

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Goshen was held on the 22nd Day of March, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in 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
George Lyons	Councilman	Kenneth Newbold	Councilman

Absent: Louis Cappella, Councilman

Also Present: Dennis Caplicki, Town Attorney

A. Call to Order:

Supervisor Bloomfield called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Amendment to the Agenda: Supervisor Bloomfield added an amendment to set a Public Hearing for the Water/Sewer Districts. The amendment will be placed under new Business.

C. Privilege of the Floor: (agenda items only) None

D. Public Hearing:

Water Meter Purchase & Installation in Scotchtown Water District

Councilman Canterino made a Motion to open the Public Hearing, Motion seconded by Councilman Newbold. Motion carried by 4 to 0.

With no response from the public, Councilman Lyons made a Motion to close the Public Hearing. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Canterino. Motion carried 4to 0.

E. Resolution: Councilman Lyons made a Motion to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for bids for purchase and installation of water meters for Scotchtown Park Water District. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Canterino. Motion carried 4 to 0.

F. Public Hearing

All – Way Stop at Fletcher Street & Crossover Road

Councilman Lyons Moved to open the Public Hearing at 8:40 p.m. The Motion was

seconded by Councilman Newbold. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Bloomfield explained he received several communications expressing concern for the traffic situation at Fletcher Street and Crossover Road located near the Burke School. The concerns were all the same worrying about getting school buses in and out of the school and a fear of accidents. He explained this was a concern expressed when the traffic study was done and the Board asked that the study focus on school routes. He read from the traffic report regarding the Burke school and the Fletcher Street intersection which was deemed deficient in the report. . The traffic study's answer to correct this was an all-way stop. In answer to this the Board developed Local Law #1 of 2007, an amendment to the code.

Doris Bialas asked about a line of traffic that could build up on the Minisink Trail stop sign where it meets Fletcher Street, with non stop traffic coming down Fletcher Street. She said at another meeting someone suggested a Policeman be placed there at peak hours to direct traffic and bill the school for it. She said she felt this was better than stop signs. Councilman Lyons said he grew up on Long Island and the route to school was a heavily traveled road and at peak times they used folding stop signs. Ms. Bialas also said Councilman Cappella had mentioned a turning lane for those people leaving Burke and wanting to turn right.

Nick Petraglia said he felt the situation is only crucial at certain times and the citizens should not be subject to rigid rules, such as stop signs, etc. for the whole day. He agreed the Police Officer was the best idea and he did not feel the school should have to pay for it.

Councilman Canterino suggested a yield sign. The various methods were discussed at length. Reynell Andrews asked if the Police Chief had been consulted. Supervisor Bloomfield said he thought that he had. Mr. Andrews said he felt the Chief's input should be heard.

Councilman Canterino made a Motion to leave the Public Hearing opened so that further information can be gathered. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Lyons. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Bloomfield said while looking into the safety of the school children in reference to the stop sign, the Board was also looking into the parking of the cars along the Town road in front of the school. He said he took a ride down there yesterday and the cars were parked all the way down and around the road and due to the snow on the ground were out on the road. He said there are not sidewalks there to protect the children as they walk to their cars. He said the Police Chief will be taking a serious look at it very soon.

G. Reports:

Councilman Newbold: reported the Humane Society had it's first meeting in a year, it was short and brief. Their elections are coming up in April and he said at that time he requested their attorney submit to this Town Board a financial report.

Councilman Newbold said on the Ground Water Committee he works with Neal Halloran and Susan Cleaver who came before the Board, at a work session, asking support in trying to protect Black Meadow Creek and the Otterkill. He said they were asking to have both bodies of water placed on the DEC's Priority Water Bodies list. Being on this list will allow us to do some studies to stop further degradation of the two streams. Councilman Newbold said he wanted to thank Mr. Halloran and Ms Cleaver for all the work they have done.

Councilman Newbold wished all the residents a Happy Passover and Happy Easter, since the Board would not be meeting again until April 9th.

Councilman Canterino: reported on recreation, he is still working with the insurance company trying to get a final inspection of the Salesian property to obtain the risk factors and tell us what the premium will be. He is still waiting to hear from them. All the parks have been inspected except Salesian for safety issues, which is what the premium is based on. There are several safety issues at Salesian such as a pond, a school building and a stairway to no where. The Board needs to know the risk factors since we cannot open the park until it is safe.

Councilman Canterino said there will be an Easter Egg hunt at Craigville Park on Saturday, March 31st and Joint Recreation is looking for volunteers to help. It is scheduled for 12:00 a.m.

Councilman Lyons: reported he is on the Growth Committee for the School District. There is a work session scheduled for the Growth Committee and the School Board on Monday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m. if anyone would like to attend. The session will be in reference to the potential bond that will be developed by the School Board for extensions to various schools in the district.

Councilman Lyons reported for the Police Department: Jason Andino was hired as a part-time Police Officer for the Town of Goshen. The school resource officers contract with Orange Ulster BOCES was being tweaked and he just received an updated copy tonight and he will have it ready to present to the Board for their review at the next work session. Councilman Lyons said the department

had received a letter from Department of Emergency Services in reference to single law records management software solution for all municipal police agencies. The letter stated that interest in the project has further declined and 85% or less of our officers would be served by such a single vendor. Therefore, for the moment, the process of acquiring any software solution has been placed on hold. Councilman Lyons said the Canadian software is out and they are looking into a company called Impact.

Councilman Lyons said he has been working with the Town Clerk to arrange classes for the Right to Know and Workplace Violence. He said according to the memo he had received tonight from the clerk the classes will be offered in April, May and June.

Supervisor Bloomfield: said since Councilman Cappella was not able to attend he would report for him also. In February a New York State Department of Conservation auditor came to inspect our fuel tanks, etc. at the DPW. He found some administrative type of things that were not correct. He listed the various violations, one of the violations involved a reading that has to be done on the weekend as well as each day of the week. The Supervisor, accompanied by Councilman Cappella went to New Paltz to meet with the DEC and had a good meeting and learned what the Town was not doing that we should be doing. A consultant was brought in to show us how to improve the system, what forms to use, etc. Supervisor Bloomfield was told the Town would be fined \$15,000. The Supervisor asked if he could talk with them about how much the Town had done and how much money it had spent on making corrections. After listening to the Supervisor, the fine was reduced to \$1,500.

The Supervisor stated our gas tanks serve many different groups. Three Fire Departments, Assessor's Office, Building & Zoning Office, Police Department, The Highway Department, Dial A Bus, Humane Society and GOVAC. He said the Town has diesel and gas, the pumps are used 24 hours, seven days a week.

The Supervisor reported the consultant said the Town can take control, using the computer they have, the tanks are brand new in 1994 and are good. However, he said the pumps have to be replaced. The Supervisor said he has written a letter to the three fire departments asking them to each contribute \$5,000.00. Annie Rabbit is giving \$4,500.00 and the Town paying the difference. However, this system has a key pad and gives a complete record of who is purchasing the fuel and the exact amount being taken.

Supervisor Bloomfield said Councilman Lyons referred to the Work Place Violence course that is now mandatory for employees to take. This is to assure safety to the employees. He said an inspection of the courts will be done on the 28th of March by a Court Officer from Westchester County. He will be joined by the Building Inspector, the Police Chief, and the Supervisor's Secretary in the

inspection to see what precautions or safety measure we can take and corrections we should be making. He said supposedly there are grant dollars available to upgrade our courts and make them safe.

He informed the public the Board has been working on the tax certs. He said as the new budget season is coming up, the Board has to look at revenues and expenditures. He said there are several tax certs that need to be settled and it is one of his goals to settle these in the very near future. As all the revenues, due to the economy, will be less than prior years which makes it very important to know what expenditures will be. He complimented the Assessor JoAnn Soules on the good job she has been doing in regard to the tax certs.

H. Old Business:

1. Approval of Council Work Session Minutes: Councilman Lyons made a Motion to approve the Work Session Minutes of January 22nd, February 20th and March 5th of 2007. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Newbold. Motion carried 4 to 0.
2. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: Councilman Canterino made a Motion to approve the February 22nd and March 8th Town Board Business Meetings. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Lyons. Motion carried 4 to 0.

I. New Business:

Set Public Hearing for Water/Sewer Districts: Supervisor Bloomfield explained when a meeting was held in February with the Water/Sewer Districts the Board said it would hold a Water/Sewer meeting in April on any adjustments to the rates. Supervisor Bloomfield made a Motion to set a Public Hearing on possible adjustments to the water/sewer rates for all four districts. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Newbold. Motion carried 4 to 0.

J. Finance:

Councilman Newbold made a Motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay Voucher #2007-0290 to Voucher #2007-0545 amounting to \$412,022.18. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Lyons. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Supervisor Bloomfield asked for a Motion to authorize the Supervisor to approve manual checks paid to date in 2007: Voucher #07-00001 to #07-00014 totaling \$6,448,760.04. Supervisor Bloomfield asked for an explanation, the Town Clerk

explained the figure was added after she left the office, but undoubtedly there is some error and should not be approved. The Board agreed and will table this until the Board can obtain an explanation from the Budget Officer.

K. Privilege of the Floor:

Jerry Boss: He said he enjoyed Councilman Newbold's report in reference to the Otterkill. He said it has been fourteen years and six supervisors later. He said he stood before Supervisor Urbanski and told him the Otterkill was impacted in 1993. He said he wonders why it took all this time to discover this and where the contamination comes from. He said he thinks it comes from Arcadia and their sewer system should be examined as he can see no other source.

Mr. Boss said in regard to the tax certs, he hoped the certs were not involving the Al Turi landfill "as they have such good lawyers".

Frank Fornario, Jr. an Orange County legislator spoke on various topics:
A County update on the MTBEs: The County has done their testing and have sent their results to the DEC in writing and have not received a response at this time. He said he would keep the Board up to date on the results.

The Communication tower at the 911 building: People are concerned about the appearance, but the tower has to be designed that way because it is using a lot of other frequencies. Many of the emergency providers need special frequencies, this is a 911 center and not your usual cellular tower. However, the County is looking at a policy that any cell tower that are placed on County property will have to blend into the landscape.

He said they are working on the Colonel Bradley statue, it has been four years in the making. The bids have been approved, work will begin in the next four to six weeks so it will be ready for the 2007 Orange Blossom Memorial Special Anniversary. The monument will not be moved, it will remain where it is, but will be refurbished.

Electrical Licenses: Starting July 2007 all electrical contractors working in Orange County on commercial, non residential property, must be licensed. Originally the law required the home owner to hire a licensed electrician also, you could not do a simple electrical job in your own home if you were capable of doing so. This section has been stripped from the law.

Mr. Fornario answered a number of questions from the public in reference to County projects.

Susan Bloom asked the Board about possible businesses coming into Goshen. Supervisor Bloomfield said there are few business projects coming in and the Town is encouraging this kind of growth.

K. Adjournment: K. With no further comments from the Board Councilman Newbold made the Motion to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Lyons. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Time: 9:00 p.m.

Valma Eisma, Town Clerk