

TOWN OF GOSHEN
PUBLIC HEARING & TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 22, 2020
MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 22nd day of October, 2020 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	Councilmember
	Richard Florio	Councilmember
	George Lyons	Councilmember
	Kenneth Newbold	Councilmember

Also Present:	Richard Golden Esq.	Attorney for the Town
	Priscilla Gersbeck	Town Clerk
	Mary Riso	Clerk to the Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER

Councilperson Lyons motioned to open the meeting at 7:35pm and seconded by Councilperson Florio. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Review the Town of Goshen 2021 Goshen 2021 Preliminary Budget for public input and approve the Final Budget.

Councilperson Canterino made the motion to open the public hearing as published in the Independent Republican for the Town of Goshen 2021 budget. Councilperson Newbold second the motion.

On a Voice Vote:	5 AYES	Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	AYE
		Councilperson Philip Canterino	AYE
		Councilperson George Lyons	AYE
		Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	AYE
Motion Carried.		Councilperson Richard Florio	AYE

Supervisor Bloomfield requested that the following letters regarding the proposed 2021 Budget for the Town of Goshen be entered into the meeting record:

- a) Lee Burges – supports the proposed budget
- b) Michael Sussman, Esq. & Christine Miele, President , CC4HV – opposing the pay raises for the Supervisor and for the Board members.
- c) Sandra Rothenberger – opposing the pay raise for the Supervisor
- d) Sandra Rothenberger -- opposing the raises because the positions are part-time.

Following is a summary of the approaches in budgeting for 2021:

Town of Goshen Financial Planning Goals: Maintain fund balances, financial stability-live within our means, protect jobs, protect services, and achieve the NYS 2% tax levy cap or annual inflation rate (2.00%), whichever is lower and use proceeds of the Merlin Host Community fees to lower property taxes.

Budget Planning Strategies: Utilize a 5 year strategic plan: buy used equipment, pay cash – no borrowing, develop and improve functioning capability of organization, focus on continued cost reduction, increase effort to resolve tax certiorari, increase funding for road construction, grow assessable base and utilize grant opportunities.

Debt Reduction: Pay cash – No borrowing – reduce debt.

	<u>12/31/2006</u>		<u>12/31/2020</u>
Total Debt	\$4,588,922		\$1,530,000
Reduction		-\$3,058,922 or -67%	
Debt Payment	\$677,492		\$212,100
Reduction		-\$465,392 Or -69%	

Continued Cost Reductions: Reductions for 2021 are as follows:

Number of Employees:	2006	2021	Change
Full-Time	45	30	-33%
Part-Time	<u>45</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>11%</u>
Total	90	80	-11%

Assessing Plan Savings:	2013	2021	Total Savings
	\$63,452	\$148,166 <i>projected</i>	\$955,891

Reduce Financial Liability:	2006	2020
	300 Tax Certiorari Disputes	19 Tax Certiorari Disputes

Medical Insurance Plan Savings:

MVP Vs. NYSHIP Total Savings – 2014 to 2020 - \$1,085,131

Funding for Road Construction: Asphalt and the application used in road construction has increased from the amount spent in 2006, \$231,223 and the budgeted figures for 2020, \$788,906 (adjusted due to COVID) and projected budgeted figures for 2021, \$1,144,000.

Assessable Base: for 2012 the assessable base total was \$567,124,658 and for 2020 the assessable base total is \$636,702,326. Therefore the growth total in assessable base is \$69,577,668 or 12.3%. The *proposed* change from 2012 to 2025 \$608,000,000+.

Budgeted Revenues:

	<u>2020 Budget (\$M)</u>	<u>Actual (\$M)*</u>	<u>2021 Budget (\$M)</u>	
Mortgage Tax	\$ 330	\$ 564	\$ 330	
Justice Court Revenue	\$ 200	\$ 100	\$ 125	
Sales Tax	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100	
Franchise Fees	\$ 120	\$ 120	\$ 120	
(including Time Warner Cable)				
Merlin Host Community Fee	\$260	\$ 257	\$ 260	
Totals	\$ 2,210	\$ 2,141	\$ 1,935	*estimated

2021 Budget Tax Summary

2020 Inflation Rate: 1.56%

Tax Rate Changes: Town Rate, -1.06%. Village Rate, -0.52%

Tax levy change for home with \$200,000 Assessed Value:

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2021*</u>	<u>Δ</u>
Town Resident Bill	\$ 1,408.92	\$1,321.04	-\$14.20
Village Resident Bill	\$ 521.90	\$ 418.74	-\$2.20

*estimated

Taxes to be paid in 2021 will be lower than taxes paid in 2013.

The Town of Goshen has had reductions in tax rates in 6 of last 8 years for Village residents, and 7 of last 8 years for Town residents.

Supervisor Bloomfield called for comments from the public. [Comments in summary]

Debbie Corr – need more support for the farms, Legoland has been cited for polluting the Otterkill. Are there plans for restoration/repair etc? With the DEC fines collected we can put more money back into the community. Doesn't see in the budget repairs to the Town Hall roof or PDR program funds to save more farms. Does not support the Supervisor taking a pay raise- not a reason to match another salary. This is not the time or place for a raise. There are people on the food line, people can't afford taxes and those who can't pay the water bill.

Diane – The money saved looks great on paper what's behind it all? What details are not presented? Agrees, this is not the time where people should be getting raises.

Sandra Rothenberger – The savings are great, but you don't spend the savings. Things should be fixed that need fixing such as: Town Hall roof, piping in Hambletonian Park, and Salesian fence. She does not agree to the Supervisor pay raise.

Christine Miele- The budget is more of an illusion than actual numbers, lacking in transparency.

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to close the public hearing for the Town of Goshen 2021 budget.

Councilperson Florio seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Richard Florio	<u>AYE</u>		

Vote: Motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0

Comments from the Board:

Supervisor Bloomfield commented that the past Senator Bonaciec promised money for the Town Hall roof repair. We are waiting for Senator Metzger to follow-up in his place. Hopefully, this will be done before the cold weather. Referencing the PDR, it is gone. The County is not funding their part (50%) of the PDR program. The Town has replaced it with saving land through zoning regulations in subdivisions. Half of the land in subdivisions has to be kept open.

Councilperson Lyons confirmed that if we start the roof project now, we will lose the grant. The temporary fix will hold for the time being.

Councilperson Newbold finds the raises unacceptable at this time. People are facing hard economic times. There are 1.5 million Americans looking for food. Our local food bank feeds 90-100 families per week. There are empty buildings in our Village. Restaurants are barely staying open. There are people who cannot pay their water/sewer bill. "Never let money dominate your life, never chase money, because you're never going to catch it." For these reasons, I believe the raises should be stricken from the budget. On another note: he wants to make it clear a line item in our budget for a position. It has nothing to do with the present person in charge of Water & Sewer. It applies to the position. If this current person resigns, you will never get another person in water & sewer for free. He wants to see this position addressed in the near future.

Councilperson Florio, none at this time.

Councilperson Canterino noted for the record: the *elected position* of Supervisor who runs and is elected will determine if the position is part time then the salary should be adjusted to part-time. Years ago the Supervisor position was part-time now it is full time and should get full time pay.

Attorney Golden will research the procedures giving the Town Board the authority to adjust the budget (salaries).

Supervisor Bloomfield made the motion to accept the Preliminary Budget as the Adopted Budget for 2021 to include the salaries for the elected officials as noted in the public notice for tonight's meeting.

Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	<u>NAY</u>
Councilperson Richard Florio	<u>AYE</u>		

Vote: Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 1

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Authorize going out to bid for purchase and installation of a new Arcadia Hills Water Supply Tank.**

According to Sean Hoffman, P.E. the necessary paper work is in order and he is ready to go out for bids.

Councilperson Canterino made the motion to authorize going out for competitive bids for the purchase and installation of a new Arcadia Hills Water Supply Tank. Councilperson Newbold seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Richard Florio	<u>AYE</u>		

Vote: Motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

- 2. Information: A pre-construction planning meeting was held with National Water main Cleaning Co. to define details for the sewer pipe relining project. Work will commence October 22 and is projected to be completed by December 31st.**

As stated, for information only.

- 3. Information: Water line flushing was completed in all water districts. This was the third flushing for Hambletonian Park and second flushing for other water districts this year.**

As stated, for information only.

- 4. Phil Canterino status report for preparations and analysis for razing the Salesian School Building.**

He is waiting for the final figures from Quest. It looks like the less expensive decision is to do the abatement. Then the rest of the structure can be treated as waste not toxins. Once a figure is presented a meeting with the Village will follow. Secondly, The Library Board of Trustees is in support of taking down the school building.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Discuss and approve a Monitoring Agreement between Davis Solar, LLC, and Town of Goshen regarding a Conservation Easement on Owens Rd. in the Town of Goshen.**

Attorney Golden gave a brief summary of the Monitoring Agreement between Davis Solar, LLC, the Town of Goshen and the Orange County Land Trust, Inc. This monitoring agreement is in connection with a Conservation Easement pertaining to an expanded easement portion of the Jonas Estate on Owens Road in the Town of Goshen. Originally the proposal was for the Town to take on the monitoring responsibility which was declined. Orange County Land Trust, Inc. agreed to monitor for a fee to be paid by Davis Solar, LLC. In this amended agreement it is noted that the Army Corp of Engineers and the Town of Goshen have the option to enforce violations.

Councilperson Florio made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Monitoring Agreement as presented. Councilperson Newbold seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Richard Florio	<u>AYE</u>		

Vote: Motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

2. Discuss and approve a Developers Agreement between ADC Maplewood, Inc. and Town of Goshen regarding water and sewer systems.

This is a proposed 68-unit residential development on 95.6 acres located on Craigville Road owned by ADC Orange Inc. Attorney Golden reviewed some of the important provisions in the agreement. First of all the Town will expand the Hambletonian Park Sewer District to include Maplewood Village. ADC agreed to pay for *all* of the expenses to install the infrastructure connecting the sewer collection and conveyance systems to the system serving Hambletonian Park. ADC shall pay the Sewer District and Water District a combined sewer and water payment in the amount of \$4,835 dollars for each dwelling unit at final subdivision approval. The details are outlined in this agreement. Likewise: the details for accepting the *operation* only of the water and sewer systems are stated in this agreement. Maplewood Village will be developed in three phases. Phase 1 will be the 10 cul-de-sac lots in the center of the project. Phase 2 will be the 20 lots off Craigville Rd. near the Village of Goshen. Phase 3 will be the 38 lots off Coleman Rd. There are two wells located on the site. The first well is located in Phase 3 and has a yield of approximately 250GPM. This well will be developed and connected prior to the issuance of the first building permit. The second well is located in Phase 1 and yields approximately 92GPM. This well will be developed and connected prior to the issuance of the last building permit for a residential dwelling in Phase 2.

Councilperson Lyons asked if Maplewood has an agreement with the Village. Ans: Yes for operation and maintenance costs to be paid by the district residences including the additional 68 paying properties.

Councilperson Canterino made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Developer's Agreement with ADC Maplewood Village Sewer and Water Systems as presented. Councilperson Florio seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Richard Florio	<u>AYE</u>		

Vote: Motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

3. Discuss and approve a motion to increase ZBA, ERB and Board Chair rates of pay outlined as follows.

	2020 <u>Per Meeting</u>	2021 <u>Per Meeting</u>
Planning Bd. Member	\$116.48	\$160.00
Planning Bd. Chair	\$130.15	\$179.20
ZBA Member	\$80.89	\$110.82
ZBA Chair	\$95.94	\$131.88
ERB Member	\$80.89	\$110.82
ERB Chair	\$95.94	\$131.88
Assessment Bd. Members	\$100.62	\$110.68

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to approve the increased rates of pay for the Board members as presented. Councilperson Canterino seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	<u>NAY</u>
Councilperson Richard Florio	<u>AYE</u>		

Vote: Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 1.

4. Review and approve a 2021 Tax Re-Levy for unpaid water/sewer bills and 6 Larchwood demolition, clean-up and associated costs.

The 2021 Tax Re-Levy of Unpaid Water and Sewer Charges on page 7.

**TOWN OF GOSHEN
Resolution
RELEVY OF UNPAID PROPERTY DEMOLITION CHARGES**

INTRODUCED BY: Councilperson Kenneth Newbold

SECONDED BY: Councilperson George Lyons

DATED: October 22, 2020

WHEREAS, the following charges for the property demolition of 6 Larchwood Drive remain unpaid as of the date of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, said charges have been determined appropriate to be relieved upon the 2021 real property tax rolls.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the follow charges for demolition are unpaid as of the date of this resolution be relieved upon the 2021 real property tax rolls:

<u>SWIS</u>	<u>SBL</u>	<u>Tax</u>	<u>Description</u>
33089	25-3-14	\$20,212.20	Demolition of 6 Larchwood Drive

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Richard Florio	<u>AYE</u>		

Vote: Motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

TOWN OF GOSHEN RESOLUTION		
RELEVY OF UNPAID WATER AND SEWER CHARGES		
BE IT RESOLVED that the following charges for water and/or sewer service remaining unpaid as of the date of this resolution be relevied upon the 2021 real property tax rolls:		
Levy of Unpaid Utilities		
NAME	DISTRICT	AMOUNT
Hambletonian Park	District 1 Water	\$16,017.55
	District 1 Sewer	\$23,594.91
	<i>Subtotal</i>	\$39,612.46
Arcadia Hills	District 2 Water	\$45,127.18
	District 2 Sewer	\$85,847.45
	<i>Subtotal</i>	130,974.63
Stone Hedge	District 3 Water	\$3,567.49
Scotchtown	District 4 Water	\$1,145.74
TOTAL LEVY OF UNPAID UTILITIES		\$175,300.32
On a motion by _____, seconded by _____, the resolution was adopted on a vote of _____ Ayes, _____ Nays.		
The Supervisor declared this resolution adopted.		
Dated: 10/22/2020		

5. Review and approve the Standard work day and Reporting Resolution for Town of Goshen Elected and Appointed Officials as presented (see attached).

The New York State and Local Retirement System has requested a report of three elected/appointed officials record of activities (Standard Work Day). It is unclear why the three individuals: Councilperson Kenneth Newbold, Town Justice Kimberly VanHaaster and Highway Superintendent Broderick Knoell were chosen.

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to approve the three as presented in the Reporting Resolution.

Councilperson Florio seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Councilperson Richard Florio	<u>AYE</u>		

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

6. Information: The Orange County Board of Elections will be using the Goshen Senior Center, 100 Trotter Circle, the Caroline Building, 23 Hatfield Lane and the Whispering Hills Club House, 2 Club House Lane, Chester for the 2020 General Election Polling Locations.

Councilperson Lyons noted it would be wise to take advantage of voting on paper at the Board of Elections. He feels voting in person will be chaotic, because of combining voting districts.

As stated, for information only.

7. Review and approve virtual minutes for Town Board Meeting held 10/8/2020.

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to accept the virtual meeting minutes as presented for October 8, 2020. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

On a Roll Call Vote, the motion passed: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Canterino, Florio, Lyons, Newbold,
0 NAYS

8. Information: A meeting was held to discuss and establish a schedule for Policing Reform Plan. (See attached notes)

The Chief will sign in to DCIS and see what information is available. He is also attending the Orange County Association of Towns, Villages, & Cities on Tuesday, 10/27/2020. The topic which will be the reform.

9. Information: Orange County will hold a "Household Waste Collection Day" on October 23rd and 24th at the O.C. Transfer Station, New Hampton, N.Y. (see attached memo).

As stated, for information only.

FINANCE:

1. Councilperson Newbold made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Manual A/P runs for September 30, 2020 in the amount of \$12,302.01. Councilperson Canterino second the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Richard Florio	<u>AYE</u>		

Vote: Motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

- Councilperson Newbold made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Accounts Payable check run on October 22, 2020 in the amount of \$251,295.68. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Richard Florio	<u>AYE</u>		

Vote: Motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

- Councilperson Newbold made the motion to approve year-to-date budget transfers requested by the Budget Officer. Councilperson Florio seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson Richard Florio	<u>AYE</u>		

Vote: Motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

- For Information: The attached audit of account payable run for 10/8/2020 and 10/22/2020 by the Budget Officer has been completed and signed off on.

Other Business:

Councilperson Newbold is concerned that there is inadequate parking at the Senior Center for voting. He asked the Village of Goshen Police Chief if the police officers can move the vehicles to make room for the voters. The response was negative. Supervisor Bloomfield will follow up on this.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to adjourn meeting. Councilperson Florio second the motion. Motion carried. Time: 9:25 PM.

Priscilla Gersbeck, Town Clerk