

**GOSHEN
TOWN BOARD MEETING**

October 8, 2020

MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 8th 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 Canterino motioned to open the meeting at 7:30pm and seconded by Councilperson Newbold. Motion carried.

Supervisor Bloomfield reported on a conference call with County Executive Hon. Steve Neuhaus and affiliates at the 911 Center. Reporting today – there are 101 new cases of Covid-19, 569 active cases, the 12-day running average is 57 today which is similar to April. He reviewed what Dr. Gelman suggested pertaining to protective actions of: (1) seniors - no senior activity, they are most fragile, (2) complaints that some Police officers are not wearing masks, (3) a new case of someone getting COVID 19 for a second time, (4) check systems will be implemented for proper prevention in public places, (5) no organized events, (6) recommended municipalities purchase PPE before supplies run out and (7) active cases are among the younger people are rising.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The Town received four bids for the sewer pipe lining projects at Hambletonian Park and Arcadia Hills. The lower bidder is recommended by Sean Hoffman, P.E., H2M.

National Water Main Cleaning Co. (NWMCC), of Kearny, New Jersey submitted the low bid. Their bid package included the required Bid Bond, the Non-Collusive Bidding, Iran Divestment Act and Sexual Harassment Prevention Certifications. They have previously performed similar work for a least one of our municipal clients and have the means and experience necessary to complete the work. Attorney Golden has reviewed all of the bid documents and is in agreement for the Board to award the bid contract recommended by Sean Hoffman, P.E.

No.	Bidder	Arcadia Hills Sewer District	Hambletonian Park Sewer District	Combined Total Bid
1	National Water Main Cleaning Co.	\$ 37,861.80	\$ 57,815.80	\$ 95,677.60
2	TAM Enterprises, Inc.	\$ 54,960.00	\$ 65,580.00	\$120,540.00
3	Arold Construction, Inc.	\$ 39,300.00	\$ 85,340.00	\$124,640.00
4	North American Pipeline Services, LLC	\$ 52,140.00	\$ 79,300.00	\$131,440.00

Councilperson Canterino made the motion to accept the low bidder National Water Main Cleaning Co. from Kearny, New Jersey recommended by Sean Hoffman, P.E. in the amount of \$95,677.60. 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

- 2. Information: The County Health Department completed their review of the proposed Arcadia Hills Water storage tank and Sean is working with the tank manufacturer on final details. The goal is to start and finish the project before winter weather.**

As stated, for information only.

- 3. The Town of Goshen has begun the process of developing a "Police Reform and Reinvention Collaboration Plan" required to be completed by April 1, 2021.**
 - Chief McDowell is working with the Orange County Police Chiefs Association. More specifically, Paul Richard and Dominik Blasko, President and Vice President respectfully. Our intent is also to work closely with Mount Hope and Crawford Police Departments as we move forward.*
 - In addition, the Chief with the assistance of his staff, are analyzing the resource guide provided by the Governor's office to determine areas where "reinvention" needs to be developed relative to our Police Department. It is important to understand the resource guide is all encompassing and that "one size does not fit all".*
 - A meeting of Chief McDowell, Supervisor, Judge Rick Golden, Councilman Canterino, and Mary Riso is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2020 to develop a path forward.*

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Information: Town of Goshen Justice Court commenced in-person court appearances beginning Monday, October 5th. Court dates are scheduled for November 4th and 9th and will start at 5:00pm.**

As stated, for information only.

- 2. Information: Joe Neuman, owner of Section F land parcels in Hambletonian Park has sold his holdings to "New Homes by Liberty", a home builder from Warwick, New York. They plan to begin developing the land as soon as possible.**

As stated, for information only.

- 3. Discuss and pass a motion to hire Jeremy Havens as a part-time water/sewer operator to replace David Ortiz, a part-time JPK employee.**

Councilperson Canterino made the motion to hire Jeremy Havens as a part-time water/sewer operator at \$22.25 per hour effective immediately. 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

4. Discuss and pass a motion to eliminate a 5% penalty fee for delinquent water/sewer bills in excess of \$500.00.

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to eliminate a 5% penalty fee for delinquent water/sewer bills in excess of \$500.00 that are re-levied to the 2021 property taxes. Councilperson Florio seconded the motion.

Supervisor Bloomfield opened discussion on the motion.

Councilperson Canterino asked for the legalities of this motion.

Councilperson Lyons asked what is the incentive for payment if no fines are issued. He has no problem with waving 5% now, because of the Covid-19 hardships. In the future, (water/sewer meeting in April) an incentive should be in place to pay the water bill in a timely fashion.

Motion – vote called:

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

5. Information: Good news- it looks like the Town will exceed the mortgage tax forecast in 2020 (attached recap).

Supervisor Bloomfield read the recap calculations that we budgeted for \$330,000 and it is estimated that we will receive \$365,045.81 in mortgage tax. This is primarily as a result of a “hot market”.

6. Discuss and pass a motion to accept the resignation of Town of Goshen part-time employee Anthony Pitt.

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to accept the resignation of part-time Police Officer Anthony Pitt, effective September 28, 2020. 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

7. Review and approve virtual meeting minutes for Town Board meeting held 9/24/2020.

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to accept the minutes as presented for 9/24/2020. Councilperson Lyons seconded 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

8. Renew and approve contract renewal with Benistar to continue providing supplemental medical insurance for retirees effective January 1, 2021.

Currently the Town is paying a Retiree Medical Plan with Group Medicare Part D Plan of \$539.58 per-person per-month. The new rate increase for 2021 will be \$561.69 per-person per-month.

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to authorize the Insurance Commissioner to sign the necessary document to reinstate Benistar retiree supplemental insurance effective January 1, 2021. 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

9. Information: Due to COVID-19, the Goshen Town Hall will not be used for the General Election November 3rd. The Goshen Senior Center will be used in lieu of Town Hall and the O.C. Board of Elections will be informing voters of the change. (See attached).

As stated, for information only.

10. Discuss request by Planning Board member to examine “work versus remuneration for services rendered”. The basis for the request is time required in preparation for the Board meetings. Current pay is \$29.12 per hour times four hours per meeting.

One of the Planning Board members suggested an increase from \$29.12 to \$40.00 per hour times four hours per meeting. The reason is for every four hours of meeting time, there is an estimated preparation time of four hours.

The Budget Officer noted that the Building Dept. has already budgeted for the increase to \$40.00 per hour. Councilperson Canterino inquired if we can increase the rates for the other land boards. Attorney Golden said that technically it would not be an hourly rate, but a stipend per-meeting. The hourly rate was designated for book-keeping entries.

Under consideration for a future meeting will be to increase the stipend for other land board members.

Councilperson Florio made the motion to increase the Planning Board stipend for the Planning Board members from \$120.00 to \$160.00 per meeting effective January 1, 2021. 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

11. Orange County Consultants for Dial-A-Bus has updated the Substance Abuse Policy to reflect the testing thresholds and updates set forth by DOT. Authorize the Supervisor to sign as presented.

Councilperson Canterino made the motion to approve the updated Town of Goshen-Chester Dial-A-Bus Substance Abuse Policy and authorize the Supervisor to sign the same. 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.

FINANCE:

1. Councilperson Newbold made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Accounts Payable check run for October 8, 2020 in the amount of \$310,401.22. Councilperson Lyons seconded 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

2. For Information: The attached audit of account payable run for 9/24/2020 by the Budget Officer has been completed and signed off on.

Other comments:

Councilperson Newbold mentioned repairs are being done to the pavilion in the pocket park within Hambletonian Park. He would like advance notification when projects/repairs are being done at Hambletonian Park. He is concerned about the condition of the roof on this pavilion and if it has been thoroughly inspected. Councilperson Florio stated new footings and columns are being replaced.

ADJOURNMENT: Time 8:45pm

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to adjourn. Councilperson Canterino seconded the motion.
Motion Carried.

Priscilla Gersbeck, Town Clerk