

**SPECIAL VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
MAY 18, 2015**

The Village of Gowanda Board of Trustees special meeting was called to order by Mayor Heather McKeever at 5:00 p.m. at the Municipal Hall.

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

Village Employees: Treasurer Cindy Lauer, Village Clerk Kathy Mohawk, Disaster Coordinator Nick Crassi

Mayor McKeever spoke about bid that were received for the BOA consultant. The selection committee decided on C&S Companies since they have a local component. All bids came in under the grant amount. C&S indicated they would get the community involved.

Motion 57-15. Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Sisti to hire C&S Companies as the consultant for the BOA grant for \$73,000 upon approval of the state. Motion carried 4-0.

Disaster Coordinator Crassi reported on the Thatcher Brook Park flood debris cleanup bids which were returned on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Pierce Services of Fredonia was the lowest bid. Mr. Crassi, Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck and Village Engineer Burr guessed the amount of debris is about 6500 cubic yards. Disaster Coordinator Crassi indicated that \$56,225 was reimbursed from FEMA and \$92,638.46 was the total cost of the debris removal in the Village. Mr. Crassi indicated the Village does not have any permits to move the debris yet, just a verbal okay. Disaster Coordinator Crassi advised that is one question that FEMA won't answer. The major sticking point is who owns Thatcher Brook. The major question is about the West Main Street bridge. The Village wants the State to move the rock. Trustee Sisti said he is concerned about the extra \$12,000 the Village will need to pay. Mayor McKeever advised that long-term lending will need to be done. Trustee Sisti asked if the Village could move some of the debris if it would keep the costs down. Trustee Sisti also asked if Pierce could be asked how much they will be removing for their bid. Is it all of the debris or just some of it? Trustee Nephew reported there is a tree across Thatcher Brook and she asked if it could be removed. Disaster Coordinator Crassi advised that when removing a tree, you cannot touch the bank. If you cut a tree, leave the stump in the ground. Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck (via telephone) advised that the amount quoted by Pierce includes taking the entire pile of debris. He also said the Village already received reimbursement for prior debris removal so there should be extra money in the general fund to pay for the extra \$12,000. Mr. Opferbeck indicated that all bids were for removing the entire pile. Before the work can be completed, however, the soil sample results which were previously sent to the DEC will be required as well as the DEC permit.

Motion 58-15. Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to accept the bid from Pierce Services in the amount of \$68,740 on the recommendation of Disaster Coordinator Crassi and Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck, with the Village Board's understanding that they will move the entire pile of flood debris at Thatcher Brook. Motion carried 4-0.

The Village Board discussed the accounting bids that were received. Treasurer Lauer stated she is more confident with the Springville company. R.A. Mercer and Drescher & Malecki are too high. After the first of the year, she stated the Village should look at the accounting services and insurance. The company from Rochester contains a kind of gray area. Treasurer Lauer said the Village would be accepting the retainer for the Springville company but other services would be extra. Trustee Sisti is comfortable with whatever the Board feels is the best option since it is only for one year. Treasurer Lauer stated the Village could agree to \$12,000 for the retainer which lists the services to be performed plus the on going monthly costs at \$250 per month plus the ongoing annual costs for \$3,500. She stated that listed on page 6 of the proposal is the services to be performed. All are fixed or variable costs. Anything extra would need prior Board approval.

Motion 59-15. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to accept the proposal from Mark I. Adamchick, CPA for \$18,500. Motion carried 4-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported that two summer employees started today but no advertisement was run and no interviews were completed. The Village Board stated that it is necessary to hold interviews. Trustee Sheibley stated that the summer employees should be instructed on vehicle driving and safety in general. The Village Board agreed that Devin Reid could temporarily continue as a part-time returning employee. Jake Hansen-Ivett will need to go through the interview process.

Motion 60-15. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Nephew to hire Devin Reid temporarily as a part-time returning employee until interviews have been completed. Motion carried 3-0. (Trustee Sheibley left the meeting before the vote was taken).

Motion 61-15. Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Nephew to adjourn the special Village Board meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

The next Village of Gowanda board meeting is June 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen V. Mohawk  
Village Clerk