

TOWN OF GOSHEN
TOWN BOARD MEETING

July 13, 2017
MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 13th day of July, 2017 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
	John Van Der Molen	Councilmember

Also Present:	Ashley Torre, Esq.	Attorney
	Priscilla Gersbeck	Town Clerk

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bloomfield at 7:32pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

C. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (agenda items only)

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. DISCUSS AND APPROVE HIRING KENNETH CARDINI JR. AS AN MEO IN THE GOSHEN DPW EFFECTIVE 7/17/2017, AT A RATE OF PAY PRESCRIBED IN THE CSEA CONTRACT. THIS HIRING IS CONTINGENT UPON UNIT 1000 OF THE LOCAL CSEA RATIFYING THE PROPOSED MOA ON JULY 14, 2017.

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to approve hiring Kenneth Cardini Jr. as an MEO (medium equipment operator) in the Goshen DPW effective 7/17/2017 at a rate of pay prescribed in the CSEA contract, contingent upon the Local CSEA ratifying the proposed MOA. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Gallo, Newbold, Van Der Molen
0 NAYS

2. REAPPOINT KATE SCHMIDT AS THE "TOWN COMMISSIONER" ON THE GOSHEN JOINT RECREATION COMMISSION FOR THE TERM JUNE 2017 TO JUNE 2020.

Councilperson Gallo made the motion to reappoint Kate Schmidt as "Town Commissioner" on the Goshen Joint Recreation Commission for the term June 2017 to June 2020. Councilperson Lyons seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Gallo, Newbold, Van Der Molen
0 NAYS

Councilperson Newbold noted that he has received many complements for the JRC doing a good job in the summer camp program.

3. **HEAR A REQUEST AND PRESENTATION BY THE JOINT RECREATION COMMISSION REGARDING EXPANDING SPORTS FIELDS FOR FOOTBALL AND LACROSSE.** Moved to the end of the meeting.
4. **REVIEW AND APPROVE AN APPLICATION BY THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES COMMUNITY SERVICES TO HOLD THE ANNUAL COUNTY BICYCLE CLUB COUNTRY ROADS BIKE TOUR ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH, BETWEEN 8AM AND 3PM. THE ATTACHED APPLICATION DELINEATES ROADS INVOLVED.**

The annual Orange County Bicycle Club Country Roads Bike Tour, will take place on Sunday, September 17, 2017. This event will begin and end at the Warwick Town Park. There are four different routes of 10, 25, 45, and 65 miles to choose from. Some of the routes are in the Town of Goshen. Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange County, the beneficiary of this event, is seeking permission to traverse routes located within the Town of Goshen. The insurance certificate of coverage has been reviewed and approved.

Councilperson Newbold made the motion approving the request from Catholic Charities to traverse mapped routes within the Town of Goshen. Councilperson Van Der Molen seconded the motion.

On A Voice Vote, the motion passed: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Gallo, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen
0 NAYS

E. OLD BUSINESS:

1. **REVIEW REQUEST BY MEHDI GHABAE TO FORGIVE \$287.00 ON THE 4/27/2017 WATER/SEWER BILL DUE TO A LEAKING TOILET.**

Supervisor Bloomfield remarked the requested billed amount should be for \$269.89 not \$287.00.

He called for comments from the Board.

Councilperson Newbold noted that the Town has never forgiven a bill in this situation. Maintenance problems are the owner's responsibility.

The other members on the Board were in total agreement. Therefore, the request is denied.

F. FINANCE:

Councilperson Lyons made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Accounts Payable check run for July 13, 2017 in the amount of \$173,368.98. Councilperson Gallo seconded the motion.

On A Voice Vote, the motion passed: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Gallo, Lyons, Newbold, Van Der Molen
0 NAYS

G. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Comments regarding the Legoland project opened with a seven-minute video "A Walk in the Woods". Jessica Gocke produced and narrated this video showing the biodiversity of the forested area around Otter Creek that is located on the proposed site.

Other comments regarding Legoland: According to the video, the condition of the old gravesites is in jeopardy and how will the old gravesites be preserved? Doubts Legoland is a good deal for Goshen. Would like to know

the benefits. Opinioned, the definition of an amusement park read from a Merriam Webster Dictionary defines Legoland. Would like to see a referendum, instead of five people deciding the fate of 13,000 residents. You represent us, you are here for us. Why is the Board opposed to having a referendum? Taxpayers deserve a say as to what happens in this town.

If Legoland doesn't work out – what will become of that area? Why destroy one of the most pristine areas in Goshen? Not against Legoland, feels this is the wrong site for it. With the removal of many trees, concerned about air pollution along with other health issues. Concerned about the traffic driving to Chester. The roads are a not adequate to handle the volume of traffic Legoland will bring in.

People don't mind commuting to the city to return home to the peace and quiet. People don't move here for the high paying jobs, they move here to raise their kids. People have moved here for the peace of mind and don't mind paying taxes for that. The Master Plan protects all of us, why go against it? Fears that the crime rate will rise. Fears the availability of reservoir water will diminish.

A multi-billion dollar international corporation is likely to change the entire complexion of this region. Why? "Plastic Ville going to be put in the middle of beautiful-historic Goshen". Beauty is all around us. We are an agricultural county- why bring in an amusement park?

Fears that once Legoland is approved their obligations will shift away from Goshen and towards the corporation to maximize profit. Please do not overlay all 524 acres. Wished the Planning Board consultant on traffic was challenged on his responses.

Opinioned: Residents in Arcadia Hill are treated badly. There are buyers for the Legoland site. There are alternatives. Resents being branded as a "small group of loud mouth opponents."

Asked to bring in a private independent organization to produce the cost benefit analysis. The cost benefit analysis should have been done last year. When Legoland was proposed, it should have been the first thing to do.

Who is paying for the cost benefit analysis?

Pleaded not to ignore the protected areas addressed in the Town Comprehensive Plan. Utilize abandoned wasteland properties (upstate) instead of ruining this beautiful green natural habitat.

Board members are elected to uphold the laws and codes of the Town. Not elected to make new laws/codes. Questioned the purchase of 131 acres @ 109 Arcadia Road on June 8th.

Opinioned: to attack members on this Board, because you disagree with them, will diminish your argument.

The quality/value of new housing developments in Goshen contributes to the increase in school tax. The higher the value of the home, the less money received from the state. Opinioned: There has not been an economically beneficial development in this town in my lifetime.

>>3. HEAR A REQUEST AND PRESENTATION BY THE JOINT RECREATION COMMISSION REGARDING EXPANDING SPORTS FIELDS FOR FOOTBALL AND LACROSSE.

Kate Schmidt, JRC Town Commissioner, explained there is grant money available (50% reimbursable) to improve/develop fields for football and lacrosse. Both sports are constantly growing. The JRC is requesting approval to pursue the grant and to match the 50% grant. The leagues are interested and supportive (financially) in developing an available park that the Town owns, on Craigville/Knoell Road.

Supervisor Bloomfield stated this was looked at about 10 years ago, and the County Health Dept. shut-down using this location for an array of reasons. If the County Health Dept. approves the location, the Town will give consideration to the JRC request. Furthermore, Stonehedge Development has two wells on that property for their water supply. One of the wells is leaking and is taken off line until repaired. There also might be issues in developing the park with the residents in Stonehedge. Supervisor Bloomfield asked what financial contribution is offered from the Village? Answer: the Village has limited parkland fees left. However, the Village has a water tank to prepare the fields and will continue as needed. The leagues will do some fund raisers. There is a possibility the Town has available land that can be developed for parks. It might be worth investigating other locations.

Councilperson Lyons noted if the problem of passive/active park is solved for Salesian, we could use that park for additional fields.

Councilperson Gallo suggested to go for the grant. The estimated total will be for \$150.000 with \$75.000 matching.

H. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

With no items for the Executive Session, Councilperson Newbold made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilperson Van Der Molen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

I. ADJOURNMENT: 9:30PM

Priscilla Gersbeck, Town Clerk