

Village Board Meeting
February 23, 2009

Members present: Mayor Weinberger, Trustees Bloom, Fast, Higgins, and Mattheus.

Also present: Attorney Donovan, Chief Watt, Superintendent Nuzzolese, and Village Clerk Strobl.

Mayor Weinberger called the meeting to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Weinberger announced the following two additions to the agenda: Communications #5 – Letter from Town Supervisor Bloomfield re. Hambletonian Park and Arcadia Hills Sewer Billing; and Item of Business #2 – Resolution Authorizing Retention of an Appraiser and a Surveyor for Center Street.

On a motion by Trustee Bloom, seconded by Trustee Higgins, the amended agenda was accepted.

Bloom	aye
Fast	aye
Higgins	aye
Mattheus	aye

Mayor Weinberger offered Privilege of the Floor to Speak to the Agenda. There were no comments.

On a motion by Trustee Higgins, seconded by Trustee Fast, the Minutes of the February 2, 2009 Village Board Work Session were approved.

Bloom	aye
Fast	aye
Higgins	aye
Mattheus	aye

Communications

Mr. and Mrs. Obremski, Co-chairs of the Bicentennial Committee, were present to review their Financial Report with the Board, and to request funding, in the amount of \$5,000.00, from the Village.

Trustee Higgins moved that the Board donate \$5,000.00 to the Bicentennial Committee. Mayor Weinberger stated that he would prefer to discuss the matter at a later date. Trustee Mattheus seconded the motion, for discussion. Mayor Weinberger requested that the donation be put in the June 1, 2009 Budget. Trustee Fast noted that if the Resolution was changed to put the figure in next year's budget, she would be in favor of it.

Following further discussion, Trustee Higgins withdrew the original motion. Trustee Higgins moved that \$5,000.00 be put in next year's budget for the Bicentennial Committee. Trustee Mattheus seconded the motion.

Bloom	aye
Fast	aye
Higgins	aye
Mattheus	aye

Letter – Goshen Fire Department 2009 Triennial Parade

Trustee Higgins reviewed the Goshen Fire Department's letter of February 5, 2009, which listed events related to their Triennial Parade, to be held between Sunday, August 30, 2009, and Saturday, September 5, 2009.

On a motion by Trustee Higgins, seconded by Trustee Fast, permission is granted for the Triennial Parade and related activities, predicated upon receipt of the necessary insurance indemnification.

Bloom aye
Fast aye
Higgins aye
Mattheus aye

On a motion by Trustee Higgins, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, permission was granted for placement of a sign in Church Park, as described in the Goshen Fire Department's February 5, 2009 request.

Bloom aye
Fast aye
Higgins aye
Mattheus aye

On a motion by Trustee Mattheus, seconded by Trustee Higgins, bills as examined by members of the Board were approved in accordance with Abstract 08/09, 28 and 29, numbers 34137 through 34190 in the amount of \$132,349.89 and numbers 34191 through 34186 in the amount of \$32,710.36, for a grand total of \$165,060.25.

Bloom aye
Fast aye
Higgins aye
Mattheus aye

Mayor Weinberger announced that he would read a letter from Town Supervisor Douglas Bloomfield, and that following Citizens' Comments the Board would move into an attorney/client privileged session for counsel.

Mayor Weinberger read the following:

February 13, 2009

RE: Hambletonian Park and Arcadia Hills Sewer Billing

Dear Mayor Weinberger:

This will acknowledge receipt of the proposed sewer bills for the Arcadia Hills and Hambletonian Park Sewer Districts for the year 2008.

In order that the Board may prepare for its upcoming informational meetings with the residents of these two developments, it is requested that the Town and its representatives be given access to the Village of Goshen's records in order that same may be reviewed and analyzed so as to verify and understand the aforementioned billings. The Town would also greatly appreciate having access to any Village officials and/or employees who are involved in the operation, maintenance and recordkeeping with respect to the operation of the Village sewer facility.

Please be advised that the Town representative who will be accessing the information will be Steven Brown and it is requested that you please extend to him every courtesy.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and should you have any questions with respect to the foregoing or should you need any additional information, please let me know.

Very truly yours, Douglas Bloomfield, Supervisor, Town of Goshen

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING PROPOSED
MTA INCOME TAX**

Trustee Bloom moved the following, which was seconded by Trustee Higgins:

WHEREAS, the Village of Goshen was notified that the Metropolitan Transit Authority is seeking to increase revenues through a new tax on employee earnings, and;

WHEREAS, the Goshen Village Board wishes to oppose this tax as it will not benefit the Village residents, and;

WHEREAS, the Village residents and businesses already contribute to five other taxes and/or fees to the MTA (sales tax, petroleum business tax, mortgage recording tax, a phone bill surcharge and maintenance of Metro North parking stations through charges to the County), and;

WHEREAS, the Goshen Village Board feels the tax burden should be allocated based upon use and access to services rendered, and;

WHEREAS, residents of the Village of Goshen are already feeling the downturn in the economy and an additional tax will add to their current financial stress;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Goshen Village Board send this resolution to the appropriate State representatives to make their 'voices' heard.

Bloom	aye
Fast	aye
Higgins	aye
Mattheus	aye

Upon the motion of Trustee Mattheus, seconded by Trustee Higgins, the following Resolution was moved and adopted:

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Resolution heretofore adopted by the Village Board, the Village has declared its intention to offer certain premises, commonly referred to as "Center Street," for sale to the property owners adjoining the premises, who submits the best offer, subject to any and all rights-of-way, encumbrances and conditions which affect said premises; and

WHEREAS, the Village has heretofore solicited proposals from a certified appraiser for the purposes of establishing the value of the said property as well as the services of a certified surveyor to ascertain the correct dimensions of the property; and

WHEREAS, the Village has received one proposal from a certified appraiser, i.e., Certified Appraisal Services, as well as two proposals from two licenses surveyors, i.e., W.E. James Associates and Daniel J. O'Brien, P.L.S.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED that the services of Certified Appraisals Services are hereby retained by the Village of Goshen to perform an appraisal of the said premises for the sum of \$500.00 all in accordance with the proposal submitted by Certified Appraisal Services dated January 29, 2009 annexed hereto and made part of this Resolution; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the services of W.E. James Associates are hereby engaged for the purposes of performing a certified survey of said premises for the sum of \$725.00 in accordance with the proposal submitted by W.E. James Associates, dated January 21, 2009 and annexed to this Resolution.

Bloom	aye
Fast	aye
Higgins	aye
Mattheus	aye

Mayor/Trustee Comments

Trustee Higgins read the following statistics from the Police Department: since February 9th there have been 21 arrests, 96 uniform traffic tickets, 89 parking summonses issued, and 6 motor vehicle accidents investigated.

In reporting as Joint Recreation Commission member, Trustee Higgins explained that the Board would like to make better use of Salesian Park by changing it from passive to active.

Trustee Higgins made a motion that Salesian Park be made into an active park for children to use for sports. After much discussion, Mayor Weinberger called the question, and a vote resulted as follows:

Bloom	no
Fast	no
Higgins	aye
Mattheus	no

It was agreed that the issue will be discussed at the next Work Session.

Trustee Fast reported that it had been a routine week at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, but that there had been another power outage last Friday. Trustee Fast has arranged for O & R to dispatch an engineer to check on the transformer at 6 ½ Station Road due to the large number of outages.

Trustee Bloom reported recent activities of the Department of Public Works: crews are cold patching on a regular basis; due to heavy snow squalls, crews were out salting on February 19th, tree branches which obstruct road signs are being trimmed; and brackets for the Bicentennial banners have been installed.

Trustee Mattheus reported that spot flushing had recently been done to address dirty water complaints, and that the reservoir is down 2", which is amazing at this time of year.

Trustee Mattheus moved that the annual 30-day water/sewer bill extension without additional penalty, for residents who have requested such, be granted. Trustee Higgins seconded the motion, and a vote resulted as follows:

Bloom	aye
Fast	aye
Higgins	aye
Mattheus	aye

Citizens' Comments

Comments were made by six members of the audience.

On a motion by Trustee Higgins, seconded by Trustee Bloom, the Board voted to enter into Attorney/Client privileged discussion at 9:10 p.m. to discuss the letter from Supervisor Bloomfield.

Bloom	aye
Fast	aye
Higgins	aye
Mattheus	aye

On a motion by Trustee Higgins, seconded by Trustee Fast, the Board voted to close the Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.

Bloom	aye
Fast	aye
Higgins	aye
Mattheus	aye

On a motion by Trustee Higgins, seconded by Trustee Fast, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Bloom	aye
Fast	aye
Higgins	aye
Mattheus	aye