

TOWN OF GOSHEN
PUBLIC HEARING & TOWN BOARD MEETING
September 13, 2018
MINUTES

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 13th day of September, 2018 at the Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York.

Present: Douglas Bloomfield Supervisor
Melissa Gallo Councilmember
George Lyons Councilmember
Kenneth Newbold Councilmember

Absent: Councilmember John Van Der Molen

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

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bloomfield at 7:30pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Discuss a request from the Chamber to place an ad in their mailer.

C. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (agenda items only)

D. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2018 REPEALING THE MANDATORY AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROVISIONS IN THE TOWN ZONING CODE.

Councilperson Gallo made the motion to open the public hearing on above said Introductory Local Law #1 of 2018. Councilmember Lyons seconded the motion.

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

Attorney Kelly Naughton reviewed the Introductory Local Law: Repealing the Mandatory Affordable Housing Provisions. The Town Board has found that the existing law is unworkable. However, there is still the *opportunity* for sufficient affordable housing

The Planning Board reviewed the proposed law and found it to be satisfactory. Comments from the County Planning Department suggested several amendments to be considered rather than repealed.

Supervisor Bloomfield called for comments from the public. [Many of the comments were inaudible.] Questions were asked to clarify the 10% provision. It was noted that a section in the Comprehensive Plan referenced maintaining affordable housing and changes should be reflected to the Master Plan. Since

surrounding neighborhoods will be affected, it was opinioned to make this a "Type 1" action. Those who spoke would have liked more information of the proposed law before the meeting.

In summary, comments were made to consider the impact on bringing families to Goshen who are employed earning minimum wage and those who are on fixed incomes such as senior citizens, veterans, retirees, those on disability etc. Goshen should be a place for everybody regardless of income.

A suggestion was made not to repeal the law - opening Pandora's Box. As one resident stated, "It may be a bad law, but it is better than nothing."

Councilperson Gallo made the motion to close the public hearing. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

Call was made for Council comments.

Councilperson Newbold requested to hold the public hearing *open*, giving the public more time to review the proposed law.

Councilperson Lyons stated his intention was *not to vote* on the proposed law, but close the hearing and to allow for written comments. The people brought up some very good points for modifications.

Councilperson Gallo is in agreement to post the law for more input.

Councilperson Gallo and Councilperson Lyons rescinded their previous motions.

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to adjourn the public hearing for Introductory Local Law #1 to October 11, 2018. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Gallo, Lyons, Newbold

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT Van Der Molen

E. OLD BUSINESS:

1. UPDATE BOARD ON NYDEC REVIEW OF PLAN TO REDUCE I & I IN ARCADIA HILLS.

Cameras were used to detect numerous cracks and holes in the Lindenwood line. The Lindenwood line is too long to repair and it was determined to cut-off the line. A line will be rerouted connecting to Wedgewood. This plan will be sent to the DEC for review/approval.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVE BID PROPOSAL FOR HAMBLETONIAN PARK SEWER LINE REHABILITATION.

Three Bids were received: (1) North American Pipeline Services, LLC (NAP) of Freehold, New Jersey in the amount of \$64,995.10 (2) TAM Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$85,073.00 and (3) National Water Main Cleaning Co. in the amount of \$98,137.50. Sean Hoffman, P.E. Consulting Engineer, reviewed all of the bid submissions and concluded the low bidder has the capability to perform the work, and recommended the award be made to NAP.

Councilperson Gallo made the motion to accept the bid from North American Pipeline Services, LLC in the amount of \$64,995.10. Councilperson Newbold seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Gallo, Lyons, Newbold

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT Van Der Molen

F. NEW BUSINESS:

1. ASSESSING OFFICE INCREASE FOR 2019

Supervisor Bloomfield compared the 2018 Assessing Office contract with the 2019 contract.

| <u>NEGOTIATED</u> | <u>2018</u> | <u>2019</u> | <u>CONTRACT</u> | <u>2018</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Parcels | 5,610 | 5,699 | Parcels | 5,610 | 5,699 |
| Rate | \$18.25 | \$18.337 | Rate | \$18.25 | \$18.50 |
| Cost | \$102,382.50 | \$104,500.00 | Cost | \$102,382.50 | \$105,431.50 |

The savings for 2019 is \$931.50.

2. REVIEW TOWN OF GOSHEN TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR 2019.

Christine Cavaliere, Budget Officer, *summarized several* factors taken into consideration of the 2019 budget.

| <u>Village Tax Rate Decrease:</u> | | <u>Tax Levy Increase/ (Decreases):</u> | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|--|----------|
| <u>Town Tax Rate Decrease:</u> | -1.08% | A Fund | -94,421 |
| A Fund | -6.96% | DA Fund | 65,280 |
| DA Fund | 5.77% | B Fund | -126,840 |
| B Fund | -14.51% | DB Fund | 149,460 |
| DB Fund | 6.67% | Total | -6,521 |

Increase/ (Decrease) Per Assessed Value:

| <u>Assessed Value:</u> | \$150,000 | \$200,000 | \$300,000 | \$400,000 |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Change in Village Taxes | \$ (7.08) | \$ (9.44) | \$ (14.15) | \$ (18.87) |
| Change in Town Taxes | \$ (11.32) | \$ (15.10) | \$ (22.65) | \$ (30.20) |

Village Tax Rate: 2.4107 Per Thousand \$ Assessed Value
Town Tax Rate: 6.9155 Per Thousand \$ Assessed Value

Overall Tax Rate Decrease: -1.08%
Overall Tax Levy Decrease: -0.13%
 Does Not Exceed NYS 2.00% Tax Cap

Changes in Actual Tax Rates:

| | <u>2019*</u> | <u>2018</u> | <u>*2019 Projected Rates</u> | | | |
|---------|--------------|-------------|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| Village | -1.92% | -1.02% | -5.15% | 1.91% | 1.30% | -2.81% |
| Town | -1.08% | -0.91% | 4.25% | -1.20% | -0.54% | -2.24% |

Equalization Rates: 62.0% 65.0% 65.0% 65.5% 67.0% 67.0%

Funding for Road Construction:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount Spent</u> |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 2014 | 578,340 |
| 2015 | 636,701 |
| 2016 | 702,319 |
| 2017 | 781,210 |
| 2018* Budgeted | 950,000 |
| 2019* Budgeted | 700,000 |

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE REQUEST BY CHRISTINE CAVALIERE, TOWN OF GOSHEN BUDGET OFFICER, TO ATTEND A GFOA DOWNSTATE FALL TRAINING SEMINAR.

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to approve the request by Christine Cavaliere, Budget Officer, to attend the GFOA Downstate Fall Training Seminar at a cost of \$95.00 plus mileage. Councilperson Gallo seconded the motion.

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

4. REVIEW AND APPROVE BID PROPOSAL TO REPLACE THE GOSHEN SENIOR CENTER AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM.

Three bids were received to replace the air conditioning system at the Goshen Senior Center. The bids are: (1) AStar proposing \$16,833.00 (2) CR Wolf proposing \$17,888.00 and (3) Van Grol, Inc. proposing \$19,875.00. Discussion covered the make/model of the 7.5 ton condensing unit, warranty, parts and labor.

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to accept the offer of AStar in the amount of \$16,833.00 to replace the air conditioning system in the Goshen Senior Center. Councilperson Gallo seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Supervisor, Douglas Bloomfield | <u>AYE</u> | Councilmember Kenneth Newbold | <u>AYE</u> |
| Councilmember Melissa Gallo | <u>AYE</u> | Councilmember John Van Der Molen | <u>ABSENT</u> |
| Councilmember George Lyons | <u>AYE</u> | | |

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

5. DISCUSS REQUEST BY THE GALLO FAMILY TO ADJUST THE RECENT SEWER BILL BY \$201.22 DUE TO A LEAKING PIPE. ULTIMATELY, THE LEAKING WATER WAS NOT SENT TO THE VILLAGE FOR PROCESSING.

Supervisor Bloomfield stated this is the type of letter that has been discussed in the past. As per a memo from the Gallo family, a bill regarding this leak was \$850.62. As in the past, if water doesn't flow into the sewer to the Village, we can forgive that part of the bill. The excess charge for sewer was \$335.27. Therefore, the request is for a credit of \$201.22.

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to refund \$201.22 to the Gallo family. Councilperson Newbold seconded the motion.

Question was raised to clarify the process to select refunds to a sewer bill.

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

G. FINANCE:

Councilperson Gallo made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Manual A/P runs as of 8/31/2018 amounting to \$13,541.76 and Accounts Payable check run for 9/13/2018 amounting to \$670,352.42. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

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

H. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Many residents from Heritage Estates questioned why their water bill is "extremely high" Complaints were heard as to erratic water pressure, comparisons of allotments to residents in the other water districts, resentful that the builder did not disclose water/sewer related issues, disappointed in the school tax, and frustrated their "voice" is not taken seriously.

Supervisor Bloomfield will form a group to analyze water consumption, in the districts, to establish a base to equalize the bills. He will call a meeting of the Heritage residents in October or November.

Adam Bridges, Angela's Way, presented a packet to each Councilperson detailing when a neighbor's dog was loose on his property. He has called the Town Police Dept. on 8 separate occasions of this loose dog. The Officer(s) spoke to the neighbor advising her of potential violations. The animal control officer was notified and has not satisfied the issue. Incidentally, the other neighbor owns dogs that are contained by an electric dog fence. With 2 children at home who play outside, Mr. Bridges is fearful of a potential physical threat to his children. There are no leash laws in the code. Therefore, he is asking the Board for help on this matter.

Supervisor Bloomfield has spoken to the neighbor about her loose dog. Suggestion was made to sign a complaint and present it to the Town Court.

Other topics discussed: safety on the Heritage Trail, Hotel Tax update, violations on the LEGOLAND property, and who in the Town is responsible for monitoring LEGOLAND's compliance with environmental issues.

Neal Halloran requested the Board to consider, adding to the budget, hiring more help in his department. Numerous new businesses and developments are coming into Goshen. In his opinion, he doesn't have enough time to do his inspections within the appropriate time frame. To budget for another building inspector would free-up time to assist with completing a back load of open C O's and to give more attention to violations.

Supervisor Bloomfield would like to explore the possibility of hiring H2M Engineers services at a cost comparable to the Building Permit fee.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilperson Gallo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Time: 9:40 PM.

Priscilla Gersbeck, Town Clerk

