

TOWN OF GOSHEN  
**TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION**  
February 21, 2017  
M I N U T E S

A work session of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 21st day of February, 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  
                      Kenneth Newbold              Councilmember  
                      John VanDerMolen            Councilmember

Absent:             George Lyons                    Councilperson

Also Present:     Richard Golden, Esq.         Attorney for the Town  
                      Priscilla Gersbeck            Town Clerk

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

**1. DISCUSS AND APPROVE MOTION TO REAPPOINT NEAL HALLORAN AS PRIMARY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MOODNA CREEK WATERSHED INTERMUNICIPAL COUNCIL AND SUSAN CLEAVER AS THE ALTERNATE.**

The Council is made up of members who support to preserve, protect and improve this Watershed.

Councilperson Gallo made the motion to reappoint Neal Halloran as primary representative to the Moodna Creek Watershed Intermunicipal Council and Susan Cleaver as the Alternate for the period January 1, 2017 thru December 31, 2017. Councilperson Newbold seconded the motion.

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

**2. DISCUSS AND APPROVE MOTION TO SUPPORT THE MOODNA CREEK WATERSHED COUNCIL WITH ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES OF \$500.00.**

By a vote in 2016, full Council agreed that each municipal member of the Council shall pay \$500/year in dues to support the Council's mission.

Councilperson Van Der Molen made the motion to support the Moodna Creek Watershed Council with annual Membership dues of \$500.00 and authorize the budget office to process payment. Councilperson Newbold seconded the motion.

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

**3. DISCUSS AND PASS MOTION TO HIRE PETER A. LUGO AS A PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER EFFECTIVE 2/21/2017**

As noted in a letter addressed to the Supervisor/Board Members from the Police Chief, [*The Town of Goshen Police Department has lost several officers due to long term disability. This has created open shifts on the monthly schedule. The continuous open shifts are causing the department to exceed the overtime budget line.*] Retired NYS police investigator, Peter A. Lugo comes with over 20 years of police experience working in different law enforcement fields.

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to hire Peter A. Lugo as a part-time police officer effective 2/21/2017 at rate of pay per the PBA contract. Councilperson Gallo seconded the motion.

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

**4. REVIEW REQUEST FROM "THE HERITAGE" SUBDIVISION TO AMEND CONSERVATION EASEMENT OF OPEN SPACE AREA 'A' TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION OF A RETAINING WALL AND SAFETY FENCE TO PROTECT A PROPOSED SANITARY PUMP STATION**

Sean Hoffman, Consulting Engineer, was not available to review the modification of the conservation easement of open space area "A". The modification is to address existing topographical condition adjacent to the proposed sanitary pump station by constructing a retaining wall. The fencing of this wall is for safety purposes where the wall is greater than four feet. A site visit is planned to see if this modification is adequate.

**5. INFORMATION: NIGHT COURT IS NOW PROGRESSING FOR THE TOWN OF GOSHEN. JUDGES BRADY & VAN HAASTER ARE BOTH PARTICIPATING AND WILL REVIEW PROGRESS WITH THE TOWN BOARD IN EARLY MARCH**

As stated, for information only.

**6. DISCUSS STATUS OF CDBG REGARDING TOWN HALL ADA COMPLIANT DOORS.**

Councilperson Gallo stated that the paperwork has been filed with the CDBG and is under review.

**7. DISCUSS GOVERNOR CUOMO ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE WILL SEEK LEGISLATION THAT REQUIRES COUNTIES TO HOLD A REFERENDUM TO PROMOTE CONSOLIDATION**

Governor Cuomo is attempting to hold AIM funding hostage contingent upon the development of efficiency plans (consolidation). In other words, If the Legislature does not pass the budget with the Governor's new "Countywide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plans", towns, villages and cities will not receive AIM (Aid and Incentives for Municipalities) funding at all. A letter received from the Association of Towns is highly opposed to the Governor's plan. To quote from a letter by Michael Sweeton, President of the Association, "*Even if all local governments were eliminated, along with their special districts, this would only represent less than 20% of the total property tax bill. Who then will provide essential services – the State, the County – and at what cost? The fact that school districts are not included in this proposal clearly shows this is not a serious effort to provide property tax relief but rather an effort to gain control by higher levels of government, taking that control further from the people*". Feedback is requested from members in the Association. The value of towns and home rule are at stake.

Councilman Newbold spoke with Assemblyman Hon. Skoufis, who is opposed to the Governor's plan. The Town of Goshen will send a letter opposing the Governor's plan.

## **8. FINANCE**

Councilperson Newbold made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Accounts Payable check run for February 9, 2017 amounting to \$433,650.24. Councilperson Gallo seconded the motion.

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

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilperson Gallo made the motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. PERSONNEL: DISCUSS MATTERS LEADING TO AN APPOINTMENT FOR UP-COMING EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT
2. PERSONNEL: DISCUSS MEDICAL HISTORY OF EMPLOYEE INJURED ON THE JOB

With the intent not to return. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Van Der Molen. Motion Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 7:55PM

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Priscilla Gersbeck, Town Clerk