

5. MUNICIPAL FACILITIES

ISSUES:

1. It appears there is considerable satisfaction with the current town facilities and services; however, the Town needs to continually monitor, project, and plan for proper provision of municipal services.
2. Local government in Goshen is heavily dependent upon volunteer citizens – one of every 15 adults in Goshen is active on one (and often more than one) town board, commission, or other office. Accordingly, any decision to change or improve a municipal service or facility will involve considerable public discussion prior to a formal proposal.

MUNICIPAL FACILITIES – BACKGROUND ASSESSMENT

The Town's major municipal facilities are generally adequate at present. As the Town population increases and ages, the space needs for town services at the Town Hall, Library, Center School, and for police protection will also increase. The Town should encourage diverse use of public spaces and buildings to maximize investment and community building. Joint use agreements should be explored. The following is an overview assessment of Goshen's major municipal facilities with suggestions for study needs.

Town Hall Complex:



Provides Town offices, conference room (50 people) and a room for the Public Library. This space was renovated in 1992 and is in excellent condition. However, there is no room for expansion under the current office/conference room/library configuration. Handicap access for the Recreation Department and Assessor's offices on the 2nd floor is lacking.

Public Works Garage:

Provides space for storage and maintenance of town road equipment and materials. Room for expansion is available.



Fire and Ambulance Station:

The Goshen Fire Company building on Sharon Turnpike houses the fire, emergency, and ambulance vehicles and equipment. The property has area available for additional expansion if necessary. The parking lot and driveways have been recently repaved.

Police:

Police protection is provided by State Police from the Canaan Barracks.

Recreational Facilities:

- Camp Cochepianee is a 57-acre facility on Dog Pond which has a running/walking track, ball fields, bocce court, horseshoe pit, picnic areas, trails, and small waterfront. It also has the Kobylenski Lodge building that can be rented for events like family reunions, birthdays, anniversaries etc. Rentals arrangements must be made through the Recreation Coordinator's Office. In 2005 the swimming area was dredged.
- Goshen Center School recreation facilities – two public all-purpose courts, playgrounds, soccer field & outdoor skating rink.
- Others: The Old Town Hall was sold to the Goshen Players in 2005. The Town owns 73 acres off East Street South that was purchased as a potential local drinking water