

Village Board Meeting  
February 26, 2024

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

Also present: Attorney Donovan, Village Clerk Maria Darby, and Chief Ryan Rich

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Mayor O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Trustee Gurda, seconded by Trustee Rouis, the February 26, 2024 Village Board Meeting Agenda was accepted with the modification of adding item of business number five to the agenda, which is to Authorize the Mayor to sign the PBA agreement.

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

There was not a quorum to vote on the minutes of the 2/12/24 or 2/16/24 meeting. They will be deferred to the next meeting.

Mayor O'Donnell advised that Trustee Hand was excused for the evening.

### **Public Hearing**

#### **1. Volunteer Firefighter and Ambulance Corp Real Property Tax Exemptions**

On a motion by Trustee Wohl, seconded by Trustee Gurda, the Public Hearing for Local Law #s 1, 2 and 3 was opened at 7:02 pm.

Attorney Donovan clarified that there is an existing exemption that will sunset in December 2025, so these laws would be the new exemption, which do not have a cap.

Fire Department Commissioner, Richard Pearson, was thankful for the Village considering the local laws and asked the Village Board if they had any questions for him. He went on to say that there can be up to 195 members between the three companies, and part of the reason they're there for the public hearing is because they are trying to recruit and retain members with this incentive. Of the active volunteer firefighters, 19 members live in the Village of Goshen.

Mayor O'Donnell asked about the number of current members that apply for the exemption, and Village Clerk Darby could not say for sure, but did not think it was all 19 volunteers in the Village.

Attorney Donovan advised that the laws that would be passed this evening, would not impact the 2024-2025 tax year, but instead the 2025-2026 tax year in the Village of Goshen.

Keith Venice, added that recruitment is difficult for the volunteer agency, and anything the Village can do to recruit and retain members would be helpful. Mayor O'Donnell said that the Village would be happy to post any recruitment efforts on our website and to share the information with Mayor O'Donnell and Village Clerk Darby when they have anything.

On a motion by Trustee Wohl, seconded by Trustee Gurda, the Public Hearing for Local Law #5 was closed at 7:08 pm.

### **Items of Business**

1. Local Law No. 1 of 2024: "A Local Law to provide a real property tax exemption for members of volunteer fire companies and volunteer ambulance services."

State Environmental Quality Review

**NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Notice of Determination of Non-Significance

**Village of Goshen, Orange County, New York**

**Name of Action:** Village of Goshen Local Law #1 of 2024

**Date:** February 26, 2024

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The Village of Goshen Village Board of Trustees, as Lead Agency, has determined that the Proposed Action described in the project narrative and Environmental Assessment Form consistent with the procedures and criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR 617.7, analyzed the relevant areas of environmental concern using the SEQR standards and determined that the proposed Action will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

**SEQR Status:** Type 1

**Conditioned Negative Declaration:** No

**Description of Action: 1.1 FINDINGS**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Goshen finds that the potential and/or actual damages from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the Village of Goshen and that such damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing, damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set forth, this local law is adopted.

**1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

It is the purpose of this local law to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed to:

- (1) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;
- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

**Location:** The entire Village of Goshen

#### **Reasons Supporting This Determination:**

The proposed action is not anticipated to result in any adverse environmental impacts.

Motion to adopt by Trustee Wohl and seconded by Trustee Rouis. The vote was 4 ayes to 0 nays with 0 abstentions. The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted on February 26, 2024.

### **RESOLUTION 18 of 2024**

#### **A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2024: A LOCAL LAW TO PROVIDE A REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR MEMBERS OF VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Goshen Attorney has created a local law; and

**WHEREAS**, a Public Hearing was scheduled and took place on February 26, 2024; and

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

**RESOLVED**, of the following:

#### **Section 1. Title**

This Local Law shall be entitled "A Local Law to provide a real property tax exemption for members of volunteer fire companies and volunteer ambulance services."

#### **Section 2. Purpose**

The purpose of this local law is to implement the authority granted to local taxing jurisdictions by New York Property Tax Law Section 466-a which statute was made effective as of December 9, 2022.

This newly adopted Section 466-a amended a prior version of the statute, adopted in 2005, by amending by the current language in Section 466-a to authorize municipalities to adopt a local law which will provide enrolled firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers to be eligible for a new real property tax exemption of up to ten percent of the assessed value of the primary residence of such qualifying volunteer firefighter and ambulance worker, subject to the terms and provisions of the statute. This local law recognizes the sacrifices that first responders make for the betterment of our community

and provides a small monetary benefit in recognition of and in appreciation for the sacrifices that they make and have made.

### **Section 3. Amendment to the Village Code**

Chapter 50 of the Code of the Village of Goshen, entitled "Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers" adopted September 26, 2006 by Local Law #1 of 2006 is hereby repealed in its entirety and replaced with the following:

#### **Article V: Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers Tax Exemption.**

##### **Section 50-28 Real Property Tax Exemption for Qualified Members.**

- A. Real property which is located in the Village of Goshen and owned by an enrolled qualified member (as hereinafter defined), or such enrolled qualified member and spouse, where such enrolled qualified member is a member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service, shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of ten (10) percent of the assessed value of such property for Village purposes, exclusive of special assessments, provided the following additional requirements have been met:
1. The enrolled member or such enrolled member and spouse must reside in the Village of Goshen in an area which is served by the incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service of which the individual is an enrolled member;
  2. The enrolled member must have been an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service for a minimum of two (2) years prior to the date of the application for tax exemption provided by this local law;
  3. The real property for which the tax exemption is sought must be the primary residence of the enrolled member or the enrolled member and spouse of an incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service. To the extent such real property has uses other than the primary residence of the enrolled member or enrolled member and spouse, such tax exemption shall only apply to that portion of the real property used exclusively for the primary residence of the enrolled member or such enrolled member and spouse;
  4. Such enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service, must file an application for the tax exemption provided by this local law. Such application shall be on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Office of Real Property Tax Services and must be filed with the Village Assessor's office on or before taxable status date;
  5. An officer or authorized representative of the incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service where the applicant for this tax exemption is an enrolled member must file an entity certification with the Assessor of the municipality which is served by such entity, verifying the names and addresses of its enrolled members with a minimum of two or more

years of service and surviving spouses of deceased members qualify for such exemption. Such entity certification shall include a certification as to the number of years of service served by each such enrolled member and such enrolled member's address of residence.

- B. Any enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service who meets all of the requirements set forth in Section (A)(1-5) above shall be deemed a "Qualified Member" for purposes of the tax exemption provided by this local law.
- C. Any enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service in the Village of Goshen who accrues more than 20 years of active service as is verified by the filing of the enrolled member's application form with the Assessor's office, as well as the filing of the entity certification with the Assessor's office, shall be entitled to the tax exemption of ten (10) percent of the assessed value of his or her real property for Village purposes, exclusive of special assessments, as authorized by this local law, for the remainder of his or her life or as long as his or her primary residence is located in the Village of Goshen.

**Section 4. Severability**

Any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this Local Law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgement shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered and the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 5. Effective Date**

This local law shall take effect upon the filing of certified copies thereof with the Office of the Secretary of State in accordance with New York Municipal Home Rule Law.

Motion to adopt by Trustee Wohl and seconded by Trustee Rouis. The vote was 4 ayes to 0 nays with 0 abstentions. The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted on February 26, 2024.

2. Local Law No. 2 of 2024: "A Local Law to provide a real property tax exemption for un-remarried surviving spouses of formerly enrolled members killed in the line of duty."

State Environmental Quality Review

**NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Notice of Determination of Non-Significance

**Village of Goshen, Orange County, New York**

**Name of Action:** Village of Goshen Local Law #2 of 2024

**Date:** February 26, 2024

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The Village of Goshen Village Board of Trustees, as Lead Agency, has determined that the Proposed Action described in the project narrative and Environmental Assessment

Form consistent with the procedures and criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR 617.7, analyzed the relevant areas of environmental concern using the SEQR standards and determined that the proposed Action will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

**SEQR Status:** Type 1

**Conditioned Negative Declaration:** No

**Description of Action: 1.1 FINDINGS**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Goshen finds that the potential and/or actual damages from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the Village of Goshen and that such damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing, damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set forth, this local law is adopted.

**1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

It is the purpose of this local law to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed to:

- (1) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;
- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

**1.3 OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

**Location:** The entire Village of Goshen

**Reasons Supporting This Determination:**

The proposed action is not anticipated to result in any adverse environmental impacts.

Motion to adopt by Trustee Wohl and seconded by Trustee Rouis. The vote was 4 ayes to 0 nays with 0 abstentions. The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted on February 26, 2024.

## RESOLUTION 19 of 2024

### A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2024: A LOCAL LAW TO PROVIDE A REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR UN-REMARIED SURVIVING SPOUSES OF FORMERLY ENROLLED VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND VOLUNTARY AMBULANCE SERVICE MEMBERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Goshen Attorney has created a local law; and

**WHEREAS**, a Public Hearing was scheduled and took place on February 26, 2024; and

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

**RESOLVED**, of the following:

#### **Section 1. Title**

This Local Law shall be entitled “A Local Law to provide a real property tax exemption for un-remarried surviving spouses of formerly enrolled volunteer firefighters and voluntary ambulance service members killed in the line of duty.”

#### **Section 2. Purpose**

The purpose of this local law is to implement the authority granted to local taxing jurisdictions by New York Property Tax Law Section 466-a which statute was made effective as of December 9, 2022.

The amendment to NYRPTL Section 466-a to authorize municipalities to adopt a local law which will provide a real property tax exemption for un-remarried surviving spouses of formerly enrolled volunteer firefighters and voluntary ambulance service members killed in the line of duty.

This local law recognizes the sacrifices that first responders make for the betterment of our community and provides a small monetary benefit in recognition of and in appreciation for the sacrifices that they make and have made.

#### **Section 3. Amendment to the Village Code**

The Village Code shall be amended by the addition of a new Section, designated as Section 50-29, as follows:

#### **Section 50-29: Real Property Tax Exemption for Un-remarried Surviving Spouses of Formerly Enrolled Volunteer Firefighters or Voluntary Ambulance Service Workers Killed in the Line of Duty**

- D. An un-remarried surviving spouse of a deceased formerly enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service, who was killed in the line of duty may qualify for a continuation or a reinstatement of a preexisting tax exemption under this local law, provided the following additional requirements have been met:
  6. Such un-remarried surviving spouses is certified as an un-remarried surviving spouse of a deceased formerly enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire

department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service, who was killed in the line of duty; and

7. Such deceased formerly enrolled member had been a member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service for at least five (5) years; and
8. Such deceased formerly enrolled member had been a member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service and the surviving un-remarried spouse had been receiving the real property tax exemption provided in this local law prior to his or her death; and
9. The un-remarried surviving spouse has filed an application to continue or reinstate the tax exemption sought in this local law. Such application shall be on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Office of Real Property Tax Services and must be filed with the Village of Goshen Assessor's office and the un-remarried surviving spouse must maintain their primary residence in the Village of Goshen. The application must be filed with the Village Assessor's office on or before taxable status date; and
10. An officer or authorized representative of the incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service for the deceased former spouse had been a member before being killed in the line of duty, shall file with the Village Assessor's office a sworn certification verifying that such deceased formerly enrolled member had been an enrolled member of such entity for at least five (5) years and was killed in the line of duty.

An unmarried spouse, of a deceased formerly enrolled member who was killed in the line of duty, who meets all of the requirements set forth above, shall qualify for a continuation of or reinstatement of a tax exemption to the extent of ten (10) percent of the assessed value of his or her real property, for Village purposes, exclusive of special assessments, as authorized by this local law.

#### **Section 4. Severability**

Any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this Local Law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered and the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

#### **Section 5. Effective Date**

This local law shall take effect upon the filing of certified copies thereof with the Office of the Secretary of State in accordance with New York Municipal Home Rule Law.

Motion to adopt by Trustee Wohl and seconded by Trustee Rouis. The vote was 4 ayes to 0 nays with 0 abstentions. The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted on February 26, 2024.

*3. Local Law No. 3 of 2024 entitled "A Local Law to provide a real property tax exemption for un-remarried surviving spouses of formerly enrolled members with more than 20 years of service to volunteer fire companies or voluntary ambulance services."*

State Environmental Quality Review



**NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Notice of Determination of Non-Significance

**Village of Goshen, Orange County, New York**

**Name of Action:** Village of Goshen Local Law #3 of 2024

**Date:** February 26, 2024

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The Village of Goshen Village Board of Trustees, as Lead Agency, has determined that the Proposed Action described in the project narrative and Environmental Assessment Form consistent with the procedures and criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR 617.7, analyzed the relevant areas of environmental concern using the SEQR standards and determined that the proposed Action will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

**SEQR Status:** Type 1

**Conditioned Negative Declaration:** No

**Description of Action: 1.1 FINDINGS**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Goshen finds that the potential and/or actual damages from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the Village of Goshen and that such damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing, damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set forth, this local law is adopted.

**1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

It is the purpose of this local law to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed to:

- (1) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;
- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

**1.3 OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this local law are:

- (l) to protect human life and health;

- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

**Location:** The entire Village of Goshen

**Reasons Supporting This Determination:**

The proposed action is not anticipated to result in any adverse environmental impacts.

Motion to adopt by Trustee Wohl and seconded by Trustee Rouis. The vote was 4 ayes to 0 nays with 0 abstentions. The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted on February 26, 2024.

**RESOLUTION 20 of 2024**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2024: A LOCAL LAW TO PROVIDE A REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR UN-REMARRIED SURVIVING SPOUSES OF FORMERLY ENROLLED MEMBERS WITH MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES AND VOLUNTARY AMBULANCE SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Goshen Attorney has created a local law; and

**WHEREAS**, a Public Hearing was scheduled and took place on February 26, 2024; and

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

**RESOLVED**, of the following:

**Section 1. Title**

This Local Law shall be entitled “A Local Law to provide a real property tax exemption for un-remarried surviving spouses of formerly enrolled members with more than 20 years of service to volunteer fire companies and voluntary ambulance services.”

**Section 2. Purpose**

The purpose of this local law is to implement the authority granted to local taxing jurisdictions by New York Property Tax Law Section 466-a which statute was made effective as of December 9, 2022.

The New York State Legislature has amended NYRPTL Section 466-a to authorize municipalities to adopt a local law which will provide a real property tax exemption for un remarried surviving spouses of formerly enrolled members who have more than 20 years of service as volunteer firefighters or voluntary ambulance workers. This local law recognizes the sacrifices that first responders make for the betterment of our community and provides a small monetary benefit in recognition of and in appreciation for the sacrifices that they make and have made.

**Section 3. Amendment to the Village Code**

The Village Code shall be amended by the addition of a new Section, designated as Section 50-30, as follows:

**Section 50-30: Real Property Tax Exemption for Un-remarried Surviving Spouses of Deceased Formerly Enrolled Volunteer Firefighters or Voluntary Ambulance Service Workers, Where Such Formerly Enrolled Member Had Previously Received a Real Property Tax Exemption as a Result of The Formerly Enrolled Member's More Than 20 Years Service as an Enrolled Member of an Incorporated Volunteer Fire Company, Fire Department or Incorporated Voluntary Ambulance Service Member**

- E. An un-remarried spouse of a deceased formerly enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service, who has previously received a real property tax exemption as a result of such deceased formerly enrolled spouse's more than 20 years as an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service, may qualify to continue or reinstate such preexisting tax exemption, provided the following additional requirements have been met:
11. Such un-remarried surviving spouse is certified as an un-remarried surviving spouse of a formerly enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service; and
  12. Such deceased formerly enrolled member had been an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service for at least twenty (20) years; and
  13. Such deceased formerly enrolled member and un-remarried surviving spouse had been receiving the real property tax exemption applied for prior to the death of such formerly enrolled member; and
  14. The un-remarried surviving spouse has filed an application to continue or reinstate the tax exemption sought in this local law. Such application shall be on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Office of Real Property Tax Services and must be filed with the Village of Goshen Assessor's office and the un-remarried surviving spouse must maintain their primary residence in the Village of Goshen. The application must be filed with the Village Assessor's office on or before taxable status date; and
  15. An officer or authorized representative of the incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service where the deceased former spouse had been an enrolled member must file with the Village Assessor's office a sworn certification verifying that such deceased formerly enrolled member had been an enrolled member of such entity for at least twenty (20) years.

An unmarried surviving spouse, of a deceased formerly enrolled member who meets all of the requirements set forth above shall qualify for a continuation of or reinstatement of a tax exemption under this local law to the extent of ten (10) percent of the assessed value of his or her real property, for Village purposes, exclusive of special assessments, as authorized by this local law.

**Section 4. Severability**

Any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this Local Law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgement shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered and the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 5. Effective Date**

This local law shall take effect upon the filing of certified copies thereof with the Office of the Secretary of State in accordance with New York Municipal Home Rule Law.

Motion to adopt by Trustee Wohl and seconded by Trustee Rouis. The vote was 4 ayes to 0 nays with 0 abstentions. The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted on February 26, 2024.

4. Set Public Hearing for Local Law No. 5 of 2024: Joint Recreation

**RESOLUTION 21 OF 2024**

**A RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR LOCAL LAW #5 OF 2024 ON MARCH 11, 2024, AT 7:00PM: A LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING THE JOINT RECREATION COMMISSION (“JRC”) TO ESTABLISH RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING VILLAGE PARKS.**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Goshen has heretofore established a Joint Recreation Commission (“JRC”) to manage and operate parks located within the Village of Goshen. The purpose of this local law is authorize the JRC to promulgate rules and regulations as may be necessary to effectuate and implement the provisions of the Village Code relative to the operation, management and maintenance of Village Parks; and

**WHEREAS**, a Public Hearing must be scheduled; and

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

**RESOLVED**, that Local Law #5 of 2024 will be heard at a Public Hearing on March 11, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Motion to adopt by Trustee Gurda and seconded by Trustee Wohl. The vote was 4 ayes to 0 nays with 0 abstentions. The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted on February 26, 2024.

5. Authorize Mayor to Sign PBA Memorandum of Agreement

Mayor O'Donnell thanked all involved for their hard work on the negotiations. Chief Ryan also thanked Mayor O'Donnell, Deputy Mayor Wohl, and the PBA negotiating team.

**RESOLUTION 22 OF 2024**

**A RESOLUTION TO ALLOW THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM AGREEMENT AND APPROVE SUCCESSOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT, ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE BOARD, BY AND BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF GOSHEN AND THE VILLAGE OF GOSHEN POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC., FOR A PERIOD OF JUNE 1, 2023 TO MAY 31, 2026**

**WHEREAS**, a memorandum of agreement has been created between the Village of Goshen and the Village of Goshen Police Benevolent Association, Inc. for the period of June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, from said agreement, a contract between the Village of Goshen and the Village of Goshen Police Benevolent Association, Inc. will be drawn up for the period of June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2026;

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

**RESOLVED**, that Mayor and Deputy Mayor are authorized to sign both the memorandum agreement and contract with PBA on behalf of the Village Board.

Motion to adopt by Trustee Wohl and seconded by Trustee Rouis. The vote was 4 ayes to 0 nays with 0 abstentions. The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted on February 26, 2024.

**Mayor/Trustee Comments**

Mayor O'Donnell reminded everyone of the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 10, 2024 with step off promptly at 2:00pm. In addition, Mayor O'Donnell will be on WALL radio next week promoting the event.

**Citizens' Comments**

There were not any comments received from the public.

On a motion by Trustee Rouis, seconded by Trustee Gurda, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm.

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