

Village of Gowanda
Board Meeting Minutes
June 10, 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 Wagner, Treasurer Traci Hopkins, Attorney Deb Chadsey (*arrived at 6:21*), WWTP Supervisor Andy Carriero, Highway Supervisor Adam Reid, Code George Poff & Jason Pickering

Absent: Water Supervisor Kirk Trumpore

Public: Bob Tiller, Jack Broyles, Phil Palen, Don & Theresa Girome

Agenda & Minutes

Motion 6-1-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the agenda for the June 10, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion 6-2-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

Public Participation

Jack Broyles-tax assessor was at the Town of Persia for assessment review last month.

Phil Palen-Thanked Village for help with tree planting.

Correspondence

- Notification of Sand Hill Rd closure and detour for railroad bridge painting July 7th-10th.

Official Business

Mayor/Board of Trustees

NY Forward project grant awards-5 project totaling \$4.5 million. Utilize the former bank for the Hollywood Theater accessible connector and restaurant at \$1.4 million, Modernize the 1904 Armes Block into mixed use center at \$1.3 million, Beautify Gowanda Business District streetscape at \$989,000, Create small project fund for additional downtown improvements at \$655,000, and elevate Gowanda's Identity.

The Village received a request from GHS PAWS for a stick library at Gateway for dogs. A wooden box would be there for a take a stick or leave stick for dogs.

Code-George Poff, Jason Pickering

Building permits 4, complaints filed 0, violations on patrol 10, notices sent 10, compliance notices 4.

Lawn Mowing bid for 8 vacant and abandoned properties went out into the observer. One bid was received from Moore in Zoar for mowing, weed whacking and trimming @ \$1000. The question will be asked about the clean-up.

Motion 6-3-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the lawn mowing bid to Moore in Zoar not to exceed \$1200. Motion carried.

Highway-Adam Reid

The tentative 2025-2026 street maintenance plan was provided to the board for approval for milling and paving Broadway to railroad tracks, down Commercial to S. Water to Walnut St.

Motion 6-4-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the 2025-2026 street maintenance plan. Motion carried.

Motion 6-5-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to authorize the hiring of Travis Moore part time as needed. Motion carried.

The Village and railroad will work together for the repair of the tracks on Commercial St.

The Village received a complaint about tire damage done by a pot hole on Hill St. A meeting with the Mayor, Highway liaison Peter Sisti and Highway supervisor will take place for further discussion.

Zoning-Bob Tiller

The zoning change on Memorial will not be happening.

Sewer-Andy Carriero

The Village received a complaint regarding a sewer line replacement due to a Village tree on Johnson St. A meeting will be scheduled with Mayor, Andy, and sewer liaison Paul Zimmermann to further discuss.

Clerk-Danielle Wagner

The annual polling place lease agreement with Erie County was provided to the board for approval.

Motion 6-6-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the 2025 polling place agreement with Erie County. Motion carried.

Police-Ross Olszewski

The department was awarded a law equipment grant to update the booking and fingerprinting system.

Motion 6-7-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to accept the Law Enforcement Equipment grant award of \$16,105.00. Motion carried.

Joint Activity-Carol Sheibley

The summer recreation program will start July 7th, with 1 head counselor and 4 counselors.

Motion 6-8-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the 2025 summer

recreation staff. Motion carried.

A donation was received by the Daniel & Flavia Gernatt Family Foundation.

Motion 6-9-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Sisti to accept the Daniel & Flavia Gernatt Family donation of \$1000. Motion carried.

Treasurer-Traci Hopkins

Motion 6-10-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve WWTP pay #12 to STC Construction through 4/30/25 at \$740,517.42. Motion carried.

Motion 6-11-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve WWTP pay #3 to BECC Electric through 5/31/25 at \$107,726.00. Motion carried.

The Village received 5 bids for the Allen Springs Project and Streambank Stabilization at the Thatcher and Grannis Brook with LEWPA Funding. The bids were opened June 6, 2025.

Motion 6-12-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to award the Allen Spring's Project at Point Peter to D & H Excavating at \$29,530.00. Motion carried.

The available funding from LEWPA is \$70,600.00 for both projects, Streambank Stabilization had 6 sites that will need to be adjusted to afford the remaining balance of \$41,070.00. D&H Excavating was the low bid at \$59,514.00.

Motion 6-13-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to award Streambank Stabilization project at Thatcher & Grannis Brook bid to D & H Excavating at \$41,070.00 pending DEC permitting and property access authorization. Motion carried.

The Village had to engage in outside attorney services.

Motion 6-14-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the contract for legal services. Motion carried.

The Village Hall generator is not working property that was discovered during a power outage. The automatic transfer switch needs to be replaced.

Motion 6-15-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the Village Hall Generator Transfer switch emergency repair at \$6,469.00. Motion carried.

The AVM building on Industrial has been vacant and is starting to deteriorate. It is full of stuff belonging to the Village and Gowanda School. The school has agreed to pay 80% of the debris removal.

Bills to pay abstract was provided to the board for approval.

Motion 6-16-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the abstract bills to Pay for General \$59,109.65, Water \$10,489.35, Sewer \$19,718.36, and Capital Projects \$842,233.42. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be July 7, 2025 at 6 PM.

Executive Session

Motion 6-17-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:16 PM for the purpose discussion of employee issue. Motion carried.

Motion 6-18-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to adjourn executive session at 7:26 PM. Motion carried.

Motion 6-19-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to except terms of grievance settlement agreement with SEIU 200 United regarding Colton Clareus. Motion carried. *Trustee Koch abstained.*

Adjournment

Motion 6-20-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted
Danielle Wagner
Clerk