

Village of Gowanda
Board Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2025

The Village of Gowanda Board of Trustees meeting was called to order by interim Mayor Peter Sisti at 6pm.

Present: Interim Mayor Peter Sist, Trustee Paul Zimmermann, Trustee Mark Nephew, Trustee Wanda Koch, Trustee Carol Sheibley

Employees: Clerk Danielle Wagner, Treasurer Traci Hopkins, WWTP Supervisor Andy Carriero, Water Supervisor Kirk Trumpore, Highway Supervisor Adam Reid, Code Jason Pickering, Assistant OIC Ross Olszewski

Absent: Attorney Deb Chadsey, OIC Ben Shields

Public: Theresa Girome, Jack Broyles, Bob Tiller, Diego Camacho, Tanya Camacho

Agenda & Minutes

3-154-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the agenda for the March 4, 2025 Meeting. Motion carried.

3-155-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

Public Participation

Jack Broyles-Thanked Peter Sisti for being interim Mayor.

Correspondence

- Erie County Legislature-resolution to NYS for increased local aid for CHIPS funding.

Trustee Zimmermann gave a Thatcher Brook Diversion Channel update-The federal cap will increase to 15 million due to a new law that went into place in 2024 for section 205 federal projects. The Corp is still working on the new design with costs that will be lower and close to 23 million. With the federal 15 million, the Village is looking at close to 4 million for the project instead of the 33 million it was before the design change. The site is being assessed for any environmental issues. Cattaraugus County IDA has been a big help to reduce costs for the Village. Once the project is approved it goes into a pool of approved projects which is limited because most do not make to that point. The Village then fights for the funding.

Official Business

Code-Jason Pickering

Building Permits-1, Business permits-1, Complaints filed-0, Violations on patrol-2.

Motion 3-156-Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the business permit Country Hearts Crafts at 64 Buffalo St. Motion carried.

Highway-Adam Reid

The Highway Dept crew has requested to work 10-hour days starting April 14th-November 14th and during Holiday weeks will work 3 10-hour days with the remaining 2 hours to be worked on Fridays. In the past 10-hour days has not approved for 7 months and holiday weeks has been them working regular 8-hour days. The board feels that 7 months of 10-hour days is to long of time and does not agree with the holiday weeks.

Motion 3-157-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Nephew to deny the Highway 10-hour day request. Motion carried.

Clerk-Danielle Wagner

NYS passed a law that all municipalities must change their website/official emails to a .gov domain. Only an appointed designee can apply for a .gov domain. The board should appoint the clerk as that person. The Village will apply for villageofgowanda.ny.gov

Motion 3-158-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Koch to designate the clerk as the official with authority to request a .gov domain. Motion carried.

Police-Ross Olszewski

Officer in Charge Ben Shields has submitted is letter of resignation as OIC.

Motion 3-159-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Nephew to accept the letter of resignation of Ben Shields as OIC effective March 15, 2025. Motion carried.

Motion 3-160-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to appoint Ross Olszewski as Interim Officer in Charge effective March 15, 2025. Motion carried.

Treasurer-Traci Hopkins

Motion 3-161-Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the WWTP pay app #9 through 1/31/25 at \$158,899.85. Motion carried.

Motion 3-162-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the 2025-2026 Tentative Budget draft #2. Motion carried.

The budget public hearing will be April 1, 2025 at 5PM at the Village Hall.

Motion 3-163-Motion by Trustee Nephew, seconded by Trustee Sheibley for authorization to set the 2025-2026 budget public hearing for Tuesday April 1, 2025 at 5PM. Motion carried.

The annual letter to DOCCS for the prior year sewer treatment rate has been provided to the board for approval.

Motion 3-164-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the authorization to submit DOCCS update waste water collection and treatment contribution rate effective 6/1/25 per audited financials for period ending 5/31/24. Motion carried.

Budget Modification #4 for the General Fund was provided to the board for approval.

Motion 3-165-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve Budget Modification #4. Motion Carried.

Abstract bills to pay #10 was provided to the board for approval.

Motion 3-166-Motin by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve abstract bills to pay #10 for General \$24,026.61, Water \$5,248.85, Sewer \$13,372.02 and Capital Projects \$195,199.45. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place April 8, 2025 at 6PM.

Adjourn

Motion 3-167-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted
Danielle Wagner
Clerk