

TOWN OF GOSHEN
TOWN BOARD MEETING
August 27, 2009
MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 27th day of August, 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
	George Lyons	Councilman
	Kenneth Newbold	Councilman
	Louis Cappella	Councilman

ALSO PRESENT	Dennis Caplicki	Town Attorney
	Valma Eisma	Town Clerk

A. CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Bloomfield called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and asked Councilman Lyons to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA: None

C. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (agenda items only) – No comments

D. REPORTS:

COUNCILMAN CANTERINO stated he had given his report at the last meeting, so he has nothing to report at this time.

COUNCILMAN LYONS reported that the fencing around the old school building at Salesian Park has become insecure and some young people were found in that area. He said it is now being repaired, but remains a constant problem for the Police Department. He reported Joint Recreation is still working on the finials, but work is very slow.

Councilman Lyons also reported with Pam Lorenzo's resignation, she is moving out of the Village, Ray Rooney was appointed to the Joint Recreation Commission as the Village appointment. He said the camps are done and had a great season and Joint Rec is now getting ready for the Halloween Party that is held each year in conjunction with the Police Department.

Councilman Lyons said the Tiny Tot Soccer players will not be using Salesian Park as planned as a large section of the property that was to be used actually belongs to the library. He said Joint Recreation does not want to make improvements to the property, as it is not Village and Town property.

He said the pavilion at Craigville Park is doing well, there is a lot of action out there and there has been a lot of rentals.

Councilman Lyons also reported on the Town insurance, since he is the Board liaison overseeing the Town's insurance. He said he and the Supervisor met with the New York State Municipal Comp Alliance and there was good news and bad. He said the bad news is that some of the claims that we have are

being processed, some may be moved to the second injury fund, that comes out of State monies, instead of Town's money, but the tail claims(the older claims) we have still remain a problem for us. The alliance will be giving us a cost figure of what we need to put into our budget to handle the cases before us now.

COUNCILMAN NEWBOLD said he would like to thank Joe Klopchin and the Water/Sewer Department for doing an outstanding job when the wind came through Arcadia Hills this last Friday. He said the power was knocked out in Arcadia Hills and as a result the sewer pumps went down. He said they brought in the generators and were ready if we needed them. Thank God Orange and Rockland brought the power back up. He said two days later there was a back-up in Hambletonian Park due to a blockage in the sewer line, and later another home had a problem with water in the basement. Everyone involved felt they did a great job.

COUNCILMAN CAPPELLA said he had given an extensive report last week, but as an update for highway, they finished up the blacktop on Coleman Road and also our section of Johnson Road. He said this week they have been doing a lot drainage work, but next week they will be back out there black topping and paving.

Councilman Cappella also reported that all is going well with Dial-a-Bus, and he met with Ellen Teatum in regard to the Senior Center, and they discussed the upcoming budget, which seems to be right on tract. He said this Thursday the Commission, he and Ellen and a couple of other members and Mayor Higgins are meeting to create the budget for the new year.

SUPERVISOR BLOOMFIELD said in reference to the meeting with the Municipal Com Alliance, he felt the Board has to be more pro active on preventing injuries, because injuries, even small ones, result in great expenses. He said "it not only makes good business sense, but every employee should be able to retire with their fingers, their eye sight working the way they were when they came in." The Supervisor said this should be our goal, and he said the Board should talk about this at the next work session.

The Supervisor reported that he and Councilman Canterino are working together on the PBA negotiations, and have not heard from them in some time. He said they are active on this and are waiting to see if the offer they gave them will be accepted.

He thanked the Board for the good job they did by passing two important items on Monday, as he was unable to attend that meeting. He said the professionals and the Board worked very hard on the putting out to bid of the Scotchtown Water District storage tank replacement and the drilling of the Back-up Well in Stonehedge Water District. He said when this work is done, it will be the culmination of about five years of planning and saving money, etc. The Supervisor stated that the Board's intent is to pay cash and not borrow, which is why it has taken so long to accomplish.

E. OLD BUSINESS:

1. STAUS UPDATE ON TIME WARNER CABLE FRANCHISE RENEWAL: Attorney Caplicki said there has been no word from Time Warner as yet. Supervisor Bloomfield said the franchise with Time Warner Cable expired as of the 22nd of August, 2009. Councilman Canterino asked if the franchise fees were being paid, and Attorney Caplicki said yes. He said everything is going along normally, except that we do not have a contract.

2. STATUS UP-DATE ON ESTABLISHING PDR CLOSING DATE – Attorney Caplicki reported a closing date has finally been established, and will take place September 30, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. This is the last PDR farm the County has chosen. Supervisor Bloomfield thanked Councilman Newbold for handling this purchase in his place, as he attended school with the applicants and he had to recuse himself from handling it. He said it is a lot of work and Councilman Newbold did a great job handling the process.

3. DISCUSS REQUEST BY JOHN HUGHES TO ADJUST HIS MAY 1, 2009 WATER/SEWER

BILL: Supervisor Bloomfield explained that Mr. Hughes, a senior resident of Goshen, usually uses about 10,000 gallons of water a quarter. However, recently it peaked up to 95,000 gallons when he was on vacation in Florida. Upon his notification to the Town of this problem, the Water/Sewer Department went out to check the meter and were unable to find any broken pipes, faulty meter, etc. When the next quarter was billed, his bill dropped down to the usual 10,000 gallons.

Supervisor Bloomfield said he talked with a Mr. Mello, from the Federal E.P.A. and Mr. Klopchin, who oversees our Water/Sewer Department, both recommended some degree of indemnification where everyone shares a little bit of it, rather than one person paying the entire price. Supervisor Bloomfield asked the Board what their feelings are on this, and said he would be in favor of reducing the bill slightly, but not totally. It was agreed and discussed the fact that previously the Board has split the bill. Councilman Canterino made a Motion to lower Mr. Hughes' water bill by 50% and bill the sewer for the normal usage. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Newbold. Motion carried unanimously. Supervisor Bloomfield said he would have his secretary convey this to Mr. Hughes, with an adjusted bill.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

1. REQUEST FROM LOUIS ADAMIS TO BE ADDED TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT' TOWING

LIST. Supervisor Bloomfield said Mr. Adamis has a mulching, landscaping business, and is now embarking a Towing & Recovery business and is asking to be added to our Police Department's towing list. Councilman Lyons was concerned about the amount of insurance needed for this type of operation and should there be some type of policy indemnifying the Town, since he is towing for us. There was a lengthy discussion, and the Board decided that they need to investigate this further. Councilman Lyons will contact the insurance company and Attorney Caplicki suggested the Councilman Lyons call the insurance broker. The matter will be tabled till the next meeting.

2. SEWAGE PROBLEM IN HAMBLETONIAN PARK: Supervisor Bloomfield said there was a sewer problem in Hambletonian Park about two o'clock in the morning and it was backing up the sewage into a home. He said our Water/Sewer Department responded right away, and A Plus Sewer jetted the line, only to find there was brick and stone in the pipe. It was determined it was probably left from an old repair, and when the sewage reached the dammed up area, it backed up into this person's home. This all happened on Friday, and on Monday, someone just returning from vacation, had water in the basement.

G. FINANCE: Councilman Lyons made a Motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Manual A/P Run of 8/18/09 amounting to \$6,277.29 and A/P Check Run of 8/27/09 amounting to \$69,147.37. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Canterino. Motion carried unanimously.

H. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: No response

I. ADJOURNMENT: Councilman Lyons made a Motion to adjourn the meeting and go into Executive Session to discuss: #1 Status of our Water/Sewer audit; #2 ADC, Inc. Litigation, with intent not to return. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Newbold. Motion Carried unanimously.

Time: 8:10 p.m.

Valma Eisma, Town Clerk

