

TOWN OF GOSHEN
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
July 20, 2009
MINUTES

A work session of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 20th day of July, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall located at 41 Webster Avenue, Village of Goshen, County of Orange, State of New York.

Present:	Douglas Bloomfield	Supervisor
	Philip Canterino	Councilman
	Kenneth Newbold	Councilman
	George Lyons	Councilman
Also Present:	Dennis Caplicki	Town Attorney
	Valma Eisma	Town Clerk
Absent:	Louis Cappella	Councilman

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bloomfield at 7:30 p.m.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. REVIEW JRC PROPOSAL TO USE SALESIAN PARK FOR TINY TOT SOCCER:

Supervisor Bloomfield asked Tricia Sherlock, Chairperson of the Goshen Recreation & Parks Commission and Kevin Frey, representing Goshen Soccer, to come forward and address the Board. Ms. Sherlock explained that Goshen Soccer and Joint Recreation would like to use the green oval in the middle of Salesian Park for Tiny Tot Soccer. She explained these children would be kindergarten and first grade level in age. She explained there is not a lot of wear and tear on the fields at this level, and it would help to alleviate some of the over crowded problem that exists at Craigville. She explained that one of the big problems is that soccer uses the big field in the back nine months out of a year. She said Goshen Soccer and Joint Rec have put a lot of money into this field, and this would give that field a chance to rest so it can be rehabbed.

Supervisor Bloomfield asked what the time line would be for using the fields? Kevin Frey answered from the end of August to the beginning of November. He explained that baseball uses the fields, as well as soccer therefore, baseball season ends and one month later you are putting soccer players on that same field and the field never gets a chance to rest or rehab. He said if they could give those fields a rest they could plant grass seed, etc. and restore the fields.

Ms. Sherlock said she walked the property with representatives from Goshen Soccer and they said perhaps two fields could be lined out, approximately 40' X 60'. Goshen Soccer would line the fields and maintain the fields, as they do in Craigville. She said Goshen Soccer would also pay to do what needs to be done to establish the fields, such as leveling some areas, a roller, top soil etc. Also, she said there are about four evergreens that would have to be removed and replanted elsewhere in the park. Ms. Sherlock assured the Board there is sufficient parking and Goshen Soccer has agreed to provide port-a-potties.

Supervisor Bloomfield asked Attorney Caplicki if he would explain what the Board would have to do to accommodate this request, as the park at this time is a passive park. Attorney Caplicki replied that the Board would have to have a Resolution supporting this particular proposition. He said the Village Board would have to do the same. He said the Resolution would have to have the majority of both Boards agreeing. Councilman Lyons made a Motion to authorize Joint Recreation Commission to utilize a portion of the Salesian Park Property for Tiny Tot Soccer activities. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Cappella. Supervisor Bloomfield asked for discussion. Councilman Newbold asked if this might open the flood gates for other leagues to request the same thing. He said he had no problem with the little ones playing there, but once the word gets out there, it could become an issue. Also he said we have to decide what we are going to do with that park in the future. Ms. Sherlock stated that Joint Recreation plans on limiting these fields, to be used by the small children only, in order to preserve them. Councilman Newbold said originally it was to be a passive park, he voted for it to be a passive park.

He also said the trees are not easily moved and are expensive to take down. Ms. Sherlock said possibly the tree removal would not have to take place and the commission could work around them. Supervisor Bloomfield stated that the citizens voted for a passive park and a lot of money was invested in landscaping it and planting many of those trees. He asked if there was a real problem to leaving them in place. Ms. Sherlock assured the Board that in order to make this request happen the trees could stay. Councilman Canterino felt it would be wise to leave the footprint of the park the same, in the event this does not work out, he felt it wise to show that this is a limited use, for a certain time span.

Attorney Caplicki suggested the Board should communicate to the Village that you have taken this position and you would recommend they give full consideration to this.

Councilman Canterino said he wanted Ms. Sherlock and Mr. Frey to know that the Board is looking for additional space for fields all the time, they have one in mind now. He said if the Board can obtain these fields, Joint Recreation will have the additional fields they need, and this one will no longer be needed.

Ms. Sherlock and Mr. Frey discussed some of the work that might be needed to prepare the fields for play. and they were encouraged by the Board, not to invest a great deal of money as this is only a temporary situation.

TOWN OF GOSHEN RESOLUTION

Authorization to Joint Recreation Commission to Utilize a Portion of Salesian Park Property For Tiny Tot Soccer Activities

INTRODUCED BY: Councilman Lyons
SECONDED BY: Councilman Canterino
Dated: July 20th, 2009

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 20th day of July, 2009:

WHEREAS, the Joint Recreation Commission has requested utilization of a portion of Salesian Park on a limited/temporary basis for Tiny Tot Soccer activities, and

WHEREAS, said Tiny Tot soccer activities are participated in by children of kindergarten or first grade level and age, and

WHEREAS, the real property will be accessed during the period end of August 2009 to the beginning of November 2009 and would consist of approximately a forty-foot by sixty-foot area in the "green oval" portion of the Salesian Park which is located to the back of the park near the pond area, and

WHEREAS, Goshen Soccer will establish the fields including leveling and placement of top soil on a minimum basis so as to render the land area useable; it being understood that every effort will be made to locate the fields within the four (4) evergreen trees previously planted in the "green oval" in Salesian Park and every effort will be made not to damage or remove the evergreens, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Goshen recognizes the interest and benefit of providing fields areas available to the youth of Goshen for athletic activities, and

WHEREAS, the Town has requested that the Joint Recreation Commission so notify the Village Board of the Village of Goshen of the aforementioned request and process an identical request with the Village of Goshen accordingly,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Goshen does hereby authorize the Joint Recreation Commission to utilize the "green oval" area in Salesian Park for the temporary establishment and utilization of two (2) soccer fields for Tiny Tot soccer activities; it being understood that such authorization is contingent upon the Village Board of the Village of Goshen so authorizing said activities and use.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield	AYE	Councilman Philip Canterino	AYE
Councilman Louis Cappella	ABSENT	Councilman Kenneth Newbold	AYE
Councilman George Lyons	AYE		

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

Supervisor Bloomfield asked the Town Clerk to prepare the Motion and submit it to the Attorney, so that he can convey it to the Village Board and their Attorney.

2. REVIEW DPW PROPOSAL TO PUT EXCESS/OBSELETE EQUIPMENT OUT FOR BID AND TO USE PROCEEDS FOR PURCHASE OF STORAGE CONTAINERS: Supervisor Bloomfield stated the Board will not address this item tonight as the Highway Superintendent has found other items he would like to include, so he will need more time to prepare the bid list. The Board will address it at the August 10th meeting.

3. REVIEW REQUEST BY GOSHEN HUMANE SOCIETY TO INSTALL A PRE-BUILT 10'x16" STORAGE SHED AND FOR THE BUILDING PERMIT COST TO BE FORGIVEN:

Supervisor Bloomfield said at the last meeting the Board had discussed the Humane Society putting up a 10' X 18' pre-built storage shed. He said it now is a 10' x 16' shed, and it is a pre-fab storage shed. The Supervisor said he and the building inspector met with Rick Bosley, the President of the Humane Society,

and looked behind the building where they were thinking of putting it. However, the Supervisor stated it would be a very inconvenient location, so it was decided they would trade in a smaller container and would put the new one in that spot. They are asking that the Building Permit fee be waived. Councilman Lyons made a Motion to authorize the Goshen Humane Society to put a pre-fab shed in the fenced area where the current one is and to waive the Building Permit of \$185.00. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Newbold Motion carried 4 to 0.

4. REVIEW BID PACKAGE FOR THE SCOTCHTOWN PARK WATER TANK REPLACEMENT AND ESTABLISH A BID DATE:

Supervisor Bloomfield reported he had hoped to have the bid package for the Scotchtown Park water tank replacement this evening so that the Board could review it and establish a bid date. He said he talked with the Town Engineer, Dennis Lindsey, and Mr. Lindsey said he had the plans together, but has another idea that he wants to look into, that would be less costly, and he would like to proceed with it. Mr. Lindsey will have the bid packages for Scotchtown Park and the Stone Hedge back up well ready for the August 10th meeting.

5. ANNOUNCE \$5,476.00 GRANT BY NYS ASSEMBLYWOMAN ANNIE RABBITT TO ASSIST SCOTCHTOWN PARK WATER DISTRICT:

Supervisor Bloomfield announced that Assemblywoman Annie Rabbitt has been able to obtain a grant for \$5,476.00 to assist in the Scotchtown Park Water District 's replacement of the water tank. He said this could not come at a better time, and he is drafting a letter that he and Councilman Newbold can sign and send to the residents of Scotchtown Park when he knows what the plan is, and inform them that the \$5,476.00 will help to offset the cost of the new tank. Councilman Newbold asked that a letter be sent to Assemblywoman Rabbitt thanking her for her help. Supervisor Bloomfield stated he tried to reach her by phone today to thank her and was unable to do so. He is also looking into including her in the presentation of the check and letting the residents of Scotchtown Park know that this money is coming from Assemblywoman Rabbitt.

6. REVIEW AND APPROVE ASSESSOR'S PROPOSAL TO SETTLE THE HARNESS ESTATES TAX CERTS:

Supervisor Bloomfield said the Board has talked about a proposal to settle the Harness Estates Tax Certioraris, but the Attorney for Harness Estates has failed to provide the information needed to compile a Resolution. Attorney Caplicki stated that once the Board receives the information, the Board will have to review it and decide what to do.

7. DISCUSS CURRENT STATUS OF THE SLESINSKI PUBLIC HEARING AND CLOSING DATE:

Attorney Caplicki reported that presently the Slesinski PDR approval is in front of the Rules Committee on Thursday of this week July 23, 2009, and assuming it will be acted on off their agenda, they will set the Public Hearing for August 6, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. He said he was told they would get back to him if there is any change in the schedule. Attorney Caplicki stated that the Supervisor or a representative would be requested to attend the Public Hearing.

8. DISCUSS THE NEW YORK STATE COMPTROLLER "RISK ASSESSMENT" AUDIT OF VILLAGE AND TOWN SEWER OPERATIONS/FINANCE:

Supervisor Bloomfield reported that he, Councilman Canterino and Attorney Caplicki met with the auditor from the New York State Comptroller's Office last week. Her name is Theresa Meyer and she suggested a meeting to introduce herself. She is the Supervisor who is involved in making this Risk Assessment of the Village and Town Sewer Operations and Finance. The meeting lasted for about forty five minutes, the Supervisor asked her what her procedure would be, and she said she would be contacting the Village to make arrangements to begin the work sometime late July. She said the Town and Village should have an answer in about three weeks on the Risk Assessment. The Supervisor said he supplied her with as much information, such as the results of the Public Hearing, etc.

9. REVIEW STATUS UPDATE-SALES TAX AND MORTGAGE TAX REVENUES: Supervisor Bloomfield reported when they put the budget together for 2009, we put in one million dollars for sales tax, which was the figure suggested by the County. He said for the first quarter we received a check for \$242,290.00, and were pleased with that. He said this week we received a check for \$247,416.33 and if we can continue this rate till the end of the year we will be right at goal. The Supervisor said on the other hand he and Councilman Canterino are very concerned about the Mortgage Tax.

The Supervisor reported in 2006 the Town collected around \$700,000.00 in Mortgage Tax. He said the projected figure for 2009 was \$510,000.00. Our first check for this year was \$110,000.00 this amount is for a six month period and we will receive one more this year. If this only doubles, we will fall way short of our goal.

10. FRED LEWIS CONTRACT: REVIEW AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN A MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH FRED LEWIS COMPUTERS, INC. EFFECTIVE 8/1/2009 THRU 7/31/2010.

Supervisor Bloomfield explained that Fred Lewis Computers, Inc. does our maintenance on our computers, and it is time to sign a renewal agreement. He said the contract remains the same as last year, there is no increase this year and there was none last year. Councilman Canterino made a Motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Maintenance Agreement with Fred Lewis Computers, Inc. effective 8/1/2009 thru 7/31/2010. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Newbold. Motion carried 5 to 0.

11. REVIEW AND ADOPT WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION POLICY:

Supervisor Bloomfield called upon Councilman Lyons to explain the Workplace Violence Prevention Policy. Councilman Lyons said he attended a work session in Newburgh in reference to a lot of different things as far as safety is concerned. He said they covered many subjects and one of them was the Violence Prevention Policy. Councilman Lyons stated we have been working on this for a number of years and now all municipalities have to have it in effect by the end of August. He said we did the work place seminar here for all the employees and the policy was written and it was thought this had been taken care of. However, it was never formally adopted by the Board at a public meeting. Councilman Lyons said the main item in the policy, is that we will not allow violence of any kind in the workplace and every employee has to receive this policy and sign that they have read and received it.

Supervisor Bloomfield reported he has used this policy on two different occasions where employees were arguing with each other and he gave a copy to the Union Representative and told him this was what we intended to follow. The course has to be done every year and it will be set up for sometime in August. Councilman Canterino suggested that there must be a video that could be obtained rather than have to go elsewhere to obtain the course material. Supervisor Bloomfield will talk to his secretary and find out what options are available to us. He thanked Councilman Lyons for attending that meeting and bringing this to our attention, "we did all the work" but never formally adopted it. Attorney Caplicki will prepare a Resolution for Thursday night.

12. STATUS UPDATE ON TIME WARNER CABLE FRANCHISE RENEWAL:

Supervisor Bloomfield asked Attorney Caplicki what the status of the renewal is, and Attorney Caplicki replied he had not received any information from Time Warner. Supervisor Bloomfield suggested the Attorney contact Time Warner and find out why we have not heard from them.

Supervisor Bloomfield asked if anyone had any other business they would like to discuss. Councilman Lyons said yes and asked about the gentlemen that were here and were going over our utility bills to see where we could save some money. Supervisor Bloomfield said the contract had been signed and that they said it would take up to six months for them to complete the project. He said that they have copies of all the electric bills and the study is in process.

Councilman Newbold asked if there were any updates on the water/sewer audit? Attorney Caplicki replied that one more foil request is going to the Village probably tomorrow. Supervisor Bloomfield said his goal is to finish this as soon as possible, as we may need a special assessment to pay a part or all of this.

Doris Bialas asked if there was going to be a Public Hearing on Local Law #4 on Thursday night. Attorney Caplicki replied yes, and it reflects some changes or revisions to our code and our zoning.

With no further comments from the public, Councilman Newbold made a Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss ADC Inc. Litigation; Owens Road Litigation, with intent not to return. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Canterino. Motion carried unanimously.

Time: 8:40 p.m.

Valma Eisma, Town Clerk

