

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2008**

The Village of Gowanda Board of Trustees meeting was called to order by Mayor Richard Klancer at 7:00 p.m. in the Board room, Municipal Building. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Present: Mayor Richard Klancer
Trustee Barb Nephew
Trustee John Certis
Trustee Dale DeCarlo
Trustee Carol Sheibley

Village Employees: Village Clerk Kathy Mohawk

Media Present: Mary Pankow, Gowanda Pennysaver
Phil Palen, Cable Channel 22
Tim Latshaw, Observer

Trustee Certis advised Village Clerk Mohawk of a correction on Page 3 of the January 8 meeting minutes. The next meeting of the recreation commission is January 23. Trustee Sheibley advised that it should also be changed at the bottom of the page. Trustee Sheibley advised that on Page 4 where the attorney discusses the Recreation Commission minutes, Trustee Sheibley stated that there are minutes on file in the Village Office.

Motion 206-07. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2008 Village Board meeting as corrected. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Fire Chief Raiport and Don Offhaus were present to discuss the possibility of exchanging the 1991 utility van for something newer and more feasible. He spoke with the Portville Fire Company who has a 1996 Suburban with a new engine and transmission with only 3,000 miles on it. The fire companies are basically looking at a swap, no money exchange. It has a towing package on it which helps with towing the four-wheelers. The companies could just swap titles. Fire Chief Raiport will report back to Trustee DeCarlo after meeting with the Portville fire commissioners.

BUILDING/BUSINESS PERMITS

Village Clerk Mohawk advised that the Village has mentioned several times in the Pennysaver about getting building permits. Building Inspector Bowers requested that the Village put something in the paper that if the resident is unsure, file a permit application and discuss it with Mr. Bowers. There is a \$50 fine for building without a permit. Mayor Klancer advised the paper to put an article in regarding this.

JOINT ACTIVITY

Trustee Sheibley reported that the 2008 application through the Cattaraugus County Youth Bureau has been approved for \$2,501.

Trustee Certis reminded everyone that the next meeting of the Recreation Commission is January 23rd.

FIRE

Trustee DeCarlo advised the fire department has had 12 calls so far this year.

Trustee DeCarlo advised he would make copies of the information supplied by Fire Chief Raiport for the Board members.

TREASURER

Mayor Klancer advised that because of the poor weather Treasurer Schilling was unable to make it to work.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mayor Klancer requested authorization to send three of the Village employees for OSHA Hazardous Waste Operations Certification training from February 18th through 22nd. The training satisfies the treatment plant operator license renewal training required by the DEC.

Motion 207-07. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Certis to approve request to send 3 Village employees for OSHA Hazardous Waste Operations Certification training from February 18th through 22nd. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson presented copies of the Restore N.Y. grant announcement along with some budget information regarding the Academy Place project. Mayor Klancer passed along thanks to all the Board members and community members who supported and worked on the project.

Village Clerk Mohawk presented copies of the three forester proposals that were received. She indicated that Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson requested a committee be set up to review the proposals. Mayor Klancer indicated it should be a member of the tree committee, Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson and a Board member.

Trustee Sheibley mentioned the letter from Bergmann Associates regarding changing the frequency of sampling to quarterly. She indicated the Village gets reimbursed for the gallons and she questioned if this would have any impact on the Village financially.

Trustee DeCarlo reported that he spoke with a woman involved with the Veterans Memorial in Greece. She indicated the memorial was built in 1999 as part of their new office park for a cost of \$220,000. The water fountain itself was \$70,000.

Mayor Klancer advised that Gowanda Central School has gone forward with the proposal for Healthy Community Alliance to take ownership of the Center Street School parking lot. He requested authorization to send a letter of support for that proposal.

Motion 208-07. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to forward a letter of support to Gowanda Central School for the proposal for Healthy Community Alliance to take ownership of the Center Street School parking lot. Motion carried 5-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk indicated that Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson was interested in knowing whether the Village intended to pursue the Safe Routes to School program with the school since the grant is due in April.

Motion 209-07. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee DeCarlo to authorize Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson to pursue the Safe Routes to School grant funding. Motion carried 5-0.

ADMINISTRATION

Village Clerk Mohawk reported that Trustee Sheibley attended a N.E.S.T. meeting and was advised that the Village needs to appoint a representative and an alternate and then send a copy of the resolution to the N.E.S.T. Board. Meetings are the second Thursday of every other month. The next meeting is in March.

Motion 210-07. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee DeCarlo to appoint Trustee Sheibley as the N.E.S.T. representative and Trustee DeCarlo as the alternate representative. Motion carried 5-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk presented the advertisement request for the Chamber of Commerce Spirit of Gowanda program.

Motion 211-07. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee Nephew to submit the same size advertisement as last year. Motion carried 5-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk advised that the Spirit of Gowanda celebration will take place on Saturday, February 23, 2008 with music of Jon Wilder.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported that Adecco has requested the use of our Board room for recruiting on January 31st at 10:00 a.m. to meet with prospective employees.

Village Clerk Mohawk read a letter from Assemblyman Quinn:

“Due to the Association of Erie County Governments Meeting on January 24th, we are changing our dinner to discuss issues affecting the Southtowns to Thursday, January 31st, from 6-8 p.m. at O’Brien’s Pub.” It is necessary to RSVP by Monday, January 28th.

Mayor Klancer advised that he would like to attend. Trustee DeCarlo and Trustee Nephew indicated that they would like to attend as well.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported on funds received: \$150.00 from the Town of Persia for court fines and \$4.20 from Direct Energy Services for gross receipts tax.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported that requests to use Chang-Hu Park for weddings are already coming in.

Mayor Klancer advised that there is a conflict with the meeting with the Planning Board which was scheduled for February 12th. There is a meeting in Little Valley that night to discuss the covered wagon trip through Cattaraugus County next summer. Village Clerk Mohawk indicated that February 5th cannot be considered as the Board room will be used for Presidential primary elections. Mayor Klancer advised Village Clerk Mohawk to attempt to get another day scheduled with Jack Torrance and the Planning Board.

ENVIRONMENT

Trustee Nephew advised that she received a grant announcement from Chautauqua County for Community on the Move 2008 to provide technical assistance and seed money for communities to make permanent environmental changes which support increased physical activity. Some of the types of items covered include walking trails, crosswalks, permanent marking of walking routes (signage and distance marking), paved walking paths, traffic calming initiatives, infrastructure supporting community farmer’s markets and community garden plots. Trustee Nephew indicated that grants are quite small, up to \$3,000 each. She stated that a roundabout might be nice. Trustee Nephew indicated that the Safe Routes to School program could be contradictory to the all-inclusive bussing initiative that was passed a few years ago. Trustee Nephew suggested that the money could be used for a consultant to determine what would make the community more walkable. She suggested contacting the Chamber of Commerce. The application is due February 14th.

Trustee Sheibley indicated that she received a response from Legislator Mills regarding payment for the Village welcoming signs. Legislator Mills indicated that the money will be coming from Senator Volker’s office.

Trustee Sheibley advised that Thursday of this week at 5:00 p.m. in Hamburg is the Association of Governments meeting. The 5:00 meeting concerns the CDBG grants and she plans to attend.

Motion 212-07. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Certis to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 7:35 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

The next Village of Gowanda Board meeting is Grievance Day, February 19, 2008 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen V. Mohawk
Village Clerk