

TOWN OF GOSHEN
TOWN BOARD MEETING

June 30, 2016
MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 30th day of June, 2016 at the Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York.

Present: Douglas Bloomfield Supervisor
 George Lyons Councilmember
 Kenneth Newbold Councilmember
 John VanDerMolen Councilmember

Absent: Melissa Gallo Councilmember

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

Item #3 (Old Business) has been removed
Status of CSEA Negotiations added to Executive Session

C. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (agenda items only)

None at this time.

D. REPORTS:

Councilman Lyons: reported for Highway, roads are being prepared for chip sealing on Milburn, Vetri and Moonlight Trail. On June 13th repairs were made to a water main break in Stone Hedge. Two culverts along Fort Hill Rd and Axworthy Lane were replaced. Due to severe erosion, 60 feet of culvert pipe was installed in the ditch-line parallel to Phillipsburg Road. On another note, Highway employees are in the process of renewing their health coverage with the CSEA. They will be meeting in July to negotiate the details.

Councilman Newbold: Waived his report.

Councilman VanDerMolen: Reported for the Senior Center, summer landscaping has been completed. The Monday, Tai Chi classes and Adult coloring classes are well attended.

Supervisor Bloomfield: Reported that the PBA contract has been settled. Wages going back to 2013 (the last PBA contract) were calculated and checks will be in the mail. The CSEA negotiations are progressing. Finishing touches will be added to the proposed Local Law #4 of 2016 of Wind & Solar Energy Systems to be presented for a public hearing. He met with the seniors to present an overview of "the State of the Town". He reported on the accomplishments made by the Town following a 5 year strategic plan. We have not borrowed money since 2005, and saved the taxpayer monies by reducing the debt payment by 78%.

E. OLD BUSINESS:

1. SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE REGARDING LOCAL LAW #4 OF 2016 AMENDING CHAPTER 97, ZONING/CODING FOR WIND/SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS

This Local Law #4 is introduced tonight for the purpose of consideration by the Board and the public. A copy of this proposed Local Law is available in the Clerk's office.

Councilman Newbold made the motion to set a public hearing (LL#4) in the Town Hall, at 41 Webster Avenue at 7:30pm or soon thereafter, on July 14, 2016 amending Chapter 97, Zoning/Coding for Wind/Solar Energy Systems within the Town of Goshen. Councilman Lyons seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor, Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, John VanDerMolen	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson, George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, Melissa Gallo	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilperson, Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>		

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

2. DISCUSS CLEAN-UP OF THE 85 FLETCHER STREET PROPERTY

The house on 85 Fletcher St. was destroyed by fire. The owner notified the Town that the bank delayed the paper work to satisfy the mortgage. Once the satisfaction is complete, he will make arrangements for the property to be cleaned and the debris removed.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

1. REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION TO SCHEDULE A HEARING TO APPEAL A DENIAL REQUEST BY A TOWN OF GOSHEN POLICE OFFICER FOR 207-c BENEFIT

Attorney Golden reviewed the Resolution.

Councilman Van Der Molen made the motion to accept the Resolution as presented. Councilman Lyons seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor, Douglas Bloomfield	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, John VanDerMolen	<u>AYE</u>
Councilperson, George Lyons	<u>AYE</u>	Councilperson, Melissa Gallo	<u>ABSENT</u>
Councilperson, Kenneth Newbold	<u>AYE</u>		

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

[The Resolution will be on file in the Clerk's office.

To protect the police officer's rights, the specific name will be redacted when an inquiry is made]

2. DISCUSS THE RECENT LEGISLATION MAKING BANKS ACCOUNTABLE FOR "ZOMBIE" PROPERTIES

In a press release, Gov. Andrew Cuomo reported that a consumer hotline 800-342-3736 will be available to help identify vacant properties. Officials estimate that New York State has more than 6,000 "zombie" homes.

Supervisor Bloomfield announced that the Assembly passed legislation to make banks more accountable for vacant "Zombie" properties and to give greater rights to homeowner facing foreclosure. This legislation will (1) expand the existing property maintenance responsibilities of a bank to include homes in pre-foreclosure (2) require earlier detection and maintenance of "zombie" properties (3) allow localities and the Attorney General to enforce the maintenance of property requirements and (4) create a statewide registry for abandoned residential properties and a toll-free number for residents to report them.

G. FINANCE:

Councilman Newbold made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Accounts Payable check run for June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$144,464.90. Councilman Lyons seconded the motion.

On A Voice Vote, the motion passed: 4 AYES Bloomfield, Lyons, Newbold, VanDerMolen
1 ABSENT Gallo
0 NAYS

H. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Many residents commented on the proposed Legoland Park. Unfortunately some didn't properly identify themselves or were inaudible. Therefore, this is a summary of some of their concerns: (1) how the daily attendance of people expected will affect Goshen's rural character (2) the height of buildings not conforming to our code (3) traffic congestion through Chester, Monroe, Route 17M, Route 17, Thruway and smaller/side roads (4) traffic congestion will make the residents a "prisoner" in their home (5) closer look at commuter traffic hours and summer weekend traffic (6) interference of delivery trucks (7) Garbage collection - where (8) number of parking spaces compared to those in the Galleria Mall (9) will legoland abide by the ADA Laws (10) moved to Goshen for the country ambiance (11) effect on property taxes (12) effect on property values (13) security of tax abatements (14) strain on police and fire services (15) Park security (16) availability of water (17) amount of water runoff from the impervious surface (18) protection for the fragile and threatened groundwater resources (19) seek payment for water usage (20) encroachment to wetlands (21) visual impact to the rural character of the area (22) creation of noise surrounding residential homes, Elant and the BOCES school (23) length of time associated with noise levels during construction and park operations (24) noise levels expected to be in violation set by EPA standards and OSHA (25) health effects from noise and air pollution (26) fear of spot zoning (27) type of employees hired from out of the area and will they be a detriment to the community (28) impact on a Horse Farm Business on Conklingtown Road and their 4H Program (29) possibility of Conklingtown Road used as alternate egress by Legoland (30) future expansion (31) safety on the Heritage Trail (32) degree of sensitivity to the concerns of the residents and (33) redefining Goshen.

Generally speaking the residents are protective of their "quality of life" and would like the Town officials to refer to the Master Plan, Town Code and Zoning in their decision making process.

Attorney Golden explained what will happen next and detailed the process to follow. The Planning Board will be the lead agency. There will be a minimum of three formal opportunities for input from the public. The first one will be at the scoping session on July 21. Other opportunities for the public to speak will be when the Draft Environmental Statement is presented, and at a Town Board public hearing on zoning. The time line for this application depends on the applicant.

Cindy Walsh, Spruce Hill, Goshen, reported that she believes the hours of operation at the Dutchess Quarry are in violation. She stated that the Quarry is operating at 6:00am and on Sundays. Secondly, the storm sewers in Spruce Hill are collapsing. The Town will send someone from the Highway Dept. to check into it.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilman Lyons made the motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following;

1. CSEA Negotiation Status

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

J. ADJOURNMENT: 9:25PM

Priscilla Gersbeck, Town Clerk