

Village Board Meeting
July 25, 2011

Members present: Mayor Roddey, Trustees Char, Mattheus, and Smith

Absent: Trustee Stewart

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

Mayor Roddey 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 victims of the recent tragedy in Norway.

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, the Agenda was modified by the addition of: Items of Business #5 King Zak escrow refunds; and an Executive Session to discuss arbitration with the Town.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Smith, the Public Hearing on proposed Local Law #1 of 2011 was opened at 7:33 p.m.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Goshen, New York, will hold a Public Hearing at Village Hall, 276 Main Street, Goshen, New York, on July 25, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. or as soon after as may be heard, to consider the adoption of proposed Local Law #1 of 2011. This proposed Local Law is to amend Section 5.2 of Appendix A of the Code of the Village of Goshen entitled *Supplementary regulations applying to nonresidential buildings* by the repeal of Section 5.2.3.3, *Lighting and signage*.

The Village of Goshen will make every effort to assure that the Public Hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Anyone requiring special assistance and/or accommodations should contact the Village Clerk.

By Order of the Village Board of Trustees
Village of Goshen
Margaret G. Strobl, Village Clerk

Mayor Roddey noted that Trustee Mattheus has spent a lot of time studying this issue. Trustee Mattheus stated that the County has been very helpful with providing information on cost savings, while preserving historical character.

Ray Quattrini asked where the Board was in the process, and where they want to go.

Trustee Mattheus explained that she is waiting to hear back from the County about their new lighting recommendations.

Ray Quattrini asked what costs the Board was trying to eliminate.

Mayor Roddey explained that the Village was hoping to find a similar light design available from Orange & Rockland, so that the maintenance of the lighting would not be the responsibility of the Village.

Trustee Char stated that the expense to the Village was approximately \$3,000 in Harness Estates last year for fixing period lights.

Mary Gray Griffith urged the Board to keep the Architectural Design District in mind when making changes, and to keep it free of modern fixtures.

Maureen Quattrini asked if the onus could be placed on a developer to supply the required lighting in a commercial district.

Reynell Andrews asked who does the maintenance on the lights in Harness Estates, and was answered that it is the Village DPW.

Joel Markowitz noted his continued skepticism of mandated aesthetics, and design districts in general. He stated that it should be the developer's choice, not something that's mandated.

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, the Public Hearing will continue on September 12, 2011.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, the Minutes of the July 11, 2011 Village Board Meeting were accepted as submitted.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

On a motion by Trustee Mattheus, seconded by Trustee Char, the Minutes of the July 18, 2011 Village Board Work Session were accepted as submitted.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

Communications

Mayor Roddey read the following letters:

To the donor of the Village of Goshen Scholarship:

Thank you very much for generously contributing to this award and in turn, to me. The expenses that come along with a college tuition can be difficult to fund and this scholarship will assist me in the many purchases I will be making. Double majoring in film and art, I will be taking a lot of classes, many needing text books and supplies. My college bookstore should have the items that I will be in need of and paying for them could add up to a lot. I appreciate being granted this award and will use it to make wise purchases. Thanks again. Sincerely, Christine Attanasio

Village of Goshen, I would like to express my immense gratitude for the scholarship I received from you. It was such a wonderful surprise, as well as an honor to be chosen as your recipient. Words cannot denote my complete appreciation. It was truly an honor! Sincerely, Ceira Dawson

Mayor Roddey read a letter from Dr. John Carey, Tour Director of the Tour de Goshen, announcing that this year's event is scheduled for August 21st.

On a motion by Trustee Mattheus, seconded by Trustee Char, approval was granted for the event, for which insurance requirements have been fulfilled.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

The Board discussed the possibility of sending a mailing to residents, regarding the new recycling rules/schedule.

Mayor Roddey read a letter from Donna R. Post, Director of Transportation for the Goshen Central School District. Board members discussed the request for "no parking" on the south side of Murray Avenue between Scotchtown Avenue and McNally Street, in an effort to address vehicle and pedestrian safety.

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Smith, the Board resolved to schedule a Public Hearing on August 22, 2011, for the consideration of adopting a Local Law to prohibit parking on the South side of Murray Avenue between Scotchtown Avenue and McNally Street, and authorized the Village Attorney to draw up said Local Law.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

Items of Business

On a motion by Trustee Mattheus, seconded by Trustee Smith, bills as examined by members of the Board were approved in accordance with Abstract 2011/2012 numbers 2, 3, and 4, check numbers 1872 through 2039 in the amount of \$664,235.55.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

On a motion by Trustee Mattheus, seconded by Trustee Smith, the Village Board hereby resolves to hold a Public Hearing on August 8, 2011, at 7:30 p.m., to consider dedicated parking spaces for the Goshen Volunteer Ambulance Corps, (111-16-3).

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign an agreement with MetLife, for the provision of Dental Insurance for a period of one year, to commence August 1, 2011.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Smith, the Village Board resolves to adopt the following resolution to request that the Federal Government take urgent measures to withhold, withdraw, or rescind the federal funds they have allocated for the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) in New York State:

WHEREAS, The WRP, which is administered through the offices of the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), is a program that is intended to convert wetlands, specifically mucklands that have been in agricultural production back to a pre-cultivated hydrology, and

WHEREAS, this practice may be a sound practice for some muckland areas, it would have severe and unintended consequences to areas such as Orange County's Black Dirt Region including, but not limited to uncontrolled weed infestation, water drainage problems, insect and wildlife control issues, and an overall weakening of the agricultural industry,

FURTHERMORE, it would be in direct violation of NYS Drainage Law because a drainage district was established in the Black Dirt Region in the 1930's, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Goshen understands the importance of the Black Dirt Region for the purposes of Agricultural production, and

WHEREAS, it is the firm belief and proven knowledge that the Black Dirt Region of Orange County is best suited for agricultural production where farmers currently farm contiguously in an area of nearly 12,000 acres, and

WHEREAS, this 12,000 acre area known today as the Black Dirt Region, and provided it is drained of excess water is ideal for agriculture because of its high organic matter content, it's depth, it's level gradient, and that it is stone free, and

FURTHERMORE, a New York State law of 1935 established the Wallkill Valley Drainage Improvement District, which encompasses the Black Dirt lands of Orange County, whereby 51 commission ditches were established and to date this Drainage Improvement District still exists,

NOW THEREFORE, with record high food prices today and having a fertile Black Dirt Region consisting of 12,000 contiguous acres located only an hour's drive from New York City; it makes very little common sense to apply the Wetlands Reserve Program here in Orange County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Goshen highly recommends

that the federal government through the offices of the NRCS, withhold, withdraw, or rescind the federal funds that have been allocated for the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), and

FURTHERMORE, copies of this Resolution shall be sent to the Federal and State of New York offices of the NRCS and the Orange County Farm Service Agency as well as to appropriate federally elected officials as follows:

Hon. Charles Schumer	Char	aye
757 Third Ave., Room 17-02	Mattheus	aye
New York, NY 10017	Smith	aye
	Stewart	absent

Hon. Kirsten E. Gillibrand
780 Third Ave., Suite 2600
New York, NY 10174

Hon. Nan Hayworth
Orange County Government Center
255 Main St., Room 3232G
Goshen, NY 10924

Hon. Maurice D. Hinchey
City Hall
16 James St., 3rd Floor
Middletown, NY 10940

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Smith, and based on the review and recommendation of Arthur Tully, P.E., the Village Board hereby authorizes release of the following Cash Bonds: GAM Professional Escrow (122-1-11) \$4,505.55; King Zak Professional Escrow (122-1-5.22) \$1,576.19; GAM Landscape Bond (122-1-11) \$8,213.15; and GAM Inspections (122-1-11) \$760.13; for a grand total of \$15,055.02.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

Mayor/Trustee Comments

Trustee Mattheus reported that the reservoir is currently minus .5", and that she is in constant touch with County Executive Diana regarding Crystal Run well approvals.

Trustee Char reminded those present that effective August 5th, Arden Hill Hospital in Goshen will be closed and all hospital services, including the emergency room, transferred to the new Orange Regional Hospital Campus at #707 East Main Street, Middletown.

Trustee Smith noted that the Senior Center was open until 8:00 p.m. last week for use as a cooling center.

Mayor Roddey reported the following recent activities of the DPW: crews prepared for, worked during, and cleaned up after the Great American Weekend; a handicapped compliant sidewalk was installed at the Salesian Park bathroom; crews are in the process of cleaning and repairing catch basins; a 100' by 20" culvert pipe was replaced on Justin Court and Golden Hill Avenue; and crews have been working on the clarifier tank at the sewage treatment plant.

Mayor Roddey informed the Board that he and Trustee Smith met with grant writers recently, and further discussion will be held at the next Work Session.

Citizens' Comments

Joel Markowitz asked questions about Taylor Recycling, a former lawsuit on Murray Avenue, a consent order, the situation on Police Drive, the situation at Epsilon, and an outside audit.

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Smith, the Board entered into Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. for a discussion of Arbitration with the Town.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent

On a motion by Trustee Mattheus, seconded by Trustee Smith, the Executive Session was concluded, and the Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	absent