

TOWN OF GOSHEN  
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION

**March 10, 2014**

MINUTES

A work session of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 10th day of March, 2014 at Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, and State of New York.

Present:	Douglas Bloomfield	Supervisor
	Philip Canterino	Councilman
	Louis Cappella	Councilman
	Kenneth Newbold	Councilman

Absent	George Lyons	Councilman
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Also Present:	Dennis Caplicki	Attorney for the Town
	Priscilla Gersbeck	Deputy Town Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bloomfield at 7:34pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. DISCUSS AND PASS RESOLUTION RE: GOVERNOR'S PLAN REGARDING CORPORATE TAXES**

Communication was received from Warwick Supervisor, Michael Sweeton to discuss and consider the Governor's plan to eliminate the 6.5% corporate tax on manufacturing companies everywhere except for our region. This is an ill-advised proposal that puts us at a distinct disadvantage in attracting businesses to our County. The following Resolution was approved.

**TOWN OF GOSHEN  
RESOLUTION**

**Authorizing the Town of Goshen to Join Counties in the MTA Region to be Included in the  
NYS Provision That Would Eliminate the Corporate Income Tax on Manufacturers**

INTRODUCED BY:	<u>Councilman Kenneth Newbold</u>
SECONDED BY:	<u>Councilman Louis Cappella</u>
DATED:	<u>March 10, 2014</u>

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York, held at Town Hall in said Town on the 10th day of March, 2014;

WHEREAS, Orange County is one of the five (5) counties in the Hudson Valley that is within the MTA jurisdiction and will be subject to the MTA Corporate Tax on Manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2014-15 New York State budget includes a provision that would eliminate the corporate income tax on manufacturers for all the state except for counties in the MTA Region, including Orange County,

WHEREAS, this proposal will drive manufacturing jobs out of our communities, a manufacturing business in Orange County would pay 6.5% corporate tax, while a business in Ulster or Columbia County would have no corporate tax,

WHEREAS, the Poughkeepsie-Newburgh-Middletown metro area is one of only two New York regions to lose private-sector jobs in 2013,

WHEREAS, proposals to split New York State into separate tax zones are divisive and pit New Yorkers against each other,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Goshen memorializes the State Senate, Assembly and Governor to include all of New York, including the counties in the MTA Region, in the elimination of the corporate tax on manufacturers.

Discussion:

Councilman Canterino questioned the ramifications/motivation of the MTA singling out Orange County. He is in agreement with the Resolution.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor, Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson, Louis Cappella	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson, George Lyons	<u>ABSENT</u>		

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

**2. DISCUSS TOWN OF GOSHEN EMPLOYEE MANUAL RETIREE HEALTH CARE PROVISION AND NEED TO CORRECT AN INTERNAL EQUITY PROBLEM**

Supervisor Bloomfield has requested to update the Employee Manual - section 809, "Medical Insurance for Retirees". In 2002 the change was made. In order to be eligible for coverage, a retiree must (a) have been hired or elected prior to August 29, 2002, (b) must be age fifty-five (55) or older, and (c) must have at least then (10) years of continuous full-time service with the Town. In addition, an employee must be eligible to receive retirement benefits through the New York State Retirement System.

Supervisor Bloomfield made the motion to discuss modifying the Town of Goshen Employee Manual under Section 809 - Eligibility, page 37, to eliminate line item (a). Councilman Cappella seconded the motion.

Discussion:

The rationale for the change in 2002 was to update the Employee Manual. Particulars were transferred from another township manual to the Town of Goshen's manual in haste, overlooking many details which have since been amended.

Councilman Canterino feels that we base salaries and benefit packages to coincide with the CSEA agreement. The current rationale discriminates against new non-union employees.

Supervisor Bloomfield noted that there are many employees who have been hired after 2002 with exceptional credentials. These employees deserve equal benefit packages as those who are union members. He stated that "We have a big inequality here".

Councilman Newbold responded that the Union members *pay into* the Union for benefit protection. He feels that the Union members are deserving of their benefit package. All of the employees contribute into the CSEA Union but, not all employees have Union protection.

Councilman Cappella noted that the Union pays dues for their contract but doesn't pay for member health coverage. It is a negotiated benefit. All employees have jobs and do them well. This is about being fair and equal to everyone.

Supervisor Bloomfield concluded that there have been significant savings by employing those who have the credentials along with the expertise to control departmental expenses. All employees deserve equal benefit packages.

Motion was called by a roll call vote:

Supervisor, Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, Philip Canterino	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson, Louis Cappella	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson, George Lyons	<u>ABSENT</u>		

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

**3. INFORMATION: TOWN OF GOSHEN TEAM DID WELL IN GOSHEN TRIVIA CONTEST**

Trivia night is a fund-raiser hosted by the Friends of the Goshen Public Library and Historical Society. Five teams played against each other, two at a time. The winning team who knew the most about Goshen's history was the team for the Town of Goshen. Congratulations to the members; Douglas Bloomfield, Raymond Bally and Richard Wallace for a job well done.

**4. INFORMATION: THE NYS COMPENSATION ALLIANCE WILL BE CONDUCTING NYS AND/OR FEDERALLY MANDATED TRAINING FOR TOWN AND VILLAGE EMPLOYEES, AT THE TOWN HALL**

This year the Town of Goshen will host training sessions mandated for all municipal employees on May 15, 2014. The topics to be covered are: *Right To Know, Workplace Violence Prevention, Sexual Harassment, Safe Work Practices and Distracted Driving.*

5. **INFORMATION: THE RIVER KEEPERS WILL BEGIN POSTING ON LINE, DURING THE SECOND WEEK OF MARCH, WATER QUALITY RESULTS FOR THE WALLKILL RIVER AND SIX OTHER TRIBUTARIES OF THE HUDSON RIVER**

As stated, for information only.

6. **REVIEW, APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH DEBRA HEALEY FOR WORK COMPLETED ON STONE HEDGE DRIVE PER AN EARLIER AGREEMENT WITH THE BOARD**

A Memorandum Of Understanding between the Town of Goshen and Debra Healey was signed in September 2013. This document read as follows: (1) The parties will enter into a License Agreement and file with the County, Agreement annexed. (2) The Agreement is subject to inspection of the proposed work and specifications by the Town Highway Superintendent and Town Engineer and approval by the Town Board. And (3) Healey will apply for a Driveway Permit and pay the Town's professional fees to review this matter, and filing fees for the Agreement. A list of items to be done was compiled by the Superintendent of Highways. If everything has been completed to the satisfaction of our Engineers and the Highway Superintendent, then the Town can finalize the transaction.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Councilman Cappella made the motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following,

1. REQUEST TO EXTINGUISH EASEMENT: 17 BROOKSIDE DRIVE
2. AL TURI TAX CERTIORARI LITIGATION UPDATE
3. TAX CERTIORARI UPDATE
4. ADC MAPLEWOOD DEVELOPER AGREEMENT UPDATE
5. DISCUSS SECURE CENTER SEWER/WATER AGREEMENT

with the intent not to return. The motion was seconded by Councilman Canterino. Motion carried.

Time: 8:10PM

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Priscilla Gersbeck, Deputy Town Clerk