

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2014**

The Village of Gowanda Board of Trustees meeting was called to order by Mayor Heather McKeever at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Hall. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Present: Mayor Heather McKeever  
Trustee Carol Sheibley  
Trustee Pete Sisti  
Trustee Barb Nephew  
Trustee Paul Zimmermann

Village Employees: Village Clerk Kathy Mohawk, Village Attorney Deborah Chadsey, Officer-in-Charge Joe Alessi

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

Public Present: Lin Boats, Kenneth Lee

Mayor McKeever requested a change in the January 28, 2014 Village Board meeting minutes regarding the cell phone in the police car. She did not indicate it would provide better communication with the residents.

Motion 267-13. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2014 Village Board meeting as revised. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor McKeever indicated she did not have enough time to review the minutes of the February 6, 2014 Special Village Board meeting. The minute approval was tabled until the next meeting.

Motion 268-13. Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve Abstract #9 dated February 11, 2014 on all funds as follows:

General Fund	\$86,465.95
Water Fund	23,030.40
Sewer Fund	50,468.29
Superfund Project	1,162.12
Flood	5,422.56
Municipal Building Upgrade	15,034.73
Joint Activity	1,711.59
Total	\$183,295.74

Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee Sheibley spoke about the high cost of National Fuel for one month at Industrial Place. She stated the Village needs to look at moving out of that building, selling it or renting it to another entity.

Mayor McKeever indicated that Trustee Sheibley has been auditing the vouchers and will now sign off on them as well.

Motion 269-13. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to authorize Trustee Sheibley to sign the vouchers. Motion carried 5-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk advised that ex-Trustee DeCarlo had been authorized as a check signer. She asked if another Trustee might be added in his place along with Mayor McKeever, Treasurer Schilling and Village Clerk Mohawk.

Motion 270-13. Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Nephew to authorize Trustee Sheibley to become an additional check signer on the Village bank accounts. Motion carried 5-0.

## **POLICE**

Officer-in-Charge Alessi presented his January 2014 police report:

“225 reportable calls, 28 arrests, 23 tickets issued, 6 violent domestics, 9 motor vehicle accidents, 6 parking ban tickets issued, 3 mental transports to Lake Shore, 7 prisoner transports to Erie and Cattaraugus County Jails.

January was very busy with activity in our community and has carried over into February. I want to thank the hard working men and women in our department who put the time and effort in making this Village safe and recognize the concept of team work to make our department the best it can be.

Our record management system called C.H.A.R.M.S is up and running after 2 years in the making. This will enable us to retrieve and input information at lightning speed plus this will allow us to interface with our arrest booking system and dispatch management system.

Training for this system will start immediately as a few officers in our department know the system and will teach the other officers.

Congratulations to Jen Alessi for being profiled in the New York State Rural Futures magazine which is printed for the NYS Legislative Commission on Rural Resources. Jen’s goal is to speak in Albany about needed services for rural areas.”

Officer-in-Charge Alessi also spoke about a parking problem on Park Street. He advised that the landlord has been advised that vehicles may be towed if the situation continues.

Officer-in-Charge Alessi also commended the Cattaraugus County Sheriff’s, Erie County Sheriff’s, Seneca Nation marshals and the Gowanda police for their efforts in apprehending robbers at the storage facility.

**JOINT ACTIVITY**

Trustee Sheibley requested approval to appoint Tom Maloney as a volunteer with the ice skating program.

Motion 271-13. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to appoint Tom Maloney as a volunteer with the ice skating program. Motion carried 5-0.

**FIRE**

Village Attorney Chadsey presented the updated lease with the Gowanda Ambulance for approval and signature.

Motion 272-13. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to authorize Mayor McKeever to sign the Gowanda Ambulance lease and send it on. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor McKeever advised that Trustee Zimmermann and Trustee Sheibley will serve as Co-Commissioners for the fire department.

Motion 273-13. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Nephew to appoint Trustee Sheibley Co-Commissioner to the fire department. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee Zimmermann asked residents to please keep the fire hydrants clear of snow.

**DISASTER COORDINATOR**

Motion 274-13. Motion by Trustee Zimmerman, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the following resolution:  
“WHEREAS, the Village of Gowanda, with the assistance from Cattaraugus County, has gathered information and prepared the Cattaraugus County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan; and  
WHEREAS, the Cattaraugus County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and  
WHEREAS, the Village of Gowanda is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the Plan and the actions in the Plan; and  
WHEREAS, the Village of Gowanda has reviewed the Plan and affirms that the Plan will be updated no less than every five years.  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Village Board of Trustees that the Village of Gowanda adopts the Cattaraugus County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as this jurisdiction’s Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the Plan.”  
Motion carried 5-0.

## **TREASURER**

Village Clerk Mohawk asked that the Village Board take action relative to the insurance renewal.

Motion 275-13. Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the NYMIR insurance option at a\$23,000 savings. Motion carried 5-0.

Village Attorney Chadsey advised that property appraisals will be done to determine values.

## **LEGAL**

Village Attorney Chadsey gave an update on the Safe Routes to School project. It is somewhat complicated between the school, the Village and the DEC. She stated there have been title problems with the property along the creek. Mayor McKeever indicated that a referendum will be necessary in the spring.

Village Attorney Chadsey advised that pursuant to a complaint that was filed by a member of the Gowanda Police Department, the Mayor must name a Board member as a compliance officer to investigate.

Motion 276-13. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to appoint Trustee Nephew as the compliance officer to investigate this complaint. Motion carried 5-0.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Trustee Sisti advised he is meeting with the public works employees on Thursday to look at trucks and maintenance schedules. He requested a work session at the next meeting to discuss these issues with the Village Board members.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Village Clerk Mohawk presented a list of records which can be disposed of according to the New York State Records Retention Schedule.

Motion 277-13. Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the list of records to be disposed of. Motion carried 5-0.

There was some discussion about the contract with Cattaraugus County for the use of casino funds for Gateway Zoar Valley Park. The approval was tabled until the next meeting.

Motion 278-13. Motion by Trustee Zimmerman, seconded by Trustee Sisti to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 7:25 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

The next Village of Gowanda board meeting is February 25. 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen V. Mohawk  
Village Clerk