

Village of Gowanda  
Board Meeting Minutes  
September 10, 2024

The Village of Gowanda Board of Trustees was called to order at 6 PM by Interim Mayor Peter Sisti.

Present: Interim Mayor Peter Sisti, Trustee Paul Zimmermann (*arrived at 6:12*), Trustee Mark Nephew, Trustee Wanda Koch, Trustee Carol Sheibley

Employees: Clerk Danielle Wagner, Treasurer Traci Hopkins, Attorney Deb Chadsey, Highway Supervisor Adam Reid, WWTP Supervisor Andy Carriero, Code George Poff  
OIC Ben Shields

Absent: Water Supervisor Kirk Trumpore, Code Jason Pickering

Public: Deputy Mohawk, Colleen Stapleton, Don & Theresa Girome, Bill Mansfield, John Girome, John Walgus, Bill Bundschuh, Dawn Tierney, Nate Root, Adin Spina, Jack Broyles, Amy Meyer, Julie Vogtli, Rosalie Pulvirenti, Lisa Hill, David Johnson, Dany Snyder, Michelle Miller  
David Yezek, Shauna McMahon

#### **New Trustee**

**Motion 9-47**-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to appoint Mark Nephew as Trustee. Motion carried 3-0. (*Zimmermann absent from vote*)

Newly appointed Trustee Nephew was sworn in.

#### **Agenda and Minutes**

**Motion 9-48**-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the agenda for the September 10, 2024. Motion carried. (*Zimmermann absent from vote*)

**Motion 9-49**-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2024 board meeting. Motion carried. (*Zimmermann absent from vote*)

#### **Public Participation**

Nate Root-Catt County undersheriff. Plans on attending meeting around the County and vote for Eric Butler for Sheriff.

Brad Mohawk-Erie County Sheriffs community engagement team-working relationship with the Village and other communities.

Don Girome-Neighbor watch, lots of drugs in Town and homeless people in vacant houses. Village is getting dangerous-neighborhood watch being targeted.

John Girome-Speeders down Broadway Rd and trucks using jake brakes.

John Walgus-Light behind Capozzi's in parking lot needs to be fixed. People have dope parties in the Village.

Bill Bundschuh-vacant homes in the Village need to be addressed and come down.

Jack Broyles-County can take possession of a property after 3 years back taxes, wants the Village to demand the County take these properties.

Lisa Hill-where does the Village stand with the drug houses and lack of Police.

Dan Snyder-DDS and section 8 housing in the Village are run down-can the Village incentivize the landlords.

Colleen Stapleton-Neighborhood watch-meeting hit some good points.

### **Official Business**

#### **Code-George Poff**

Building Permits 2, complaints filed 2, violations on patrol 2, violation notice sent 1, court case pending 1.

#### **Highway-Adam Reid**

The highway dept is short staffed with one employee gone and one having medical. Adam is making a recommendation to the board to rehire Gary Denea on an as needed basis.

**Motion 9-50**-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Nephew to rehire Gary Denea as part time highway employee as needed. Motion carried.

#### **Sewer-Andy Carriero**

WWTP Capital Project-started pouring concrete, project is moving along.

As a requirement for the capital project the materials being dug up need to be tested.

**Motion 9-51**-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the WWTP Capital Project material testing agreement with Atlantic Testing Laboratories not to exceed \$30,000. Motion carried.

#### **Water-Kirk Trumpore**

Point Peter Reservoir update-93 out of 137 concrete culverts have been set, spillways are underway and water line have been located and moved.

FEMA outstanding BAN Renewal update-submitting progress payment #3. The goal is to reduce BAN by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

The out-of-scope services from GPI needs an amendment to the contract.

**Motion 9-52**-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the proposed contract amendment with GPI for out-of-scope engineering services. Motion carried.

#### **Clerk-Danielle Wagner**

**Motion 9-53**-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the event application for a wedding ceremony at Chang HU Park on 10/12/24 from 12pm-1pm. Motion carried.

Total Senior Care sent a request for the Village to proclaim September as PACE Month for programs for all -inclusive care for the elderly.

**Motion 9-54**-Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the proclamation request for September as National PACE month for total senior care. Motion carried.

#### **Treasurer-Traci Hopkins**

Letters of authorization was provided to the board to engage C & S to prepare the environmental phase I reports as part of the Brownfield sites as past of the EPA funding.

**Motion 9-55**-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the letter of authorization to engage C & S to prepare Phase I Environmental Reports for 5 identified Brownfield sites as part of the EPA funding award. Motion carried.

**Motion 9-56**-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the Point Peter Improvement Project pay app #6 at \$501,337.43. Motion carried.

**Motion 9-57**-Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the WWTP Capital Project pay app #4 at \$138,391.25. Motion carried.

The Village has 8 out of district water customers with delinquent accounts the Village needs to start the shut off process to those accounts.

**Motion 9-58**-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the out of district water customer delinquent shut off notification and process. Motion carried.

NY Forward Grant Update-20 projects were submitted for a total over \$15 Million. The LPC is evaluating the projects based on the NY Forward goals like regional economic strategies, is there economic benefits, transformative, are they sustainable, align with community vision goals along with the public survey. The public project evaluation survey is available online until September 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Village received temporary municipal assistance state aid. This is a one-time allocation \$1,418.00. A budget amendment needs to be for the General Fund.

**Motion 9-59**-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the General Fund Amendment to accept temporary municipal assistance state aid allocation \$1,418.00 Motion carried.

The Village received additional insurance proceeds to cover the total cost of the WWTP roof repair.

**Motion 9-60**-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the sewer fund budget amendment to accept additional insurance proceeds for roof repair at \$29,246.80. Motion carried.

Budget Modification 31 for the General fund was provided to the board for approval.

**Motion 9-61**-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded buy Trustee Zimmermann to approve budget modification #1. Motion carried.

The abstract bills to pay #4 was provided to the board for approval.

**Motion 9-62**-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the abstract bills to pay for the General Fund \$31,902.36, Water Fund \$23,385.43, Sewer Fund \$36,994.22, and Capital Projects \$695,962.32. Motion carried.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be October 8, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion 9-63**-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Nephew to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted  
Danielle Wagner  
Clerk