

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2014**

The Village of Gowanda Board of Trustees meeting was called to order by Mayor Heather McKeever at 7:10 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, Building Inspector Gary Brecker, Treasurer Cindy Schilling, Disaster Coordinator Nick Crassi

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

Public Present: Doug Oger

Motion 145-14. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2014 Village Board meeting as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 146-14. Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2014 Special Village Board meeting as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 147-14. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve Abstract #4 dated September 16, 2014 on all funds as follows:

General Fund	\$192,551.76
Water Fund	7,171.83
Sewer Fund	35,897.59
Superfund Project	<u>115.48</u>
Total	\$235,736.66

Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee Sheibley asked to change the names on the telephone bills. Mayor McKeever also advised that Trustee Sheibley will review the final abstracts.

BUSINESS/BUILDING PERMITS

Building Inspector Brecker advised that the can redemption center put up the sign prior to his approval. Mayor McKeever said the traffic pattern there is not good. Trustee Sisti

asked about the plan for tractor trailers. Mayor McKeever asked Building Inspector Brecker to monitor the traffic patterns on that corner and see how many vehicles go in and out of that location. Mr. Brecker suggested that Ms. Degenfelder come speak with the Village Board about her plans.

Building Inspector Brecker reported that he spoke with Cattaraugus County about 24 South Water Street. About \$3800 would purchase it for the Village. Mr. Brecker indicated he could send a letter to the County stressing the liability of the building and see if they might change their mind.

Building Inspector Brecker reported that the owner of 19 Buffalo Street has been ticketed for a Court appearance regarding the garbage. The Village employees removed the garbage and all expenses will be tracked. He reported that the first floor of the building is supposed to be commercial, not residential. At the present time, a private club is occupying that space and a club is not considered commercial.

Building Inspector Brecker reported that he contacted the Department of Health and was advised that it is illegal to shut off water while a residence is occupied. It is different, however, if it is owner-occupied.

Building Inspector Brecker reported he has 3 active court cases, 2 in Persia, one in Collins; 4 new constructions; 1 structural violation on Johnson Street; 2 junkyards; a property maintenance issue on Bader Avenue; 2 abandoned pools; and 2 abandoned trailers.

Mr. Brecker indicated he needs to discuss options for 19 Jamestown Street with the Village Board.

Building Inspector Brecker reported that the condemned house on Palmer Street has been purchased and is being remodeled.

Mr. Brecker advised he has 2 fire inspections scheduled for Monday. He reported a tree on Chestnut Street needs to come down. It is over 120 feet tall.

Trustee Nephew advised that the old hospital property on Memorial Drive needs to be mowed.

Building Inspector Brecker advised that the owner of 49 South Water Street, the old print shop, is scheduled to be back in Court on October 22nd.

POLICE

Motion 148-14. Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Nephew to accept the resignation of Officer Chris Schreiber from the Gowanda Police Department, with regret. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 149-14. Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the purchase of Motorola radios for the police department at a cost of \$1,565.13 as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 150-14. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Nephew to allow Justin Grimm to complete an internship with the Gowanda Police Department, as required by Jamestown Community College for his major in criminal justice. Motion carried 5-0.

JOINT ACTIVITY

Trustee Sheibley thanked Liberty Partnership for providing the transportation for 3 field trips for the summer recreation program. She also thanked Chautauqua Opportunities for providing arts and crafts supplies for the program, as well as an instructor. Village Clerk Mohawk will send thank you letters. Mayor McKeever thanked Trustee Sheibley and Recreation Director Benton for their efforts with the summer program.

Trustee Sheibley reported that the Learn-to-Ski signups will be held October 27th.

FIRE

Trustee Zimmermann reported on the addition of a GPS system for Hidi Hose to help when responding to emergencies. Trustee Sheibley indicated it would be no cost to the Village. The firefighters will privately fund raise for the cost.

Motion 151-14. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the addition of a GPS system to Hidi Hose truck. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee Sheibley reported that the Village Board met with the fire department last week. The Fire Chiefs and fleet manager want to surplus Hose #1 pumper and purchase a new vehicle to transport supplies to Zoar Valley. The surplus funds would then be put into a reserve fund for a future purchase for the fire company.

Motion 152-14. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to declare the 2000 KME Predator custom pumper as surplus and allow a broker to offer it for sale, with the final price to be determined by the Village Board. Motion carried 5-0.

DISASTER COORDINATOR

Disaster Coordinator Nick Crassi gave a FEMA update. He advised that Simmons has been working with the Village trying to gather as much information as possible. Mr. Crassi, Village Engineer Mark Burr and Simmons walked the entire length of Thatcher Brook, taking pictures and documenting the problem areas. They identified 7 sites. FEMA did a preliminary walkthrough and identified the following streets that will be covered for repair: School Street from West Main Street to North Chapel, Center Street, North Water Street from Aldrich Street to the dead end behind Academy Place, Aldrich Street from West Main Street to North Water and College Street. New estimates have

been put together and the PW will be submitted soon. Mr. Crassi also indicated that Trustee Sheibley and Water Superintendent Dubaj have also been involved with this project.

Disaster Coordinator Crassi also stated that the Pt. Peter Reservoir PW will be very detailed. There are about 300 trees there that need to come down. Mr. Crassi advised that he went with Greenman, Pederson engineers and Village Engineer Burr to tour the reservoir yesterday. The Village needs to write the initial PW to as high a level as we can get. Mr. Crassi has also been working to capture all the invoices, labor, and equipment charges. Simmons feels the sweeper repair can be included at 100% reimbursement as well as the skidster. Mr. Crassi indicated that no police department employee hours can be captured.

This Friday, the 19th, the engineering proposals are due back. Next Thursday at 4:00 is the meeting to review the proposals to decide.

Disaster Coordinator Crassi advised he will be attending the Tier 3 training in Little Valley on September 23rd.

Trustee Nephew stated that working with Disaster Coordinator Crassi was the right thing for the Village to do.

Mr. Crassi also advised that the Town of Persia is working on removing debris from Thatcher Brook banks.

TREASURER

Treasurer Schilling advised she is working on the paperwork for the \$865,000 bond with Municipal Solutions. The payment will be split 68% general/32% water.

Treasurer Schilling asked for a resolution for the plow truck - \$160,500 payment at 3.12% for a 7 year lease.

Motion 153-14. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the purchase of a new plow truck at 3.12% for 7 years for \$160,500. Motion carried 5-0.

LEGAL

Treasurer Schilling advised she spoke with Village Attorney Chadsey who indicated the renewal of the Time Warner franchise agreement is not until November. Paperwork will be presented at the next Village Board meeting on September 30th.

Trustee Sheibley advised the codes still need to be addressed, i.e., frozen water lines, animal control, rental units and code of ethics. All of these items will be discussed at the next work session.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported on the condition of the surplus copier in the board room. It works but has no maintenance contract and no parts availability. The duplex tray does not work either. It can be sold as is. Village Clerk Mohawk will advertise the surplus items for sale "as is."

PUBLIC WORKS

Trustee Sheibley presented proposals for the roof repairs at the sewer plant. There are four separate roofs. Trustee Sheibley asked for approval for Eberle Contracting to repair Roof C – 9 square and Roof B 12 square.

Motion 154-14. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve Eberle Contracting proposals as presented for Roof C-9 square and Roof B-12 square pending confirmation that the Village procurement policy is followed. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor McKeever spoke about the public works staffing. She indicated that Cody Zeafla was hired as summer help but has been working beyond that time. She indicated he would be working through the end of this week. The Village Board agreed that Highway Superintendent Denea could keep using Mr. Zeafla at his discretion.

Motion 155-14. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Nephew to accept the retirement resignation of Tim Smolinski, with regret. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 156-14. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Sisti to post and advertise the laborer position availability. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee Sisti advised of an employee that has expressed the desire to become dual-certified in water and sewer.

Motion 157-14. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to rescind Motion 136-14 from the August 19th meeting minutes. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 158-14. Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Nephew to hire Jason Opferbeck as part-time Public Works Superintendent at \$35 per hour. Motion carried 5-0.

There was discussion about increasing the water rates. This topic will be on the next work session which will start at 5:30 p.m. on September 30th. Water Superintendent Dubaj will be asked to attend.

Village Clerk Mohawk advised that the painting in the stairwell is more involved. There is moisture that is causing the problem. Trustee Sheibley suggested de-commissioning the upstairs restrooms to help alleviate some of the moisture. Village Clerk Mohawk will check the contract to see who did the original painting when the building was renovated.

There was discussion about the work that was done at the Zoar Gateway Park. Village Clerk Mohawk will send letters to those who helped with the shared services.

The Village Board will get estimates for fixing the crumbling pillars on Orchard Place.

ADMINISTRATION

Motion 159-14. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the Community Spirit Parade for October 2nd. Motion carried 5-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk reminded the public about the last large trash pickup scheduled for October 13th. Trustee Sheibley advised she spoke with Gary Carrel from N.E.S.T. who said the Village is entitled to 3 e-Waste pickups.

Village Clerk Mohawk advised that the CDBG applications must be in Erie County by Monday, October 27th, so there are only 2 meetings prior to that.

Motion 160-14. Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Nephew to hold a public hearing for the CDBG applications on September 30, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor McKeever reported that the Erie County Government Officials meeting is September 25th in Williamsville. She is unable to attend and invited any other board members to attend on her behalf. RSVP is due by Friday.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported that NYSEG changed the bulb and eye on the light at 28 Jamestown Street. It has power but the light is still out. She also reported that the street light at 51 Jamestown Street is very dim. It was suggested she contact Tunney Electric for a quote to fix the lights.

Mayor McKeever advised that the next Christmas in Gowanda meeting will be held next month, date to be determined.

Village Clerk Mohawk advised the Village Board that she was contacted by Jeanne Ebersole, Assessor for the Town of Collins, regarding exemptions. The Board should begin discussions with the Towns especially regarding the veterans exemption. Village Clerk Mohawk will invite the assessors to the October 14th work session at 5:30 p.m.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported on the Memorial Service for K-9 Mike scheduled for October 4th at 10:00 a.m. on Chang Hu Park.

ENVIRONMENT

Phil Palen reported that the tree bids were received and he prioritized the work that needs to be done, beginning with grinding the old stumps, and then the safety prunings, reserving some funds for spring plantings. He advised the low bid for the stump removal

is Mitchell Stump for \$755. The low bid for the tree pruning is Good Neighbor Tree Service at \$9,495. From the budgeted amount of \$8,750, deducting \$560 for the old stumps, Mr. Palen figured this would leave about \$4400 for the most hazardous trees.

Motion 161-14. Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to award the bid for old stump removal to Mitchell Stump for \$755 and to Good Neighbor Tree Service for tree removal/trimming for the low bid. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor McKeever asked that letters be sent to the homeowners who were going to have tree work done to give them advance notice.

Motion 162-14. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Sisti to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 9:10 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

The next Village of Gowanda board meeting is September 30, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen V. Mohawk
Village Clerk