

Village of Gowanda
Board Meeting
February 13, 2018
Minutes

The Village of Gowanda Board of Trustees meeting was called into order by Mayor Smith at 5:40 pm at the Municipal Hall for the purpose of entering into Executive Session.

Present: Mayor David Smith
Trustee Carol Sheibley
Trustee Paul Zimmermann
Trustee Wanda Koch
Trustee Aaron Markham

Village Employees: Treasurer Traci Hopkins, Village Clerk Danielle Wagner, Public Works Superintendent Jason Opferbeck, Village Attorney Deb Chadsey, Officer in charge Dennis Feldman, Code Enforcer Larry Green, Disaster Coordinator Nick Crassi, Phil Palen

Media Present: Phil Palen, Cable Channel 22, Andie Kuczkowski, Observer

Public Present: Jack Broyles, Theresa Girome, Jason Heatley, Karen Howard,

Executive Session

Motion 2-204- Approve entering into executive session at 5:41 pm. Motion made by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sheibley. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 2-205- Approve the adjournment of Executive Session and enter the regular scheduled Board Meeting at 6:08 pm. Motion made by Trustee, seconded by Trustee. Motion carried 5-0.

Agenda Approval

Motion 2-206- Approve the agenda for the February 13, 2018 Village Board Meeting. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Koch. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes

Motion 2-207- Approve the minutes from the January 9, 2018 Village Board Meeting. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Participation

Jason Heatley from Southtowns Rural Preservation Company talked about his company and what they offer. Southtowns Rural Preservation Company is a local non-profit community development corporation serving the rural towns and villages of Southern Erie County. Their services include loan and grant application assistance, housing rehabilitation, and housing

counseling and referral services. Rural Revitalization Company is the Southtowns Rural Preservation Company sister company that offer the same services to Cattaraugus County Residents.

Mayoral Updates

a. Moment of Silence

Mayor Smith offered a moment of silence to honor Paula Stockman's passing.

b. Jamestown Street Tavern

The sale of 27 Jamestown Street has been completed. Congratulations to Jim and Becky Grudzien.

c. Arbor Day Proclamation

The Arbor Day Proclamation was read by Mayor Smith and proclaimed April 28, 2018 as Arbor Day.

d. WNY Best Burger & Chicken Finger Sub

Congrats to K&L Lanes, Doug and LuAnn Heckman for being voted Buffalo's Best Burger and congrats to Capozzi's for winning Buffalo's Best Chicken Finger Sub.

e. Fire Installation Dinner

The Fire Installation Dinner was held on January 13, 2018. Thanks to Nick Crassi and Carol Sheibley for organizing the evening.

f. GFMC Youth Center

There have been two meetings with Gowanda Free Methodist Church one on January 18th and another on January 30th. They are making steady progress towards opening a youth center in the Village. This will be located at the church and be held after school.

g. Village Clerk Rate Increase

Motion 2-208- Approve the Village Clerks rate increase for assuming the Water/Sewer billing and billing correspondences, effective January 22, 2018. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Sheibley. Motion carried 5-0.

h. Flood Mitigation Project Award

On January 30, 2018 the Village received formal notice from Senator Cathy Young that she has awarded the Village the one million dollar grant.

i. Event Application for the Hollywood Theatre

Motion 2-209- Approve the event application for the Hollywood Happenings to take place June 1- June 3 2018. Motion made by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Markham. Motion carried 5-0.

j. Hiring of officers Megan Ess and Mitchell Schultz

Motion 2-209- Approve the hiring of part time Police Officers Megan Ess and Mitchell Schultz effective January 9, 2018. Motion made by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Markham. Motion carried 5-0.

k. Camden Consulting January Report & Conference Call

Camden has provided the board with their January report.

l. BOA Phase II

February 1, 2018, the Village was awarded BOA Phase II funding in the amount of \$200,000.00.

m. Employee Meeting

On January 23, 2018, there was an employee meeting with Ken and Jeff from Camden.

n. Code Enforcement Meeting

On February 6, 2018, there was a code enforcement meeting with Gary Brecker, Larry Green, Dennis Feldman, Wanda Koch and Mayor Smith in regards to a property in the Village that may be in violation of Village codes.

Correspondence

- a. The Community Development Block Grant for water improvements application submitted by the Village has been denied.
- b. The Community Development Block Grant Rural Transit Collaborative application submitted by the Village has been approved and \$270,000 in grant funding has been awarded to Rural Transit Services.
- c. The Village received an Easement from National Fuel requesting the ability to improve national fuel and natural gas access for the Palmer Street area. There have concerns from residents about the smell and that they don't get enough gas to their homes. There may be water or some other type of obstruction in the piping.

Motion 2-210-Approve the Easement request from Nation Fuel. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann. Motion carried 5-0.

Official Business

Police- Officer in Charge Dennis Feldman

Officer Feldman reported that there were 509 service calls for the month of January. Manpower is starting to stabilize, with the loss of officers and the hiring of two new officers.

Officer Feldman thanked Trustee Markham for setting up defensive tactics training for the officers to take place in March. Officer Feldman will also be looking into a new booking system, as theirs went down. The system is roughly 20 years old.

Officer Feldman and Trustee Koch arranged an officer for a day for a mentally handicapped child named Matthew, whose health is not doing well. He will be outfitted with a uniform, badge, hat and get to take a ride in the patrol car.

Code Enforcement- Larry Green

Larry Green presented the ambulance site plan; Deb Chadsey will work with Larry on the SEQR process. Approval is needed to have the Village be lead agency.

Motion 2-211-Approve naming the Village of Gowanda lead agency relevant to the construction of The Gowanda Ambulance Company site on Aldrich Street with respect to the SEQR. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Koch. Motion carried 5-0.

Disaster Coordinator-Nick Crassi

Nick Crassi will be looking into offering another training session for the code red system that the Village uses. The spirit of Gowanda dinner will be held on Saturday April 7, 2018. The winners from the nominations for the Spirit of Gowanda will be announced soon.

Fire-Nick Crassi/Carol Sheibley/Paul Zimmermann

Trustee Sheibley is seeking approval for the acceptance of the Fire Chiefs and Company Officers for the Village of Gowanda Volunteer Fire Department that were installed at the Fire Installation Dinner on January 13, 2018.

Motion 2-212- Approve the installation of the Fire officers that occurred on January 13, 2018. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Koch. Motion carried 5-0.

Joint Activity/Recreation-Carol Sheibley/Aaron Markham

Winter fest will be held on February 21, 2018 at GARC Park from 12pm-4pm. There will activities, music and refreshments.

Trustee Sheibley thanked the American Legion for the \$500.00 donation towards winter fest. Trustee Sheibley also thanked Pioneer Credit and the United Torch for their donations to the recreation program.

Legal-Deb Chadsey

Deb Chadsey provided the board with an abandoned property code update. There will be a meeting with Deb, Larry Green and Carol Sheibley to go over the local law.

There needs to be an amendment to the post retirement employee health insurance policy. If the retired employee has an accumulated sick account with available funds, they can use those funds to continue to pay for the health insurance premiums or they can elect to discontinue health coverage and may receive a onetime buy out payment up to \$1,500 from the Village.

Motion 2-213- Approve the amended post retirement employee health insurance policy. Motion made by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Koch. Motion carried 5-0.

Deb Chadsey informed the board that the agreement between the Village of Gowanda and GARC per ESD Partnership cannot be amended.

Treasurer-Traci Hopkins

Treasurer Hopkins has provided the board the bills to pay abstract for the month of February.

Motion 2-214-Approve the bills to pay abstract from the general fund totaling \$62,024.18. Motion made by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 2-215-Approve the bills to pay abstract from the water fund totaling \$18,864.80. Motion made by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 2-216- Approve the bills to pay abstract from the sewer fund totaling \$36,151.42. Motion made by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 2-217-Approve the bills to pay abstract from the projects fund totaling \$7996.21 and the Special project fund totaling \$799.21. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Koch. Motion carried 5-0.

Cost saving research was done on the phone service for the Village, which currently has 3 separate carriers. Treasurer Hopkins is seeking approval to combine all phone service with one carrier.

Motion 2-218-Approve to consolidate the phone service into one carrier with Time Warner Spectrum. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann. Motion carried 5-0.

There is a time clock system at the DPW plant; there are 9 employees that currently use it. Jeff Overstrom and Treasurer Hopkins discussed the time clock and it was decided that it is not necessary. There is no long term contract with the company for the time clock. It will also save the Village money by eliminating the use of it. The employees will use paper time sheets.

Motion 2-219- Approve the elimination of the time clock at the DPW Plant. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Koch. Motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer Hopkins received a quote to replace windows in the Police station. There are funds available in the police budget.

Motion 2-220-Approve the replacement of the windows in the Police station for \$2600.00 and approve a budget transfer the funds from the police professional and technical line into the building and repair line. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Sheibley. Motion carried 5-0.

The board has previously approved the use of contingency line funds for the Camden Group consulting fees; however Treasurer Hopkins needs approval to transfer funds from the contingency line item to the sewer admin contractual line item each month to pay the Camden Consulting fees.

Motion 2-221- Approve the transfer of funds from the contingency line to the sewer admin contractual fund each month for the Camden Consulting fees. Motion made by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Koch. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Works-Jason Opferbeck/Jeff Overstrom

There was a water hearing held on January 22, 2018. Trustee Sheibley has provided the board with the minutes for the water hearing.

Motion 2-222-Approve the minutes and action for the water hearing held on January 22, 2018. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Koch. Motion carried 5-0.

Jeff Overstrom presented to the finance committee a purchase for a snow blower attachment and new tracks for the skid steer. It's smaller to fit on the sidewalks better. It was approved by the finance committee. There are funds available for the purchase.

Motion 2-223-Approve the purchase of the snow blower attachment and new tracks for the skid steer. Motion made by Trustee Markham, seconded by Trustee Koch. Motion carried 5-0.

Next Meeting

Next Village Board Meeting will be held on March 13, 2018.

Executive Session

The board will move into executive session for the purpose of interviewing police officer candidates. There will be no formal actions other adjournment.

Motion 2-224-Approval to move into executive session at 7:25pm. Motion made by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Koch. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjournment

Motion 2-225-Approve to adjourn the executive session of the board meeting at 7:57pm. Motion made by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Markham. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted

Danielle Wagner
Village Clerk

