

Village Board Meeting
February 8, 2010

Members present: Mayor Higgins, Trustees Char, Mattheus, Roddey, and Stewart.

Also present: Attorney Donovan, Chief Watt, John O'Rourke, PE, and Village Clerk Strobl.

On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Roddey, the Board entered into Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. to discuss threatened litigation.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

On a motion by Trustee Roddey, seconded by Trustee Char, the Executive Session was concluded at 7:27 p.m.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

Mayor Higgins called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance, and a moment of silence to honor the memory of Dan Edmundson.

On a motion by Trustee Roddey, seconded by Trustee Char, the agenda was accepted with the following amendment: addition of Communications #3 – Letter from County Executive Diana requesting support for opposition to 9/11/01 terrorist trials being held in Orange County.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

On a motion by Trustee Mattheus, seconded by Trustee Stewart, the Minutes of the January 25, 2010 Village Board Meeting were accepted as submitted.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

Communications

Mayor Higgins reviewed a notice from Dragon House Corp. of renewal application for an on-premises alcoholic beverage license.

On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, bills as examined by members of the Board were approved in accordance with Abstract 2009/2010, 30, 31, 32, and 33, numbers 35695 through 35825 in the amount of \$370,587.79.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

Mayor Higgins read a letter from Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana requesting the members of the Village of Goshen Board adopt a resolution calling upon the President and the Attorney General to exercise all of their power and authority to hold the 9/11/01 terrorist trials outside of Orange County.

Items of Business

On a motion by Trustee Mattheus, seconded by Trustee Char, permission is hereby granted to the Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee to hold their 34th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in the Village of Goshen on Sunday, March 14, 2010. The Village of Goshen agrees to extend the necessary insurance coverage.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

Trustee Char moved the following, which was seconded by Trustee Roddey:

WHEREAS, the FBI has offered the Village of Goshen Police Department an opportunity for a member to attend the 242nd session of the FBI National Academy, in Quantico, VA, from July 11th through September 17th, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Daniel Henderson has distinguished himself as a member of the Village of Goshen Police Department during his exemplary career as a Patrolman, Detective, and in his current assignment as Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, Police Chief James C. Watt has nominated Sgt. Daniel Henderson to represent the Village of Goshen Police Department at the FBINA, the most prestigious training academy in law enforcement; now, therefore, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Village Board, of the Village of Goshen, approves Sgt. Daniel Henderson's attendance at the FBI National Academy.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

Police Commissioner Char noted that this vital training is at no cost to the Village.

On a motion by Trustee Mattheus, seconded by Trustee Stewart, Building Inspector Theodore L. Lewis, III is hereby authorized to attend the Hudson Valley CEO Educational Conference, to be held April 7th, 8th, and 9th, 2010, at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel in Poughkeepsie, New York. The cost for this mandatory in-service training is \$285.00.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

The following was moved by Trustee Char, and seconded by Trustee Mattheus:

In the interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Village of Goshen, and the fact that Goshen is the County Seat of the County of Orange, we, the Village Board of the Village of Goshen do hereby support and affirm the position of County Executive Edward Diana against situating any 9/11 terrorist trials in Orange County.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

Trustee Mattheus moved the following, which was seconded by Trustee Roddey:

WHEREAS, the current economic climate has resulted in difficult financial circumstances for members of the Village of Goshen community; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board recognizes the undue financial hardship being experienced by many members of our Village community; and

WHEREAS, in an attempt to alleviate some of these financial hardships, the Village Board finds it appropriate and in the overall public interest to provide an amnesty period to allow ratepayers who receive water and sewer services within the Village of Goshen to be relieved of their obligation to pay certain late charges that are designated by this resolution; and

WHEREAS, this amnesty shall apply to all late fees that may have been imposed and/or incurred only in connection with the water and sewer bills prepared and delivered for the fourth quarter of 2009 which water and sewer bills were due and payable in January of 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board wishes to provide said amnesty on a one time basis only so that any and all unpaid bills, allocable to the fourth quarter of 2009 only, which were not timely paid can be paid, without penalty, at any time prior to March 31, 2010; and

WHEREAS, in order to avoid any inequities, those users who may have paid a late fee as a result of the untimely payment of their 2009 fourth quarter water and sewer bill shall receive a credit equal to the penalty heretofore paid allocable to said fourth quarter of 2009 on a future water and sewer bill;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that amnesty is hereby provided to any and all Village rate payers who have not timely paid their 2009 fourth quarter water and sewer bill to the extent that late fees shall be waived and payments, without penalty, for said fourth quarter bill shall be accepted up to and including March 31, 2010, without penalty; and it is further

RESOLVED, that any rate payer who incurred a late fee as a result of an untimely payment for said 2009 fourth quarter water and sewer bill shall receive a credit on a future water and sewer bill for the late fee actually paid; and it is further

RESOLVED, that said amnesty period shall expire, become null and void and of no effect if payments are not received on or before March 31, 2010 to the extent that any late fee previously incurred shall not be waived and will be reflected on future water and sewer bills or re-levied on the appropriate Village Tax bill as is provided by law.

Upon a roll call vote with 4 Trustees voting in favor and 0 Trustees voting against the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Mayor / Trustee Comments

Trustee Roddey, reporting for Joint Recreation, explained that the County has extended the grant deadline for the completion of the bathroom at Salesian.

Trustee Roddey noted that Superintendent Nuzzolese has completed the necessary paperwork for septage haulers to begin using the wastewater treatment plant and that this process will start in the near future.

Trustee Char reported that the Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade is scheduled for Sunday, March 14th at 2:00 p.m. Non-parade traffic should avoid Erie Street, Scotchtown Avenue, and Main Street in the area of the County Government Center as heavy traffic congestion is expected.

Trustee Char read the following Police report: since January 25th there have been 8 arrests, 63 uniform traffic tickets, 60 parking summonses issued, and 10 motor vehicle accidents investigated.

Trustee Stewart listed the following recent activities of the DPW: On January 25th crews were out working on drainage and picking up fallen tree limbs from a heavy rain and wind storm; crews have been cold patching; trees and brush have been removed in the drainage right-of-way near Finan's pond; and three DPW employees attended a Dam Safety Planning Workshop given by the O. C. Division of Emergency Management.

Trustee Mattheus reported on recent activities of the Water Department. Crews repaired two very difficult water main breaks and water meters are being read for the March billing period.

Trustee Mattheus explained that the Crystal Run well project is on schedule and currently waiting for the DEC response.

Mayor Higgins welcomed John O'Rourke, P.E., who was representing Lanc & Tully at the meeting.

Mayor Higgins offered congratulations to the Grand Marshal of this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade, Assemblywoman Annie Rabbitt.

Citizens' Comments

Comments were received from Lynn Cione and Howard Unger.

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye