

Village Board Meeting
May 24, 2010

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

Also present: Village Attorney Donovan, Village Engineer Tully, and Village Clerk Strobl.

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 Walter Yungman, father of Village employee Karen Kosior.

On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Char, the agenda was modified by the move of Item of Business #3, Public Informational Meeting – “Church Park” to the beginning of the meeting.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

Attorney Donovan gave a brief synopsis of the background of the issue of ownership of, and maintenance of, the Village Green, also known as Church Park.

Presbyterian Church Attorney Gary Greenwald asked that the Board refrain from discussing specifics of the proposed lease, and keep the meeting to public information only.

Reynell Andrews requested that everyone be allowed to speak to provide the maximum information.

David Hering noted that the Village Green is very important to Goshen and urged that no changes be made.

Joel Markowitz stated his opinion that there was no incentive to acknowledging title and that perhaps a compromise could be reached.

Ed Garling said that the church needs insurance on its property and that it seemed to be a simple thing becoming increasingly complicated.

Hilary Surfer asked who insures the property now, and if there was any possibility that in the future the church would object to a gathering, demonstration, etc. on the property.

Trustee Mattheus noted that the property is the core of our community and the heart of our village.

Lynn Cione stated that the Goshen Chamber of Commerce uses the property for the Farmers Market and Great American Weekend and has always worked well with the Village and with the Presbyterian Church, and therefore she didn't understand the concerns expressed.

Ed Conner commented on the draft lease and asked that it be clarified that the Village owns the monuments, whether or not it owns the land.

Jim Tarvin expressed concerns with free speech rights, and suggested that the insurance companies work with each other.

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Stewart, the public informational meeting was concluded at 8:15 p.m.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

On a motion by Trustee Roddey, seconded by Trustee Stewart, the Minutes of the May 10, 2010 Village Board Meeting were accepted as submitted.

Char	aye
Mattheus	abstain – absent on May 10, 2010
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

Communications

Mayor Higgins reviewed an Alcoholic Beverage License Renewal from Il Limon Cella, Inc.

Mayor Higgins reviewed an Alcoholic Beverage Alteration Application from ABSL Corp. dba Howells.

On a motion by Trustee Mattheus, seconded by Trustee Char, bills as examined by members of the Board were approved in accordance with Abstract 2009/2010, numbers 45 and 46, numbers 36211 through 36269 in the amount of \$247,283.53.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

Items of Business

On a motion by Trustee Roddey, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, Manuel J. Orellana (senior); having successfully completed the certification for *Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Grade 3A*, is hereby promoted to the position of Water/Sewer Operator 3. In accordance with the current agreement between the Village of Goshen and the CSEA, Manuel J. Orellana will be placed on the 2009/2010 Step Three of the pay scale for Water/Sewer Operator 3, with an annual salary of \$46,309.

This appointment shall become effective immediately.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

On a motion by Trustee Roddey, seconded by Trustee Char, James J. Bourne is hereby appointed to the duties of Part-time Court Officer, with the Civil Service title of Court Attendant Part-time, for the Village of Goshen Justice Department, at a salary of \$12.83 per hour.

This appointment is effective upon successful completion of a pre-employment physical exam, and pre-employment paperwork; and shall include a probationary period of six months.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

Mayor/Trustee Comments

Trustee Mattheus reported that the DEC permit for the Crystal Run wells should arrive within ten days. The Forestry Council will begin planting trees after Memorial Day.

Trustee Stewart reviewed recent activities of the Department of Public Works: parking meters have been emptied; crews have been preparing for the resurfacing project on the upper end of North Church Street between Gregory Drive and Lincoln Avenue; and road mowers have been out mowing high grass on the sides of the roads.

Trustee Char reported recent thefts from unlocked vehicles in the Village and Town. Trustee Char reminded those present that the Memorial Day Parade and services are scheduled for Monday, May 31st.

Trustee Roddey highly recommended Joint Recreation's summer programs, which are currently open for enrollment. Trustee Roddey offered thanks to the sewer employees for their work with the wastewater haulers at the plant.

Citizens' Comments

Comments were received from Geri Corey, Howie Weiss, Reynell Andrews, Joel Markowitz, and Neil Hickok.

On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Roddey	aye
Stewart	aye

