

Village Board Meeting  
December 11, 2023

Members present: Mayor O'Donnell, Trustees Gurda, Hand, Rouis, and Wohl

Also present: Village Clerk Darby, Attorney Donovan, and Sgt. Rich

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Mayor O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Trustee Gurda, seconded by Trustee Rouis, the December 11, 2023 Village Board Meeting Agenda was accepted as presented.

Gurda        aye  
Hand         aye  
O'Donnell   aye  
Rouis        aye  
Wohl         aye

On a motion by Trustee Wohl, seconded by Trustee Gurda, the Minutes of the November 27, 2023, Village Board Meeting were accepted.

Gurda        aye  
Hand         aye  
O'Donnell   aye  
Rouis        aye  
Wohl         aye

### **Items of Business**

#### **1. Comp Alliance: Member Participation Agreement and Funding Contribution**

**RESOLUTION 144 of 2023**  
**A RESOLUTION TO SIGN THE MEMBER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT AND PAY THE ANNUAL FUNDING CONTRIBUTION OF \$156,162.00 FOR THE 2024 CALENDAR YEAR TO COMP ALLIANCE, THE VILLAGES' WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Goshen carries coverage for worker's compensation insurance; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY,**

**RESOLVED**, that the Mayor can sign the Participation Agreement with Comp Alliance and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that the Village of Goshen can pay Comp Alliance \$156,162.00 for the calendar year 1/1/24 – 12/31/24.

Motion to adopt by Trustee Wohl and seconded by Trustee Gurda. The vote was 5 ayes to 0 nays with 0 abstentions. The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted on December 11, 2023.

#### **2. Village of Goshen Police Department Appointment**

**RESOLUTION 145 of 2023**  
**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MAYOR APPOINTMENT OF SGT. RYAN RICH AS THE POLICE CHIEF OF THE VILLAGE OF GOSHEN EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024**

**WHEREAS**, with the recent announcement of the current Village of Goshen Police Chief retiring, there is a vacancy for the position as of December 31, 2023; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY,**

**RESOLVED**, that as of January 1, 2024, Sgt. Ryan Rich is hereby appointed as the Police Chief of the Village of Goshen at a rate of \$152,000.00 per year with the minimum probationary period as determined by Orange County Human Resources.

Motion to adopt by Trustee Rouis and seconded by Trustee Gurda. The vote was 5 ayes to 0 nays with 0 abstentions. The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted on December 11, 2023.

Attorney Donovan shared that the Chief of Police is a very prestigious position in the Village of Goshen and commended Sgt. Rich on this appointment.

### **Department Head Comments**

DPW Superintendent Birney reported on the following, which represents the major activities of the Department of Public Works from November 28, 2023 through December 11, 2023:

#### **STREETS**

1. Completed bulk vacuum leaf collection
2. Inserted Holiday parking cards, and collected and maintained parking meters
3. Removed leaves from all Village owned properties
4. Performed hot asphalt street patching throughout Village

#### **WATER**

1. Completed replacement of failed drain line on North Church Street Pump Station
2. Cut and removed brush on Greenhill and Prospect Dams

#### **SEWER**

1. Normal Operations

Village Clerk Darby congratulated Sgt. Rich on his promotion to Police Chief and reported on the following:

1. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter W/S Billing has been sent and included inserts
  - a. Recycling and GoGoshen inserts
2. GoGoshen App
  - a. More than 100 users
3. Overnight Parking Project
  - a. Successfully launched – 39 permits
4. Recycling Initiative
  - a. Completed NYSDEC grant application – the application was denied as the Village of Goshen does not have a Recycling Coordinator
5. Online payments to launch soon
  - a. Parking permits
  - b. Building Department fees
6. Sexual Harassment Training Completed
7. Hotel/Motel Tax – Village Clerk Darby and Haroulla Gale are working on this project together

Sgt. Rich reported on some of the highlights from his board report. The police department assisted the OC DA's office with the investigation of child pornography, which resulted in the arrest of a Village resident. The PD provided security and traffic assistance with the Christmas Tree and Menorah lighting, which both went well. Traffic accidents have increased as a result of increased holiday traffic, and extra patrols will be around the Village to help with this. Scams have also increased and he advised residents to call the police station if they need assistance verifying suspicious communication. Sgt. Rich reminded everyone that Wreaths Across America will have

their escort parade on Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am, which is a nice event. Lastly, he wished everyone a happy holiday.

**Trustee Comments**

Trustees Gurda, Rouis, and Wohl expressed their congratulatory sentiments on Sgt. Rich's promotion to Police Chief. Sgt. Rich thanked the board and Mayor for their support. Trustee Wohl attended the Menorah Lighting and said that the event went well.

Mayor O'Donnell reminded everyone that Wreaths Across America will be coming through the Village of Goshen on 12/13/23 around 10:00 am, and bringing the wreaths to the Veterans Cemetery. The actual event will take place on 12/16/23 at noon at the Veterans Cemetery, the public is welcome to attend and a shuttle will also be provided for those attending. Mayor O'Donnell also commended DPW Superintendent Birney's staff on how great the tree looked.

Village Clerk Darby conducted Sgt. Rich's Oath of Office for the Village of Goshen Police Chief, effective January 1, 2024.

**Citizen Comments**

There were not any citizen comments.

On a motion by Trustee Rouis, seconded by Trustee Gurda, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Hand	aye
Gurda	aye
O'Donnell	aye
Rouis	aye
Wohl	aye