

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 25, 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 was not present.

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

Public Present: Jay and Allison Frantz

Mayor McKeever advised that changes are necessary to the February 6, 2014 Village Board meeting minutes. Village Clerk Mohawk will make changes.

Motion 279-13. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2014 Village Board meeting as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

POLICE

Mayor McKeever advised that Officer Campas requested that his probation period run for one year from his start date per the civil service regulations.

Motion 280-13. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Nephew to authorize Officer Campas' probationary period to run for one year from his start date per the civil service regulations. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor McKeever advised that Officer Daryl Quinn has resigned from the Gowanda Police Department as he accepted a position with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office.

Motion 281-13. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Sisti to accept the resignation of Officer Daryl Quinn with regret. Motion carried 4-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk will send a letter.

Mayor McKeever advised that the furnace in the police garage was replaced at a cost not to exceed \$1600.

Village Clerk Mohawk sent along the invitation from Officer-in-Charge Alessi to the graduation of Drew Carriero and Shane Miller from the Rural Police Academy at Genesee Community College on March 7th at 7:00 p.m.

JOINT ACTIVITY

Trustee Sheibley reported that the winter programs are about over for this season.

Trustee Sheibley spoke about the renewal of the cable franchise agreement. She indicated that Village Attorney Chadsey should review the agreement as now is the time to negotiate any items that need to be changed. Trustee Sheibley indicated that perhaps the section about the fees paid to the Village should be reviewed. Village Clerk Mohawk also indicated that in prior years discussions concerned the fact that the agreement is for a 10 year period and perhaps that is too long. Village Clerk Mohawk will supply a copy of the contract to the Village Board members for their review and input.

Trustee Sheibley advised that she spoke with Sara at Hazman who indicated that any recycling event through her company would cost the Village about \$4,000. Both Erie and Cattaraugus Counties hold these events at varying times during the year at varying locations at no cost.

Mayor McKeever advised that the Hollywood Theater might use some storage space at the Industrial Place building while renovations are ongoing at the theater.

Motion 282-13. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Nephew to allow the Village and the Hollywood Theater to start discussions about an agreement to lease space at the Industrial Place building. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor McKeever also advised that the Chamber of Commerce does not need the upstairs space at this time. There have been ongoing discussions about the Music in the Park program. The Chamber of Commerce and the Village want the program to return to the park if insurance is not an issue. Mayor McKeever indicated that the Village may take over the program and the Chamber will plan it.

Motion 283-13. Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to return the Music in the Park program to Chang-Hu Park even if the Village has to sponsor the event. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor McKeever advised that conversations with GARC have indicated they would be interested in using the upstairs space in the Municipal Hall beginning April 1st. The Village will move forward with discussions and an agreement to use the space.

FIRE

Trustee Sheibley reported that she spoke with the fire department and the insurance company about keeping the inspection records for the fire vehicles. It was agreed that they will be kept in a file at the fire hall.

DISASTER COORDINATOR

Mayor McKeever commended Disaster Coordinator Nick Crassi for his assistance in averting another potential flooding disaster this past week. Village Clerk Mohawk will send letters of thanks to the Towns of Collins and Persia and to Mr. Crassi for their help in averting disasters.

LEGAL

There was discussion about the revisions to the Employee Handbook. Trustee Sheibley submitted her comments to Village Attorney Chadsey but the other Board members need to submit their remarks. Action on the revisions will be taken at the next Village Board meeting.

Trustee Nephew spoke about the 42 Jamestown Street project and feels the Village Board needs to take some action with respect to tightening up some of the zoning code regulations. She presented some paperwork which had been prepared by Jay Frantz with suggestions on how the Village should proceed relative to this project.

PUBLIC WORKS

Trustee Sisti reported that he met with Highway Superintendent Denea and Bryan Bylbie to discuss the vehicles and maintenance schedules. They indicated they would get some other quotes for trucks. Trustee Sisti suggested that at the next work session the Village Board should discuss the options of leasing versus purchase. Trustee Sisti stated the old 2000 truck should be kept as a third backup as it is not worth much for trade or sale. The plow is even older.

Mayor McKeever advised that the Village cannot salt sidewalks as some residents have asked.

ADMINISTRATION

Village Clerk Mohawk advised that a man from STEL indicated that he has people who would like to volunteer to assist the Village with any type of work that needs to be done, such as cleaning parks, streets, etc. She also advised that Officer Campas has a young man who needs to fulfill 100 hours of community service. It was mentioned that the hallway in the Municipal Building needs to be painted. Mayor McKeever advised that all volunteers need to go through the proper channels for work including an indemnity

agreement for insurance purposes. Trustee Sisti indicated that the Village should know who is working and what they are doing.

Village Clerk Mohawk presented the event application for the Cabin Fever Walk for LOVE, Inc. scheduled for March 16, 2014.

Motion 284-13. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the event application submitted by LOVE, INC. for the Cabin Fever Walk on March 16, 2014. Motion carried 4-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk advised that the January Treasurer's report has been filed.

NYCOM is presenting a Personnel School in Pittsford, New York on March 14th. Mayor McKeever indicated she would be attending and suggested that any Trustee who would like to go could ride with her.

Motion 285-13. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Nephew to authorize any Village Trustee to attend the NYCOM training in Pittsford on March 14th. Motion carried 4-0.

ENVIRONMENT

Phil Palen advised that the company that bid the tree cutting/trimming is out of business. He asked if the second bidder could then be used. Mayor McKeever asked that Phil attend the next work session to discuss the options for the work to be finished.

Motion 286-13. Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Sisti to go into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. for legal and personnel issues. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion 287-13. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to come out of Executive Session at 8:55 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion 288-13. Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Sisti to authorize the Village Board to review a Local Law to improve the planning, building and zoning regulations of the Village of Gowanda and to have the Village Attorney review for her recommendations. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion 289-13. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Sisti to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

The next Village of Gowanda board meeting is March 11, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen V. Mohawk
Village Clerk