

**TOWN OF GOSHEN**  
**TOWN BOARD MEETING**

October 24, 2013

M I N U T E S

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 24th day of October, 2013 at the Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York.

|          |                    |            |
|----------|--------------------|------------|
| Present: | Douglas Bloomfield | Supervisor |
|          | Philip Canterino   | Councilman |
|          | Louis Cappella     | Councilman |
|          | George Lyons       | Councilman |
|          | Kenneth Newbold    | Councilman |

|               |                    |                       |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Also Present: | Dennis Caplicki    | Attorney for the Town |
|               | Priscilla Gersbeck | Deputy Town Clerk     |

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**B. AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA**

**C. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (agenda items only)**

None at this time.

**D. REPORTS:**

**Councilman Canterino:** reported that the Town Police Dept. is waiting for the *approved* grant money of \$10,000+ to come in for bullet proof glass. Assemblyman Skoufis secured the final approval for the Town.

**Councilman Lyons:** Reporting for the JRC; The annual Halloween party will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup> (1-4pm) at Salesian Park. The 6<sup>th</sup> annual Turkey Trot/5K Run will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. Registration for participating in these events are on the JRC web site ([www.goshenrecreation.org](http://www.goshenrecreation.org)). Zumba Classes continue at the CJ Hooker School on Tuesday/Thursday evenings. Reporting on the parks; Ditching along the junior/senior field and roadway (Myron Urbanski Park) has been completed. The bid openings for lighting on the main soccer field will be opened in the Village Hall on November 7<sup>th</sup> and awarded on November 12<sup>th</sup> at the JRC meeting. In addition, the Assessor's Office reported a total of 51 SCAR hearings for 2013.

**Councilman Newbold:** Stated that Water & Sewer is tending to a pump problem in need of electrical repair in Arcadia Hills. Also, he is in the process of obtaining estimates for window replacements and HVAC repairs to the Town Hall. Hopefully, a list will be ready for review at the next work session.

**Councilman Cappella:** Noted that a change on the Senior Center Commission will have to be voted on during this meeting. Secondly, Dial-A-Bus has been, and continues to be successful in bringing Seniors into the Village, promoting growth in the local economy. Anyone wanting to make reservations on Dial-A-Bus can phone Michelle at 294-8920. Hartley Road is opened. Congratulations to the Highway Dept. for a job well done. Furthermore, all of the work on Phillipsburg Road has been completed. Councilman Canterino praised the Highway Dept. for not only making this road wider, but safer. He also questioned whether the Dial-A-Bus would be running on Election Day? Many Seniors depend on this service to go to vote. Councilman Cappella will look into this.

**Supervisor Bloomfield:** This past week he signed the CSEA contract. This will give those employees retro-pay, back to January. Thank you to Councilman Lyons for negotiating with Marshall Sterling and MVP for implementing our new health care policy. A round of congratulations to the Board Members for their time and effort "behind the scenes" in working on the budget for 2014.

**E. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE TOWN OF GOSHEN 2014 PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND APPROVE FINALIZED VERSION**

Councilman Lyons made the motion to open the public hearing for the Town of Goshen 2014 Budget. Councilman Cappella seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, the motion passed: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Canterino, Cappella, Lyons, Newbold  
0 NAYS

Following is a summary of the approaches in budgeting for 2014.

**Town of Goshen Financial Planning Goals:** Re-establish checking account fund balances, financial stability-live within our means, protect jobs, protect services and achieve the NYS 2% tax levy cap or annual inflation rate, whichever is lower.

**Budget Planning Strategies:** (1) Utilize a 5 year strategic plan. (2) Involve all department heads and union leaders early in the process, (3) solicit/share ideas with other municipalities and (4) seek NYS expertise/assistance and participate in accordance with the NYS tax levy guidelines.

**Five Year Strategic Plan:** Buy used equipment, Pay cash-no borrowing-reduce debt, Develop and improve functioning capability of organization, Focus on continuous cost reduction, settle tax certiorari and continue working with JEDI.

**Assessable Base:** Building approximately 30-40 new homes has contributed to the increased value of Goshen.

| <u>2013</u>   | <u>2014</u>   | <u>% Change</u> |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| \$573,359,694 | \$578,581,035 | +.0091%         |

**2014 Budgeted Revenues:** Mortgage Tax » 225,000, Sales Tax » 1,100,000, Court Fines & Fees » 265,000, Franchise Fees » 100,000, Grants » 6,000, State Highway Improvement Funds » 144,000, Appropriations from Fund Balance » 350,000, Miscellaneous » 71,787 and Property Tax » 4,821,134.

**Revenues:**

| <u>Cumulative Mortgage Tax Loss</u> | <u>Actual (\$M)</u>   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 2006 → → → → <u>2013</u>            | → → <u>2014</u> ► Cumulative impact: 2006 through 2014 = -\$2,947 |
| 701                                 | 300 225   |

|       |                  |              |
|-------|------------------|--------------|
|       | <u>Sales Tax</u> | Actual (\$M) |
| 2013  | → → → →          | 2014         |
| 1,196 |                  | 1,100        |

**Abnormal Costs To Be Managed For 2014**

Major Increases

- 1) NYS Pension Costs: Police +\$25,000 (+11%) and Non-Police +\$42,000 (+22.4%)
- 2) Health Insurance: Police +18.2% → +\$31,911
- 3) Labor Contracts: CSEA +2% → +\$16,000 / PBA → TBD
- 4) Fuel & Asphalt/Stone (TBD)

**Town of Goshen Budget Debt History**

|            |    |                 |         |                 |
|------------|----|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
|            |    | <u>12/31/06</u> | → → → → | <u>12/31/14</u> |
| Operations | \$ | 3,076,999       |         | \$ 1,066,150    |
| PDR        | \$ | 1,511,923       |         | \$ 1,448,850    |
| Total Debt | \$ | 4,588,922       |         | \$ 2,515,000    |

Debt. Payment in 2006 was \$677,492 (BANS & Serial Bonds) down to \$130,000 in 2014 a total reduction of \$547,492 or -81%. This is a significant decrease due to paying off *high interest debts*. The major debts remaining to be paid off in 2014 are: Town Hall Bond → \$70,000 and Slesinski PDR Bond → \$318,500.

**Cost Reductions**

Carried from 2006-2013

- 1) Consolidation of Assessing Service with Orange County
- 2) Contracting Dog Control with Goshen Humane
- 3) Head Count Reduction
- 4) Full to Part-Time Employment in PD
- 5) Debt payment Reduction
- 6) Used Equipment Purchases
- 7) Sundry reductions, miscellaneous items

**2014 Annual Reduction**

-\$1,481,113

**New Reductions 2014**

- 1) Health Insurance: CSEA/Non-Union -\$113,000 and Retirees -\$18,000

**Fund Balance**

|          |                 |    |             |    |             |
|----------|-----------------|----|-------------|----|-------------|
|          | <u>Services</u> |    | <u>2012</u> |    | <u>2013</u> |
| "A" Fund | Town Hall       | \$ | (17,935)    | \$ | 271,815     |

|           |   |    |         |    |         |
|-----------|---|----|---------|----|---------|
| "DA" Fund | Snow Removal/Mowing   | \$ | 440,461 | \$ | 627,327 |
| "B" Fund  | Police Dept., Joint Recreation,<br>Courts, Building/Offices | \$ | 393,529 | \$ | 750,172 |
| "DB" Fund | Road Maintenance  | \$ | 272,004 | \$ | 500,855 |

2014 Budget

2013 Inflation

1.66%

Tax Increase

Village  
-2.17%

Town  
+0.42%

*Tax levy change for a home with \$300,000 fair market value:*

|                       |    | <u>2013</u> |    | <u>2014</u> | <u>Delta</u> |
|-----------------------|----|-------------|----|-------------|--------------|
| Town Resident Bill    | \$ | 1,013.19    | \$ | 1,017.24    | +\$4.23      |
| Village Resident Bill | \$ | 380.09      | \$ | 371.84      | -\$8.25      |

Supervisor Bloomfield called for comments from the public.

Joel Markowitz discussed the BANS paid off and complemented the Board on their diligence in paying off the debts.

(With no further comments)

Councilman Cappella motioned to close the public hearing for the Town of Goshen 2014 budget. Councilman Newbold seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Canterino, Cappella, Lyons, Newbold  
0 NAYS

Councilman Canterino made the motion to approve the adoption of the Town of Goshen 2014 Budget. Councilman Lyons seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

|                                |            |                             |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Supervisor, Douglas Bloomfield | <u>AYE</u> | Councilman Philip Canterino | <u>AYE</u> |
| Councilman Louis Cappella      | <u>AYE</u> | Councilman Kenneth Newbold  | <u>AYE</u> |
| Councilman George Lyons        | <u>AYE</u> |                             |            |

Vote: Resolution carried by a vote of 5 to 0.

**F. OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. UPDATE BOARD ON THE NY AG AND MARKET APPROACH TO CONSERVATION EASEMENT CONTRACTS INVOLVING AGRICULTURE**

In the Persoon subdivision review, Supervisor Bloomfield had reservations that Ag & Markets Laws would have the power to trump the Town code. This was researched as there are other farm subdivisions in question. In conclusion, when it comes to an Easement Contract between the Town and the subdivision owner, the Town *rules* over Ag & Markets Laws.

**G. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. APPOINTMENT OF SHELIA KEENAN TO REPRESENT THE TOWN ON THE SENIOR CENTER COMMISSION**

Councilman Cappella made the motion to appoint Shelia Keenan as representative for the Town on the Senior Center Commission effective immediately. Councilman Canterino seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Canterino, Cappella, Lyons, Newbold  
0 NAYS

**2. ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF CARMEN WOOLEY AS REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE TOWN ON THE SENIOR CENTER COMMISSION.**

Carmen Wooley has moved into the Village, therefore will be not be in the position to represent the Town on the Commission.

Councilman Cappella made the motion to accept Carmen Wooley's resignation as Representative for the Town on the Senior Center Commission effective immediately. Councilman Newbold seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Canterino, Cappella, Lyons, Newbold  
0 NAYS

**H. FINANCE:**

Councilman Canterino made the motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Manual A/P runs as of 10/24/2013 amounting to \$384,915.46. Councilman Lyons seconded the motion.

On a Voice Vote, the motion passed: 5 AYES Bloomfield, Canterino, Cappella, Lyons, Newbold  
0 NAYS

**I. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

**Joel Markowitz:** commented on communications and publications pertaining to web casts of the Town meetings. He is also requesting that the Budget be posted on the Town website.

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

1. DISCUSS D.P.W. PERSONNEL
2. DENNIS MARSH LITIGATION UPDATE
3. DISCUSS AL TURI CERTIORARI LITIGATION AND DEVELOP A PATH FORWARD
4. P.D. PERSONNEL CASE UPDATE
5. P.D. PERSONNEL: 207C INJURY

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

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:55 PM

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Priscilla Gersbeck, Deputy Town Clerk