

**SPECIAL VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
MAY 25, 2016**

The Village of Gowanda Board of Trustees special meeting was called to order by Mayor Heather McKeever at 6:05 p.m. at the Municipal Hall.

Present: Mayor Heather McKeever  
Trustee Carol Sheibley  
Trustee Aaron Markham  
Trustee Wanda Koch  
Trustee Paul Zimmermann

Village Employees: Village Clerk Kathy Mohawk, Public Works Superintendent Jason Opferbeck, Account Clerk Kathleen Ellis

Public Present: Alan Nephew, Andy Burr

Trustee Koch advised Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck that a meeting has been scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 regarding code enforcement. She indicated there was an initial meeting attended by Larry Green and Gary Brecker. Larry Green will be the number one person to contact. Trustee Koch also indicated that Building Inspector Brecker has a lot of knowledge. Mayor McKeever reported that Charlie Smith had changed the location for the can redemption center. Trustee Koch indicated there are lots of questions about the new location and it will be discussed at the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Mayor McKeever reported that GARC meets on a regular basis. The guidelines state that any time anything is purchased, it has to be approved by the Mayor. She also stated that the project is now at that stage where any purchases in the future will need maintenance. Trustee Zimmermann said that GARC should do better planning rather than rushing things through. Mayor McKeever feels any decisions and work done at Gateway Park should be by Board action and that the Board should be aware. When the PRP money comes in, it will be for dedicated items. Trustee Zimmermann feels that GARC has a plan and it should be more open to the Village Board rather than just doing things.

Mayor McKeever had some invoice that were presented by GARC and she was asked to sign off on them. She presented copies of the GARC bank accounts so the Village Board members were informed. There was some discussion about the bill from Gernatt Asphalt Products. Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck advised that the minutes of the GARC meeting show that the \$10,000 was approved to be paid to Gernatt. He also indicated that he spoke with someone from Gernatt's who indicated this invoice was settled. Village Clerk Mohawk will check with Accounts Payable Clerk Becky Kuhs to see if the \$10,000 was ever paid by the Village.

Mayor McKeever talked about the change order for Kheops regarding the asphalt surfacing. She indicated she would be okay with it as long as it didn't include the Village

for in-kind services. She was advised that Cattaraugus County is helping per their agreement with the Town of Persia.

The next discussion concerned post-retirement benefits. Account Clerk Ellis indicated she e-mailed everyone regarding same but received no input. She indicated the Board needs to have a formal policy. If the idea is to allow a retired employee's spouse, then premiums need to be paid by a set date prior to the due date. Trustee Zimmermann indicated the Village cannot pay health insurance for retired employees who don't pay the premium. Trustee Markham stated he likes the idea of just the employee and the spouse and it is what you have when you retire. You cannot add dependents and you cannot upgrade your coverage. Trustee Koch and Trustee Sheibley both indicated that Medicare is the second coverage if you have regular insurance. Some of the retired employees have dropped to single coverage so their insurance would go longer. Trustee Sheibley stated there should be some parameters to this offer and it should be reviewed annually. Account Clerk Ellis agreed and said it should be reviewed just before the open enrollment period. Trustee Sheibley and Account Clerk Ellis will work to develop a formal policy. The Village Board agreed that it would be allowed according to the standards to be set at the June meeting. Requirements include payment of at least one quarter ahead, the necessity of signing up for Medicare at age 65, and including the current spouse only. If the retiree remarries, only a single policy will be available.

Motion 60-16. Motion by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the post-retirement policy as set forth with the ability to alter as necessary and to review in September of each year. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck presented an entire list of equipment to be sold. He had a list of the current equipment as well as a plan for the next 3 years. The list included:

- 2008 Ford F350 white truck with plow – transfer to fire department to use for plowing
- 2003 Ford F350 white dually – being sold at auction
- 2015 Bobcat skidsteer – being traded in for new skidsteer
- 2012 Terex skidsteer – being sold at auction
- 2000 New Holland backhoe – being sold at auction
- 1996 John Deer backhoe – being sold at auction
- 1975 trailer – being sold at auction
- 1945 Leaf vacuum – being sold at auction
- 2008 John Deer lawn mower – being traded in for new mower

Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck also advised that the street sweeper broke down again and will be down for a couple of weeks. He advised there have been 48 work orders on the street sweeper since 2011. Trustee Zimmermann stated there should be some sort of accountability for the vehicles and the maintenance scheduling.

Trustee Sheibley reviewed the list of equipment that Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck wished to purchase and noted that the leaf machine is not on State bid as all

the rest. Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck stated that the Village can piggyback off the State bid for Pennsylvania.

Motion 61-16. Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Markham to declare the list of equipment as presented by Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck as surplus. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck discussed the DPW equipment plan. He proposed to trade in the 2008 John Deere lawn mower to a new lawn mower and to trade the 2015 Bobcat for a larger skidsteer for both highway and sewer. He proposed selling the 2012 Terex skidsteer, the 2000 New Holland backhoe, the 1996 John Deere backhoe, the 2003 Ford F350 dually pickup, the 1975 trailer and the 1945 leaf machine. The proceeds from these sales would be put toward the purchase of the new equipment.

Motion 62-16. Motion by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to accept the proposed DPW Equipment plan as presented on May 26, 2016. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 63-16. Motion by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the purchase of an E55 T4 Bobcat compact excavator at a cost of \$63,675.60, on a three year payment plan of \$22,850.16 per year. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 64-16. Motion by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the purchase of a T450 T4 Bobcat compact track loader at a cost of \$4,999.50 after trade in. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 65-16. Motion by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the purchase of an ODB Trailer Mounted Vacuum Debris Collector at a cost of \$42,216.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 66-16. Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Markham to approve the purchase of a new John Deere signature series garden tractor at a cost of \$7,900 after a trade in. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 67-16. Motion by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the purchase of a John Deere Gator at a cost of \$11,593.05. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck advised the Village received 16 applications for summer employment. Two found other jobs and were no longer interested. One moved to Texas, one was unable to return to work for medical reasons, and one gave a wrong number and could not be reached. Three have been hired and are currently working well as the lawn mowing crew. One applicant can only work two days per week and another would need to limit hours worked per day as she has an evening job. He requested authorization to hire the driver/general laborers as part time with alternate positions in case someone can't work. They would also need to be drug tested and have a physical.

Motion 68-16. Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Markham to approve hiring the drivers/general laborers as presented, and having them all have physicals and pre-employment drug testing. Motion carried 4-0. Trustee Zimmermann abstained from voting.

Officer-in-Charge Raiport budgeted for another full-time police officer. There was discussion about the full time officer working 12 hour shifts while the others work 8 hours. The Village Board asked that Officer-in-Charge Raiport provide a schedule for these officers and how he plans to use the full time positions.

Motion 69-16. Motion by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve hiring Joshua Bartholomew as a full-time police officer, effective June 8, 2016. Motion carried 5-0.

Officer-in-Charge Raiport advised that he will contact Cattaraugus County to select another candidate to work on the drug task force to replace Officer Bartholomew.

Mayor McKeever reported that Treasurer Adamchick will begin working on Wednesday afternoons and Fridays in the Village office.

Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck gave a short presentation on the type of meters he would like to have. Both the Neptune and Master meters are radio reads with 10 year warranties and 20 year batteries. These meters can be physically read if the reader breaks. Public Works Superintendent Opferbeck would prefer to go with the Master meter at \$187 per meter as the Town of Collins is going with the same type of meter. He indicated that he is working with Supervisor Tessmer to design the bid specifications for the installation of the meters. The estimated price for installation is about \$110 per meter. The price that was quoted is based on the Village and the Town of Collins going in together on this project. The cost of the billing software will also be split with the Town of Collins. These will be residential meters only. The Town of Collins has already made a resolution to standardize the meters.

Mayor McKeever advised that she and Deputy Mayor Zimmermann had a first negotiating meeting with the supervisors.

Motion 70-16. Motion by Trustee Markman, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to adjourn the special Village Board meeting at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen V. Mohawk  
Village Clerk