

Village of Gowanda
Board Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2025

The Village of Gowanda Board of Trustees meeting was called to order by Mayor Nephew at 6:00 PM.

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

Employees: Clerk Danielle Wager, Treasurer Traci Hopkins, Attorney Deb Chadsey (arrived at 6:29), WWTP Supervisor Andy Carriero, Highway Supervisor Adam Reid, Code George Poff, OIC Ross Olszewski

Absent: Water Supervisor Kirk Trumpore, Code Jason Pickering

Public: Jack Broyles, Tanya Camacho, Diego Camacho, Jacque & Gerry Emborski, Brad Mohawk

Agenda & Minutes

Motion 5-202-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the agenda for the May 13, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion 5-203-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2025 board meeting and April 28, 2025 special meeting. Motion carried.

Public Participation

Jack Broyles-Village should not allow people on private property to trim trees.

Brad Mohawk-gave an update for the board.

Correspondence

- Response to the 13 Caroline Rd Sewer line
- Notice of rite Aid closings

Official Business

Mayor/Board of Trustees

Jim Enser donated 4 trees to the Village.

Motion 5-204-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to accept the donation of 4 trees to be planted at St. Johns Park. Motion carried.

Code Enforcement-George Poff

Building permits 5, inspections 1, violations on patrol 4, violation notices sent 4, complaints filed 0.

The board was provided 2 multi dwelling proposals for review.

Motion 5-205-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to authorize code to seek quotes for mowing vacant properties including trimming of any shrubs, bushes, and trees that are obstructing the public sidewalk or obstructing the view to oncoming traffic. Motion carried.

Public Works

Highway-Adam Reid

Lights at Creekside Park have been fixed.

Motion 5-206-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to accept with regrets the resignation of Travis Moore. Motion carried.

Sewer-Andy Carriero

DOCCS correspondence regarding Phase I contract amendment to include cost escalation. Their attorneys Are working on the amendments.

Motion 5-207-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the STC change order #1 at \$47,979.00. Motion carried.

Water-Carol Sheibley

MDA Consulting engineers will establish a preliminary engineer report for the water system related to the treatment distribution of water at the water plant. To seek funding, you must have an engineering report to identify the problematic areas and cost estimates. There is a grant the Village can seek funding for this engineering study. An agreement must be in place do that study.

Motion 5-208-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the agreement with MDA Consulting Engineers to provide a preliminary engineers report for water infrastructure improvements pending rural development funding. Motion carried.

Clerk-Danielle Wagner

Motion 5-209-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to appoint the clerk as the 225-2026 tax collector. Motion carried.

Motion 5-210-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the 2025-2026 tax collection warrant. Motion carried.

Motion 5-211-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the Benton Family Picnic event application for Gateway Park on 7/13/25 from 12pm-4pm. Motion carried.

Motion 5-212-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the event application for the Tri County Crisis Pregnancy Walk for life on 6/1/25 12pm-3pm. Motion carried.

The USDA is seeking permission to hang a box trap for moths in Chang Hu Park.

Motion 5-213-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve USDA box tree moth request. Motion carried.

Police-Ross Olszewski

The department will need new body cams; the current ones will be obsolete by the end of year. The cost is \$12,760. There are funds available from the equipment and personal lines.

Motion 5-214-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the request to update and purchase new body cams for the police department as quoted. Motion carried.

Treasurer-Traci Hopkins

Motion 5-215-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Zimmermann to approve the WWTP pay app #11 to STC Construction through 3/31/25 at \$370,927.50. Motion carried.

The Village is working with Cattaraugus County Soil & Water on 3 short term flood mitigation-Allen Springs, Grannis Brook and Thatcher Brook. Due to an update on cost estimates an amended agreement was provided to the board for approval.

Motion 5-216-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the Cattaraugus County Soil & Water amended agreement. Motion carried.

Bids have been prepared for the short-term flood mitigation projects.

Motion 5-217-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the short-term mitigation project Allen Springs bid booklet. Motion carried.

Motion 5-218-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the short-term flood mitigation project Thatcher & Grannis Brook bid booklet. Motion carried.

Before the Army Corp commits to the relocation of the flood diversion channel environmental site Assessments must be completed. Phase I was complete; phase II needs to be.

Motion 5-219-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve C & S testing Proposal for Phase II Environmental site assessments of the potential thatcher Brook Diversion Channel. Motion carried.

Due to FEMA funding and Environmental facilities funding through the WWTP Capital Projects, the village expended more than \$750,000 of federal funds a required single audit must be completed. A request for proposals has been prepared to seek an auditing firm to do that audit.

Motion 5-220-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the single audit request for proposals. Motion carried.

Motion 5-221-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to authorize to transfer \$70,000 of General Fund budget allocations to the General Fund Equipment Reserves. Motion carried.

Motion 5-222-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to authorize to transfer \$5,000 of General Fund budget allocations to General Fund repair account. Motion carried.

Motion 5-223-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sisti to authorize to transfer \$2,500 of General Fund budget allocations to General Fund Police Reserve. Motion carried.

Motion 5-224-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Koch to authorize to transfer \$2,500 of General Fund budget allocations to General Fund Fire Reserve. Motion carried.

Motion 5-225-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Sisti to authorize to transfer \$10,000 of Water Fund budget allocations to the Water Equipment Reserve. Motion carried.

Motion 5-226-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Koch to authorize to transfer \$75,000 of Sewer budget allocations to Sewer Equipment Reserve. Motion carried.

Budget Modification request #5 for the General, Water and Sewer fund was provided to the board.

Motion 5-227-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve budget modification request #5. Motion carried.

Abstract bills to pay #12 was provided to the board for approval.

Motion 5-228-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve abstract bills top pay for General \$39,805.04, Water \$16,936.27, Sewer \$38,499.47, Capital Projects \$400,388.41, and Community Development Special Projects \$1,372.50. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be June 10, 2025 at 6PM.

Executive Session

Motion 5-229-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to recess into executive Session at 7:00 PM to discuss employee matters. Motion carried.

Motion 5-230-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sisti to adjourn Executive Session at 8:06 PM. Motion carried.

The purpose of executive session was to discuss an employee matter.

Motion 5-231-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to terminate Colton Clareus Motion carried 4-0. Trustee Koch abstained due to compliant filed.

Adjournment

Motion 5-232-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to adjourn the board meeting at 8:08 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Danielle Wagner

Clerk