

Village Board Work Session
August 18, 2008

Members present: Mayor Weinberger, Trustees Fast, Higgins, and Mattheus. Absent: Trustee Bloom. Also present: Village Clerk Strobl, Village Engineer Murphy.

Mayor Weinberger called the Work Session to order at 7:10 p.m.

Health Insurance – Domestic Partnership

Mayor Weinberger noted that the issue of whether or not to offer Domestic Partnership health insurance coverage had been discussed several times. Following discussion the Mayor agreed to convey the questions raised to Village Attorney Donovan.

Temporary Soil Stockpile Stormwater Inspections

The Board discussed a letter from Ross Winglovitz, PE, of Engineering Properties, PC, regarding the temporary soil stockpile stormwater inspections. Trustee Fast expressed her opinion that it was in the best interests of the Village to transfer the testing to the new Village Engineers. She will request a proposal from HDR to present to the Board.

Menorah Lighting Request – Chabad Orange County

The Board reviewed a request from Rabbi Pesach E. Burston, Director, Chabad Orange County, for a Community Chanukah Lighting Ceremony in Church Park from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 24, 2008. Trustee Higgins asked if there would be any conflict with the First Presbyterian Church having Christmas Eve observances. It was agreed that both parties needed to be advised of the scheduled plan. Trustee Mattheus requested that Mr. Fornino, owner of the Menorah, be advised of the Boards' recent resolution, which included the removal of holiday decorations by a specified date.

Mayor Weinberger announced a shift in the order of the agenda so that Trustee Mattheus could address issues from her Trustee report.

Trustee Mattheus informed the Board about the recent meeting with Harness Estates representatives at Village Attorney Donovan's office. She turned the discussion over to Village Engineer Michael Murphy, who explained that the subjects discussed included: 1) the water tower; 2) the booster pump station; 3) the 23 homes on Murray Avenue, which receive water through the Harness pump station; and 4) the dedication of certain roads in the development. Mr. Murphy explained that most of the discussion involved water issues.

Mr. Murphy reported that there will be a meeting in the near future with the Engineer for Harness Estates, and DPW Superintendent Nuzzolese.

Joint Meeting – Town of Goshen – Salesian School Building – October 20, 2008

Mayor Weinberger informed the Board that the Town Board had requested a joint meeting with the Village Board, and that it will be held Monday, October 20, 2008, at Town Hall. The agenda will be three-fold: 1) Salesian school building – is it an asset or a liability and what is the path forward? 2) Discuss current utilization of property versus our investment 3) Any other items of interest to the Boards.

Comfort Inn – Request for Return of Landscape Bond

A letter from Daniel McMann, General Manager, Riya-Goshen, LLC d/b/a Comfort Inn & Suites – Goshen was discussed. Village Engineer Murphy explained that a representative of his firm had already made two visits to the site to determine whether or not the letter of credit, representing 25% of the original landscape bond could be returned. Mr. McMann expressed his displeasure at the fact that his organization had not been aware that an inspector was 'on site'.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Higgins noted that there were further issues to discuss in a joint meeting with the Town Board, including parking at the Salesian property during events, and permits for events to be held.

Trustee Mattheus noted recent activities of the water department, and reported on her attendance at the Public Hearing on the DGEIS for the Town of Goshen Master Plan. Several issues were of concern due to their direct impact on the Village.

Mayor Weinberger opened the Work Session to comments from the public.

Joe Passalacqua expressed thanks to Trustee Mattheus and Engineer Murphy for their efforts to resolve issues at Harness Estates.

Comment was received from Joel Markowitz.

The Work Session concluded at 8:25 p.m.