

**SPECIAL VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 3, 2013**

The Village of Gowanda Board of Trustees special meeting was called to order by Mayor Heather McKeever at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Hall. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Present: Mayor Heather McKeever
Trustee Carol Sheibley
Trustee John Certis
Trustee Dale DeCarlo
Trustee Paul Zimmermann

Village Employees: Village Clerk Kathy Mohawk, Building Inspector Gary Brecker

Media Present: Phil Palen, Cable Channel 22
Samantha McDonnell, Observer

Public Present: Dennis Regan, Janet Vogtli, Ed and Shirley Kota, Rusty and Patti Pound, Irene Koch, Joe Vogtli, Joe Gorenflo

Mayor McKeever indicated the purpose of this special meeting was to discuss the TLC expansion project. She stated that based on the adjustments that were made with Building Inspector Brecker, it seems like the project is on track.

Mayor McKeever accepted comments from the public.

Dennis Regan feels the hospital has a credibility issue. He does not believe that \$2 million is going to pay for the project. TLC has not been honest with the community. He asked for a full disclosure of the FEMA and insurance money and where it went.

Janet stated that TLC has spoken to the media but refuses to address the people of the community. She then asked when the Board is going to vote on the Savarino project.

Shirley Kota feels the community should have been allowed to vote on the project.

Mayor McKeever understands the frustrations of the community and knows they don't want to settle for just this small improvement in the urgent care facility. Trustee Sheibley feels this is a start but the Village needs to work with TLC to keep moving forward. Trustee Zimmermann feels 24 hour service should be part of the program.

In response to where all the money went from FEMA, Patti Pound indicated it cost a lot of money to take the asbestos out of the old hospital.

Irene Koch stated that there are other surrounding communities which relied on the hospital. She feels the Village should work with the hospital for an emergency contingency plan.

Building Inspector Brecker indicated that the facility is big enough for an emergency room but money is the problem.

Many of those in attendance echoed the same sentiments that TLC needs to be transparent and made accountable to the community.

Motion 120-13. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to accept the resolution presented by the Planning Board with some conditions: 1) the hope that the facility will grow into a 24 hour service; 2) want to keep a facility that keeps rates reasonable for the residents; and 3) that a letter be sent to TLC requesting that they answer what the past use of the money was and what the future plans are for this facility. Motion carried 5-0.

Joe Vogtli asked when the Board will make a decision on the Savarino project. Mayor McKeever advised the Village is still compiling public comments from the hearing. The planning board approved the project based on Building Inspector Brecker's approval. Mr. Brecker indicated he has not approved 2 items yet. He has received documentation for the contaminated plume but is waiting on documentation on the underground tanks and the floodplain issues. He stated that part of the SEQR process is to take public comment into consideration.

Joe Gorenflo, 53 Frederick Street, would like to see emergency services provided at the urgent care facility. He also asked why the police cars don't have AED's in them. Sometimes there is grant money for these items.

Motion 121-13. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to go into executive session for a personnel issue at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 122-13. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to come out of Executive session at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 123-13. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to send three letters relative to the personnel issue on the advice of Village Attorney Chadsey. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 124-13. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to adjourne the Village board meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

The next Village of Gowanda board meeting is September 10, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen V. Mohawk
Village Clerk