James McDowell to hire Basil Komondorea, part-time Police Officer effective September 13, 2019 at a rate of pay specified in the PBA contract. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen
0 NAYS
1 ABSENT Gallo

4. REVIEW AND APPROVE AN APPLICATION BY THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF ORANGE, SULLIVAN AND ULSTER TO HOLD THE ANNUAL ORANGE COUNTY BICYCLE CLUB COUNTRY ROADS BIKE TOUR ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, BETWEEN 8AM AND 3PM. THE ATTACHED APPLICATION DELINEATES ROADS INVOLVED. INSURANCE COVERAGE HAS BEEN APPROVED.

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to approve the application by the Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan and Ulster for the annual Orange County Bicycle Club Country Roads Tour. Councilperson Van Der Molen seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen
0 NAYS
1 ABSENT Gallo

5. INFORMATION: ORANGE COUNTY WILL BE HOLDING A HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY AT THE 17M FACILITY IN GOSHEN, FRIDAY SEPT. 20TH FROM 9:00AM UNTIL 3:00PM AND SATURDAY SEPT. 21^S FROM 9:00AM UNTIL 3:00PM. CALL 845.291.2640 FOR DETAILED GUIDELINES.

As stated, for information only.

~~6. AUTHORIZE A LETTER FROM THE TOWN SUPERVISOR ENCOURAGING THE SALE OF 363 SARAH WELLS TRAIL GOSHEN, N.Y. TO JASON AND KRISTIN TOUW, WAGON WHEEL FARM. THE PROPERTY IN QUESTION IS IN PROBATE.~~

E. OLD BUSINESS:

1. THE ORANGE COUNTY PARTNERSHIP IS ASKING ORANGE COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES TO PASS A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF UPGRADING ROUTE 17 IN ORANGE AND SULLIVAN COUNTIES. THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE NEED TO ADDRESS CURRENT AND PROJECTED INCREASE IN TRAFFIC AND PREPARATION FOR CONVERSION TO INTERSTATE 86.

A recommendation by the Department of Transportation in 2013 was to add capacity to the Route 17/86 corridor. Consequently, continued traffic issues along the Route 17 corridor may adversely affect future growth in our region. A letter was emailed to all of the Mayors, Supervisors, Leaders and friends from the Orange County Partnership asking to send a resolution to the NYS DOT and Governor Andrew Cuomo to support a third lane and other improvements to the Route 17/86 corridor. In response, the Town of Goshen sent out the following resolution.

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
Resolution**

UPGRADING ROUTE 17 IN ORANGE AND SULLIVAN COUNTIES

INTRODUCED BY: Councilperson George Lyons

SECONDED BY: Councilperson John Van Der Molen

DATED: September 12, 2019

WHEREAS, The Mid-Hudson Region is achieving economic and population growth due to its proximity to New York City and other states as well as being home to attractive communities with a high quality of life.

WHEREAS, The Region has an immediate requirement for infrastructure investments to allow economic development to continue and maintain the Region's ability to attract jobs and preserve its quality of life for its citizens.

WHEREAS, In May of 2013, the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) issued a study (The Route 17 Transportation Corridor Study) that recommended a new General Use Third Lane be developed along the Route 17 Corridor and found that **"additional transportation capacity is needed to address existing and projected levels of congestion in the corridor, provide for enhanced mobility, and allow for future economic growth in both Sullivan and Orange Counties."**

WHEREAS, while the improvements underway at Interchange 131 near Woodbury Common, and the proposed improvements to accommodate LEGOLAND are welcome and necessary, they will not address the existing and worsening traffic issue along the Corridor.

WHEREAS, investments along the Route 17 Corridor are consistent with smart growth principles and the 2011 report issued by the Open Space Institute (Private Lands, Public Benefits) which found that Sullivan County has the greatest percentage of preferred growth area in the Catskills, "which is largely concentrated in the center of the county and coincides with significant, established infrastructure."

WHEREAS, the full conversion of Route 17 to interstate standards (I-86) was previously scheduled to be completed by 2009, but that has not occurred in many of the eastern sections of Route 17. Major upgrades to Route 17 need to be implemented to meet interstate standards

WHEREAS, as part of the 2018-19 New York State Budget, the New York State Department of Transportation has committed to "provide up to \$5 million to advance environmental and design activities related to the construction of a third travel lane along the Route 17 Corridor in Orange and Sullivan Counties."

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation recently selected a consultant to conduct a Planning and Environmental Linkage Study (PEL) as the next step in the process leading to the implementation of the recommendations from the Corridor Study, providing locations of priority and conducting environmental assessments and preliminary engineering.

WHEREAS, the current estimate of the cost of implementing the Corridor Study is approximately \$500 million.

WHEREAS, the Mid-Hudson Valley Region needs to continue to grow and attract businesses and jobs, and the 2013 NYSDOT Study has documented the requirements of the Route 17 Corridor.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED, that we, the Town of Goshen:
Strongly support efforts to improve the Route 17 Corridor and encourages the New York State Department of Transportation to begin as soon as possible the environmental processes necessary to advance the construction of a third lane along the Route 17 Corridor consistent with interstate standards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that \$500 million in Capital Funding to make these important investments along the Route 17 Corridor be included in the State's and Nation's Infrastructure Programs so that the necessary projects to modernize Route 17 can commence as soon as possible.

On a Voice Vote, the Resolution passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen
0 NAYS
1 ABSENT Gallo

2. **INFORMATION: THE TOWN RECEIVED WRITTEN CONFIRMATION THAT OUR CDBG APPLICATION KNOWN AS "TOWN OF GOSHEN SENIOR CENTER" HAS BEEN EXTENDED FROM JULY 1, 2019 UNTIL JUNE 30, 2020.**

As stated, for information only.

3. **CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER NEAL HALLORAN – SHARE INFORMATION REGARDING PROPERTY CLEAN-UP PROCEDURE AND RECENT SITUATION IN ARCADIA HILLS.**

Neal Halloran updated the Board on a residential violation in Arcadia Hills. This particular home on Greenwood Drive was in the process of an eviction. He inspected the property. A Notice of Violation was sent to the owner to clean-up the property. In response to the letter, the property was immediately cleaned up. Secondly, he updated the progress on three properties that were sent Notice of Unsafe Buildings. The first property, located on Route 17A consists of three structures. The abandoned farmhouse windows appear to be boarded up and the front porch has been removed. The second property, located at 100 Fletcher St. (aka. Lakeview) is in the process of demolishing all of the buildings. The Archdiocese of New York City owns the property and is currently seeking bids for demolition. The third property is located on 6 Larchwood Drive. This still needs to be demolished. With no response, our Attorneys are preparing documents to go out for bids. We have 4 businesses in town who are prepared to bid on this property.

4. **INFORMATION: CONTRARY TO A LETTER TO THE EDITOR, THE TOWN BOARD ATTORNEY FILED A LAWSUIT AGAINST FOXFIRE. LLC ON 9/3/2019 SEEKING, AND THEREAFTER OBTAINING, AN INJUNCTION ORDERING FOXIRE NOT TO CONDUCT BUSINESS AT THEIR GOSHEN FACILITY UNTIL THEY RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY.**

As stated, for information only.

F. FINANCE:

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Accounts Payable check run for September 12, 2019 in the amount of \$176,334.62. Councilperson Newbold seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen
0 NAYS
1 ABSENT Gallo

G. MINUTES

Councilperson Van Der Molen made the motion to approve the meeting minutes of July 25, 2019. Councilperson Newbold seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 3 AYES Bloomfield, Newbold, Van Der Molen
0 NAYS
1 ABSTAIN Lyons
1 ABSENT Gallo

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 8, 2019. Councilperson Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 3 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold
0 NAYS
1 ABSTAIN Van Der Molen
1 ABSENT Gallo

H. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Nick Gallo referenced a recent article in the Times Herald Record about the noise created by Legoland's construction equipment. He inquired is "start-up" construction equipment noise considered part of the "operating" construction

equipment noise? He hears construction activities as early as 7:00AM. According to the Developers Agreement, he believes there is a "start-up" noise violation. Attorney Naughton advised him to call the police if he hears equipment noise before the allowed time approved in the Developers Agreement.

Debra Corr complained the construction trucks hauling dirt from Legoland are "barreling" down our Town roads. Also is there a way to verify if the soil being removed is solely top soil? Ans: Advanced Testing Company will be contacted as to their procedure to determine the soil grade being removed.

Sandra Rothenberg inquired "What has Legoland really done for Goshen"? Ans: Supervisor Bloomfield referenced monies from the Host Agreement. She asked what Legoland gave to the Library, Historic Track, schools and residents. Ans: I don't know *all* of the answers. One item; Legoland (Merlin) has gifted to the Arcadia Hills residents a new force main, pressurized sewer line spending around \$720,000.00.

Reynell Andrews asked the status of building Amy's Kitchen. Ans: Probably will start building next year, anticipating to start-up in 2021. Amy's is on the tax rolls now, according to the agreement with the IDA. Amy's representatives made the decision to wait a year because they are rebuilding their Pocatello Plant in Idaho. Some of the other set-backs involve the water/sewer line to Middletown and the Heritage Trail.

I. ADJOURNMENT: 8:45 PM

Councilperson Van Der Molen made the motion to adjourn to enter into Attorney Client meeting. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Priscilla Gersbeck, Town Clerk