

Goshen Fire District

Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2025

I. Call to order:

Chairman Pearson called to order the regular meeting of the Goshen Fire District at 6:00 PM on October 16, 2025 in Goshen, NY. Unless otherwise stated, all of the resolutions/motions were approved by unanimous vote of the commissioners present and such persons were present during each vote unless otherwise indicated.

II. Attendees:

The following people were present: Commissioner Pearson, Commissioner Donnelly, Commissioner Gallo, Secretary Roberts, Treasurer McPhee, Assistant Chief Graham, Assistant Chief Gambuti

Absent: Chairman Turi, Commissioner Shovlin, Chief Easop

III. Approval of minutes meeting:

A motion was made by Commissioner Gallo and seconded by Commissioner Donnelly to approve the minutes of the monthly meeting held on September 18, 2025. All Commissioners present in favor. Two Commissioners absent. Motion passed.

IV. Correspondence:

- Received paperwork from Dikeman Engine & Hose Company for resignation of the following people: Ashley Arnott and Michael Stumbo
- The next meeting of the Association of Fire Districts is October 28, 2025
- Sent everyone revisions to the District Training Stipend policy with the updates from Assistant Chief Graham.
- Received the resolution for the changes to the LOSAP Program.
- Received paperwork for the Commissioners Election.
- Received letters from the Chiefs for the election in December.

V. Treasurer Report :

- A motion was made by Commissioner Donnelly and seconded by Commissioner Gallo to approve checks for Abstract #20 the amount of \$12,613.13 (Utilities/CC/Capital Funds) and abstract #21 in the amount of \$16,354.83 for a total of \$28,967.96. All Commissioners present in favor. Two Commissioners absent. Motion passed.

Thanked the commissioners for allowing her to attend the conference.
Budget adjustments need to be approved
Will get the NYClass information to the Chiefs for each house.

VI. Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Pearson:

- 9 Truck checks completed.
- 931 – Added DEF, topped off fluids. Starting Chassis service. Q-Siren
- 932 – Add DEF. Diagnostic Regen done after parade.
- 933 – Topped off fluids.
- 934 – Ordered rear brake drums and shoes.
- 935 – Topped off fluids.

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- 936 – Topped off fluids.
- 937 – Added DEF. Was called about unit bottoming out and causing rear under chassis damage. Found airline torn off, tank lights damaged and pad holder damaged. Repaired tank and line. Repaired lights and pad holder. Check over vehicle for NYSI, Lube chassis.
- 938 – No report
- 939 – Topped off fluids. NYSI done
- 941 – Unit has misfired codes on 2 cylinders. Should replace ignition components during Service in November.

Took decals off the Tahoe.

Commissioner Shovlin: Absent

Commissioner Donnelly:

Station 1:

- Cell phone for alarm system will be install 10/24.

Station 2:

- Alarm panel will be installed 10/23.
- IT should be done by Friday.
- Electrician ran power to the second floor for IT rack
- NYSEG replaced meter
- Ice Machine to be serviced.

Station 3:

- Cell phone should be installed 10/24.
- Wall should be started 10/24
- Both ice machines have been serviced.
- Will be getting a quote for gutter repair.

Learned at the Conference that the board should interview new candidates before they approve them.

Commissioner Gallo:

- Insurance on the cars is up to date.

Commissioner Turi: Absent

VII. Chief's Reports

Chief Easop: Absent

Assistant Chief Graham:

- Calls for September 53, YTD 492
- NYCOMCO was at Bridle Court.
- Cars 2 and 3 are done
- Getting a quote for pagers as we have none left and quote for UHF Link
- RedNMx is starting updates for NERIS. Our go live date is 1/1/26

Assistant Chief Gambuti:

- SCBA testing will be November 19 and 20 at Station 3.
- Blood Drive is today

VIII. Old Business:

- A motion was made by Commissioner Donnelly and seconded by Commissioner Gallo to approve the FF Training Stipend Program effective as of 10/16/2025. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Pearson, Gallo and Donnelly voted yes. Commissioners Turi and Shovlin were absent. Motion passed.
- Upon a motion made by Commissioner Gallo and seconded by Commissioner Donnelly resolution was made to approve the changes to the LOSAP Program (Attachment A) A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Pearson, Gallo and Donnelly voted yes. Commissioners Turi and Shovlin were absent. Motion passed.

Commissioner Pearson asked each Commissioner to come up with some questions we would like to ask when interviewing new candidates.

IX. New Business:

- A motion was made by Commissioner Donnelly and seconded by Commissioner Gallo to make budget adjustment (Attachment B). A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Pearson, Gallo and Donnelly voted yes. Commissioners Turi and Shovlin were absent. Motion passed.
- A motion was made by Commissioner Donnelly and seconded by Commissioner Gallo to Approve the 2026 budget in the amount of \$2,030,000. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Pearson, Gallo and Donnelly voted yes. Commissioners Turi and Shovlin were absent. Motion passed.
- Upon a motion made by Commissioner Gallo and seconded by Commissioner Donnelly a resolution was made to override the tax cap for the 2026 budget (Attachment C). A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Pearson, Gallo and Donnelly voted yes. Commissioners Turi and Shovlin were absent. Motion passed.
- Upon a motion made by Commissioner Donnelly and seconded by Commissioner Gallo a resolution was made for Regular Election (Attachment D). A roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Pearson, Gallo and Donnelly voted yes. Commissioners Turi and Shovlin were absent. Motion passed.
- Reorganizational meeting will be January 8, 2026 at 6:30PM.

X. Public Participation: None

XI. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner Gallo and seconded by Commissioner Donnelly to adjourn at 7:40. All Commissioners present in favor. Two Commissioners absent. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathleen A. Roberts
Secretary

Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Goshen Fire District

In the matter of amending the Goshen Fire District Service Award Program

WHEREAS, eligible voters of the Goshen Fire District approved a proposition to establish a Defined Benefit Service Award Program for active volunteers of the Goshen Fire Department, effective January 1, 1992, in accordance with Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law; and,

WHEREAS, the Program currently provides that an active volunteer member earns a \$30 monthly Service Award for each year of Service Credit earned after January 1, 2024 and a \$20 monthly Service Award for each year of Service Credit earned prior to January 1, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Program currently provides that an active volunteer member may earn a maximum of twenty (20) years of such credit with the monthly Service Award payments commencing to the volunteer upon attainment of the Program Entitlement Age of sixty (60); and,

WHEREAS, §216 of Article 11-A authorizes the Board of Commissioners to amend the Program, subject to approval of eligible voting residents at a public referendum; and

WHEREAS, such improvement in Program benefits is consistent with the intent of the Program to help the Goshen Fire Department recruit and retain active volunteers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners, as authorized by Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law, hereby authorizes a public referendum of eligible voters residing within the Goshen Fire District, in an election to be held on December 9, 2025 between the hours of 6 PM and 9 PM at 10 Dikeman Drive , to determine if the Goshen Fire District Service Award Program shall be amended effective January 1, 2026 to increase the maximum number of years of Service Credit that a volunteer can earn from twenty (20) to thirty (30) years and to lower the Program Entitlement age from sixty (60) to fifty-nine (59); and be it further

RESOLVED, that any participating volunteer who has attained age fifty-nine (59) as of January 1, 2026, but not yet attained age sixty (60), shall be eligible to commence payment effective January 1, 2026, provided the participant applies for payment in accordance with the provisions of the program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the forfeiture rule is amended to remove the language stating that The earned Service Credit and Accrued Monthly Service Award of a non-vested Participant shall be

forfeited as of December 31 of the fifth (5) consecutive year during which an Eligible Firefighter fails to earn a year of Service Credit under the Point System; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the cost of the current Program is estimated to be \$239,000 in calendar year 2026 (about \$1,127 per covered participant). Should voters approve this amendment, the annual cost of the amended Program is projected to increase by approximately \$121,000. Therefore, it is estimated that the annual cost of the amended Program will be approximately \$360,000 (about \$1,698 per covered participant). The annual administration fees will not change as a result of the amendment, and be it further

RESOLVED, that all other provisions of the Goshen Fire District Service Award Program which require voter approval shall not change and the program shall continue to be administered in accordance with Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law as such law is amended from time to time.

Commissioner ___ Gallo ___ moved,

Commissioner ___ Donnelly ___ seconded,

and the Board of Commissioners of Goshen Fire District voted as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT
Chairman Pearson _____	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Commissioner Gallo _____	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Commissioner _Donnelly _____	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Commissioner _Turi _____	_____	_____	<u> X </u>
Commissioner __Shovlin _____	_____	_____	<u> X </u>

ATTACHMENT B

ACCOUNT		OVERAGE AMT	NEED	TAKE FROM	
A01910.400	INSURANCE	\$1,276.97	\$1,300.00	A01990.400	CONTINGENT
A03410.407	FIREHOUSE SUPPLIES	\$194.09	\$1,200.00	A03410.402	CONVENTION
A03410.416	ADVERTISING	\$198.82	\$500.00	A03410.402	CONVENTION
A03410.427	MAINTENANCE TRUCKS	\$2,391.24	\$3,000.00	A03410.425	REPAIRS TO EQUIP.
A03411.451	MAINTENANCE CONTACT	\$785.06	\$1,200.00	A03411.450	BUILDING REPAIRS
A03412.451	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	\$923.88	\$1,200.00	A03412.450	BUILDING REPAIRS
A03412.452	UTILITIES	\$5,069.52	\$800.00	A03412.450	BUILDING REPAIRS
			\$4,300.00	A03411.450	BUILDING REPAIRS
A03413.451	MAINTENANCE CONTRACT	\$966.02	\$15,690.00	A03413-450	BUILDING REPAIRS
A03413.452	UTILITIES	\$14,499.44			
A03414.931	931	\$1,064.71	\$1,065.00	A03410.935	935
A03414.936	936	\$250.00	\$250.00	A03410.935	935
A03414.937	937	\$13,324.36	\$6,050.00	A03410.401	CONTRACT SERVICES
			\$7,275.00	A03410.430	AWARDS

GOSHEN FIRE DISTRICT
RESOLUTION OVERRIDE REAL PROPERTY TAX CAP FOR THE 2026 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Goshen Fire District must adopt a proposed budget for 2026 and estimate of fund balances in preparation for the annual fire district budget hearing and did so in preparation for the budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Goshen Fire District held the annual fire district budget hearing on notice to the public on October 13, 2025, and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the proposed budget and comments received on the proposed budget on October 13, 2025 at said budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the financial needs of the fire district and fire department for fiscal year 2026 cannot be supported by a budget that would comply with the real property tax cap established pursuant to Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law as the proposed budget for 2026 calls for a real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap permitting only a 2.00% increase in said tax levy; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law provides as follows:

A local government may adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year, not including any levy necessary to support the expenditures pursuant to subparagraphs (i) through (iv) of paragraph g of subdivision two of this section, only if the governing body of such local government first enacts, by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, a local law to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only, or in the case of a district or fire district, a resolution, approved by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners hereby approves a determination to override the real property tax cap for the 2026 budget only in order to permit an annual real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap permitting only a 2.00% increase in said tax levy and result in a final annual fire district budget in the amount of \$2,030,000.00 and The adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call the vote was as follows:

AYES

Chairman Turi - Absent
Commissioner Pearson - Yes
Commissioner Donnelly - Yes
Commissioner Shovlin – Absent
Commissioner Gallo - Yes

The resolution was thereupon duly declared to have been adopted.

Dated: October 16, 2025

Goshen, New York

RESOLUTION FOR REGULAR ELECTION

WHEREAS, Section 175(a) of the Town Law provides for the election of Fire District Officers and the procedures therefore;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the regular election for Fire District Commissioner shall take place on the 9th day of December, 2025, from 6:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. in the evening;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following resident electors of the Goshen Fire District may be considered to be appointed to constitute the Goshen Fire District Board of Elections for the 2025 annual Fire District Election:

<u>Chairman</u> :	Shannon Stanfield
<u>Election Inspectors:</u>	Michelle Gambuti
	Allen Jorgensen
	Malcolm Stewart

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman, Election Inspectors and Ballot Clerks be compensated in the amount of \$50.00 each for their services in preparing the registration records and attendance at the annual election;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in case any of the members appointed herein are unable to assume or perform the duties required of them, this Board of Fire Commissioners will appoint alternates who are residence electors;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, if clerical help is deemed necessary, this Board of Fire Commissioners will consider the appointment of such clerical persons upon request of the Chairman of the Fire District Board of Elections;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Notice of Election shall be published in the November 5, 2025 issue of THE INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN, and the November 5, 2025 issue of TIMES HERALD RECORD;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that candidates for the Office of Fire Commissioner send a letter stating their intention to seek office no later than 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon on November 19, 2025, or e-mail their name to kroberts@goshennyfd.org not later than 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon on November 19, 2025.

Dated: October 16, 2025

On Motion of Commissioner Donnelly; Seconded by: Commissioner Gallo

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
RICHARD PEARSON	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____
ALFRED TURI, JR.	_____	_____	<u>X</u>	_____
BRENDA SHOVLIN	_____	_____	<u>X</u>	_____
BRIAN GALLO	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____
REX DONNELLY	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____