

Village Board Meeting
April 11, 2011

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

Also present: Attorney Donovan, Engineer Tully, Chief Watt, Superintendent Nuzzolese, and Village Clerk Strobl.

Deputy Mayor Char led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Stewart, the Agenda was accepted with the following addition: Communications #5 – Lanc & Tully Engineering and Surveying, P.C. review letter for O. C. DPW sanitary sewer connection.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	aye

Prior to opening the Public Hearing on the 2011/2012 Budget, Mayor Roddey announced the Board's intent to make further cuts, but noted that certain mandated lines are experiencing a \$300,000 increase.

Mayor Roddey thanked Rory Brady for serving as Chair of the Citizens Advisory Group for the budget, and those members of the public who assisted: Joel Markowitz, Neil Hickok, and Bob Chaffee.

Sue Bloom first congratulated Mayor Roddey and Trustee Smith on their election to office. She then stated that the sales tax revenue is not listed in the budget. She offered several suggestions, including moving the Police and Public Works Departments to the property currently in use for soil storage, and urged the Board to look into consolidation. She asked the Board to seek stimulus money for repairs to the dam at the reservoir, and to investigate State code for exemptions to the sewer special assessment.

Bob Chaffee gave the Mayor a spreadsheet which he had created to assist with the budget process, which he called a huge challenge to the Board, but one that they were up to.

Reynell Andrews asked if a more complete document was going to be prepared, claiming that State law requires that 2010 be included. He then asked the number of people who receive medical coverage, and if any are part-time.

Ray Rooney asked if comments could be emailed to the Board. Mayor Roddey provided his contact information.

Sue Bloom noted that the Joint Recreation Commission should be self-sufficient by this time.

Joel Markowitz suggested that the Public Hearing be held open until the 24th so that people have an opportunity to comment on the budget, as it has only been out for seven days. He also noted that the tentative budget doesn't have the current assessed value, which has to be included. Joel Markowitz stated that we are in desperate shape financially, and commended the Board for funding sewer infrastructure repairs and replacement.

Joel Markowitz read the following five main points from an op-ed piece written by Bob Weinberger:

1. Stop spending more than they take-in. Freeze wages! Take a hard look at duplication of services. Adjust hiring, wage and benefit package costs.

2. *Pay as you go – no new debt!*

3. *Merge police services, planning and building inspector, department of public works, administrative personnel, and legal services with the Town of Goshen.*

4. *Become pro-active for commercial-industrial development. Commercial development shifts tax burden away from residential property as it delivers a higher valuation. Commercial property also provides a magnet for additional economic activity. It is a means to distribute and balance tax burden to the population. Goshen should be “open for business”, and*

5. *Stop providing tax-free services to the county. The tax-exempt county should not have a free ride for fire, police and infrastructure maintenance expense.*

Joel Markowitz said that he would like to see this Board and the Town Board approach the County to provide traffic control services and that we are one community and we need to share services, not necessarily consolidate.

Neil Hickok recommended fixing up the basement in Maplewood and renting out the rooms as a potential revenue stream. He noted that the attic could be used also.

Reynell Andrews questioned the amount in the budget line for Maplewood Maintenance and Repair.

Joel Markowitz questioned salary increases.

Sue Bloom questioned what happened to the Community Development grant.

Mayor Roddey thanked everyone for coming to the Public Hearing.

On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, the Village Board will receive written comment on the tentative budget until 12:00 noon on April 25, 2011.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	aye

On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Smith, the Minutes of the March 28, 2011 Village Board Meeting were accepted as submitted.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	aye

Communications

Mayor Roddey read a letter from the Goshen Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to use Village Square for the upcoming Goshen Farmers' Market, from May 20, 2011 until October 28, 2011.

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, permission for use of the Village Square was granted.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	aye

Mayor Roddey read a letter from the Goshen Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to use the parking lot of the Department of Public Works on May 6, 2011 for a recovery day of electronic equipment.

On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Char, permission for the event was granted, pending receipt of the necessary insurance indemnification.

Char aye
Mattheus aye
Smith aye
Stewart aye

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Stewart, bills as examined by members of the Board were approved in accordance with Abstract 2010/2011 number 25, check numbers 1449 through 1490 in the amount of \$550,433.93.

Char aye
Mattheus aye
Smith aye
Stewart aye

Mayor Roddey read a letter from the Great American Weekend Committee requesting the Village to be a joint sponsor for the Great American Weekend and to provide the required insurance coverage under the Village policy.

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, the request was granted.

Char aye
Mattheus aye
Smith aye
Stewart aye

Mayor Roddey read a review letter written by Village Engineer Arthur Tully to the Commissioner of O.C. DPW regarding the County DPW's sanitary sewer connection to the Village of Goshen.

Items of Business

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

WHEREAS, the Village of Goshen has heretofore been compelled to construct a new Waste Water Treatment Facility by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation so as to come in compliance the applicable provisions of the New York *State Environmental Conservation Law* and the United States *Clean Water Act*; and

WHEREAS, in order to comply with the directives issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation the Village has heretofore been compelled to borrow monies in order to pay for the construction of the new Waste Water Treatment Facility as well as the remediation of certain material that was stockpiled during the excavation of the site for the new Waste Water Treatment Facility which stockpiled material must now be disposed of in accordance with law; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Goshen must raise the existing capital assessment on sewer charges for the purpose of paying the debt incurred in connection with complying with the directives of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation;

WHEREAS, the proposed increase to the current special assessment will be the subject of a public hearing to be held on Monday, April 25, 2011;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Village Board for the Village of Goshen, at the public hearing scheduled for Monday, April 25, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, will consider an increase in the special sewer assessment to \$170.00 per unit per quarter for the purpose of re-paying the debt hereinabove described.

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

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

Resolved, the Village Board of the Village of Goshen hereby agrees to contract with Wheldon A. Abt, Architect, P.C., for architectural consulting services for the Village of Goshen Architectural Design District and accepts the proposal outlined in Mr. Abt's correspondence of April 7, 2011.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	aye

On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Smith, the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign a proposal from Lanc & Tully Engineering and Surveying, P.C. for Surveying Services for Village of Goshen Trunk Line Replacement from the Heritage Trail confluence manhole to the Wastewater Treatment Facility. The fee for the Surveying and Design Services, as described in a proposal dated April 1, 2011, is \$8,450.00.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	aye

On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Mattheus, Thomas Lane and Daniel Slesinski are hereby authorized to attend the Grade D Initial Certification Course being held May 24th through 27th, 2011, at the Florida Fire Hall in Florida NY. It is understood that the total cost of this training is \$800.00.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	aye

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Smith, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Goldberg is hereby authorized to attend the Office of the State Comptroller's Division of Local Government Governmental Accounting School to be held in the Town of Corning on April 26th – 28th, 2011. The cost for this training is \$85.00, plus lodging.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	aye

Mayor/Trustee Comments

Mayor Roddey announced that he will be putting out a Facebook page for the Village of Goshen in an effort to provide information to the community. He will also be holding a Public Information Session on Wednesday, April 20th at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center to offer a presentation on the sewer special assessment.

Residents were reminded that the April 25th Board Meeting will be held at the Senior Center.

Trustee Mattheus announced that the very successful yearly leak detection evaluation will run from April 26 – 29th. The reservoir is currently full, and she is moving forward with meetings with the County regarding the CRV wells.

Trustee Stewart noted the following recent activities of the Department of Public Works: crews are straightening and replacing faded signs within the village; yard waste composting has started for the season, please adhere to the rules; branches are being trimmed that protrude into the roadway or obstruct motor vehicle and sign vision; and single stream recycling has begun with pick up every Wednesday.

Trustee Char reported that the Chief has named Ptl. Christopher Smoulcey, James Malgieri, Brandon Raab, Michael Feo, Matthew Dicembri and Michael Gregorio as the Police Chiefs' Association of Orange County Officers of the Year for 2010. Ptl. Smoulcey, Malgieri, Raab, Feo and Dicembri are named in the lifesaving award category for their CPR/Defibrillator efforts that saved the lives of three people. Ptl. Gregorio is named in the exceptional police duty category for his training and development of the CPR/Defibrillator program that has resulted in this department having achieved four CPR/Defibrillator saves in the last two years. They will be formally recognized in a ceremony to be held at the O.C. E911 Center Auditorium on Saturday, June 4th, at 3:00 p.m. Congratulations to all of the officers.

Citizens' Comments

Sue Bloom requested the ability to make monthly, rather than quarterly water/sewer bill payments. She also noted that it was a shame about the Arden Hill Hospital move, as the village needs tax ratables.

Lynn Cione thanked the Board for granting permission to the Goshen Chamber of Commerce for their requests this evening.

Lynn Cione provided a letter thanking the Village of Goshen Police Department for assistance rendered during a recent family medical emergency.

Joel Markowitz commended the Mayor on his idea of using Facebook and noted that Nixle had not been used. He asked for an explanation as to why the County DPW hooked up to the Village sewer without Village of Goshen Board approval.

Ray Rooney expressed concern that four months of revenue were lost when the sewer was hooked up.

Reynell Andrews posed questions about unfunded mandates.

Neil Hickok had several questions about MTBE.

On a motion by Trustee Char, seconded by Trustee Stewart, the Board entered into Execution Session at 9:30 p.m. for a discussion of pending litigation with the Town of Goshen.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	aye

On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Char, the Executive Session was concluded and the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Char	aye
Mattheus	aye
Smith	aye
Stewart	aye