

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2011**

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

Present: Mayor Richard Klancer
Trustee Carol Sheibley
Trustee Heather McKeever
Trustee John Certis
Trustee Dale DeCarlo

Village Employees: Village Clerk Kathy Mohawk, Public Works Superintendent Mike Hutchinson, Treasurer Cindy Schilling, Village Attorney Deb Chadsey

Media Present: Tim Latshaw, Observer
Phil Palen, Cable Channel 22

Public: Jarred Bogardus, Crystal Cocca, Beth Snyder, Lauri Kota, Amy Szkatulski, Timothy Maude, Karrie Williams, Nicole Kaus, Kristen Wheeler, Kristen Schaus, Meagan Mentley-Peters, Janet Vogtli, Cathy Duncan, Joanne Snyder, Monica Reid, John Reid

Motion 226-10. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee McKeever to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2011 Village Board meeting as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The large public turnout was in support of Atmosphere @ 31. Janet Vogtli spoke on the future of the restaurant. She indicated that the owners want to stay in the Village and keep the restaurant. Mayor Klancer advised that the fire investigators are still working on what happened. There are no answers as yet. Trustee DeCarlo indicated that the Village would be committee to doing whatever it can to keep the business here. Monica Reid spoke on the negative rumors circulating in the community. She feels it is important to make sure the correct news is disseminated. Mayor Klancer indicated that the building will not be demolished until the insurance investigations are concluded. Monica Reid asked Mayor Klancer if there is a need for more security in the middle of the night. He indicated that the Village has 24 hour police protection but there are certain times that have heavier presence. Trustee McKeever advised that the Neighborhood Watch patrols are being trained and they could be helpful in this regard.

POLICE

Village Clerk Mohawk read a letter:

“I am writing to announce my resignation from the Village of Gowanda Police Department, effective February 1, 2011.

This was not an easy decision for me to make. The past year has been very rewarding. I’ve enjoyed working for you and working on a very successful Police Department dedicated to providing top-level service.

Thank you for the opportunities that you have provided me during my tenure with the Police Department.

I wish you and the Village of Gowanda the very best and hope we can keep in touch in the future.

Sincerely, Craig M. Blossom”

Motion 227-10. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to accept the resignation of Craig M. Blossom from the Gowanda Police Department, with regret, effective February 1, 2011. Motion carried 5-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported that the Village received \$50.00 from the Town of Persia for Court fines.

JOINT ACTIVITY

Trustee Sheibley reported that the Slovenian Club presented a generous donation to Gowanda Recreation for a new liner and ice skates. A thank you note was sent.

Trustee Sheibley reported that the next Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for February 9th at 10:30 at the Persia Town Hall. They are working on the annual program assessment for the State.

FIRE

Mayor Klancer commended the volunteers with the fire company for their skills and experience that helped to keep the entire block of Jamestown Street from catching on fire. Trustee DeCarlo indicated it was a community effort as many residents shoveled salt on the freezing water. Hot coffee was also provided to the volunteers.

TREASURER

Treasurer Schilling advised that she has started work on the budget. Requests are due in by February 10th.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mayor Klancer read a letter which was sent to Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson: “On behalf of the Executive Board of the WNY Branch of the American Public Works Association, CONGRATULATIONS! You have been selected to receive the Association’s 2011 Exceptional Performance Award. This award recognizes individuals in areas of adversity and/or safety whose outstanding contributions in the course of performance raise the level of public awareness of the profession.

You will be presented this award at our Association’s Annual Awards Banquet to be held on Thursday, February 10, 2011 at the Protocol Restaurant located at 6766 Transit Road in Williamsville, New York.”

Mayor Klancer commented that the Village is lucky to have an individual like Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson working for the Village. Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson indicated that it is a team effort, from the public works employees to the office staff.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson presented two change orders from R.B. Mac: one is to add a pipe chase at the corner of the Mayor’s office, install metal studding with soffit at the break room, and one is to add metal studs along the south wall of the Mayor’s office and break room. Both are small adjustments.

Motion 228-10. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee McKeever to approve change order No. 1 from R.B. Mac in the amount of \$2,795.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 229-10. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Certis to approve change order No. 2 from R.B. Mac in the amount of \$1,196.36. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson reported that he is still waiting for the report from the Army Corps of Engineers.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson advised that both the CDBG generators are in and fully functional. He indicated that the fire department has expressed the desire to maintain the generator in the fire department. Trustee DeCarlo advised he would check with the fire chiefs to confirm this. Mayor Klancer indicated he would like something in writing from the fire company if it is their desire to do the maintenance.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson advised that the only FEMA project remaining is the repair of the line from the pump house to the gatehouse at Pt. Peter. The Village is still waiting for the contractor to finish that. IPL will then finish the instrumentation.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson reported that the Creekside Veterans Park project was approved by the CDBG committee. Most of this will be done with force account labor with very little local share funds involved.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson reported that Pioneer Days will be held from July 14-17th. The Chamber of Commerce is looking to return to what the original Pioneer

Days was like. There will be a street dance, a parade, maybe fireworks, a car show, etc. The purpose is to benefit the local businesses.

ADMINISTRATION

Village Clerk Mohawk advised that the Village hall utilities will be shut down due to the ongoing construction on Monday, January 31st. She advised that the Village hall will be closed that day.

Village Clerk Mohawk advised that Governor Cuomo has not yet appointed a local representative. Mayor Klancer asked that a letter be sent requesting the promised flood relief for the 12 1/2 % local share.

Village Clerk Mohawk presented the request from the Hollywood Theater relative to the Beer and Wine Permit for the Hollywood Happening. Treasurer Schilling advised that the road closing permit cost itself for the celebrations is written into the insurance policy but the organizations need to understand the other costs involved. Mayor Klancer asked if the Chamber understands what the timeline is to get the applications in on time in order to get the permits on time. Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson also indicated that any foot race that involves a DOT roadway also needs a permit.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported that the \$100,000 from Erie County for the Hollywood Theater was received and passed along to the theater.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported that the November Treasurer's report has been filed.

The next Village board meeting will be Grievance Day. Mayor Klancer asked that a notice be posted that the necessary paperwork needs to be turned in prior to that day. Village Clerk Mohawk advised that the forms are in the office.

ENVIRONMENT

Trustee McKeever spoke about a tree grant. Phil Palen advised it is a DEC 50% matching grant. It is a maximum grant of \$25,000. He requested a Board resolution supporting the grant application. Treasurer Schilling indicated that the resolution should also include the amount of the match that the Village will need to provide.

Motion 230-10. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Certis to adopt the following resolution:

That Richard L. Klancer, as Mayor of the Village of Gowanda, is hereby authorized and directed to file an application for 50% matching funds in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00, and upon approval of said request to enter into and execute a project agreement with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for such financial assistance to the Village of Gowanda for Round 10 Urban and Community Forestry Grant for Tree Planting.

Motion carried 5-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported that the Village received another \$1,000.00 from Dr. Hu for Chang-Hu Park.

Motion 231-10. Motion by Trustee McKeever, seconded by Trustee Certis to go into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 232-10. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee DeCarlo to come out of Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion 233-10. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee DeCarlo to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

The next Village of Gowanda board meeting is Grievance Day on February 15, 2011 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen V. Mohawk
Village Clerk