

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 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 board room in the Municipal 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, Treasurer Cindy Schilling, Village Attorney Deborah Chadsey, Public Works Superintendent Mike Hutchinson, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Gary Brecker

Media Present: Samantha McDonnell, Observer
Mary Pankow, Pennysaver
Phil Palen, Cable Channel 22

Motion 157-11. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Certis to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2011 Village Board meeting as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

BUSINESS/BUILDING PERMITS

Building Inspector Brecker reported that The Darning Needle business across the street is doing very well.

Mr. Brecker advised that he has only given out a few building permits for fences. The situation at 388 Buffalo Street is being taken care of. Building Inspector Brecker reported that the new driveway for the nursing home will be done on November 1st according to new engineer drawings. He was advised that the owners have expressed an interest in being a good neighbor and taking care of the problems caused to the neighbors.

Trustee DeCarlo asked Village Clerk Mohawk about the situation with the cars parked at the old dough factory. Building Inspector Brecker advised he would check on the situation.

Building Inspector Brecker indicated that the junk vehicle statute should be revised to allow the Village to impound junk vehicles. Then it would be necessary to determine the rights of the Village as to how long the Village would need to keep the vehicle before it can be sold or scrapped. Village Attorney Chadsey stated that the Village would need to authorize her to put together a schedule with associated fees.

Motion 158-11. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Certis to authorize Village Attorney Chadsey to investigate the case law regarding junk vehicles. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee Sheibley asked for clarification regarding the letter received from ISO regarding the rating system. Building Inspector Brecker indicated it is a voluntary program. Mayor Klancer stated he would like to have some discussion about opting out of this program. He has some questions about it.

POLICE

Village Clerk Mohawk reported that Officer-in-Charge Alessi requested authorization to purchase a door for the general bathroom in the old board room. Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson advised that the door was broken. It can be a hollow door for that application.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson advised the heating and air conditioning system will be fired up this week.

Motion 159-11. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee McKeever to authorize Officer-in-Charge Alessi to purchase a door for the bathroom. Motion carried 5-0.

JOINT ACTIVITY

Trustee Sheibley advised ski registration will take place tomorrow night. Recreation Director Benton will do the receipting.

There was discussion about locking the side door to the building. Mayor Klancer wants the front door open for entrance to the building. Village Clerk Mohawk indicated she does not agree as the side door is the handicapped entrance to the building. Handicapped parking will be moved closer to the front entrance. Mayor Klancer asked Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson to put handicapped entrance signs on the front of the building.

Trustee Sheibley asked Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson about the letter from the Gowanda Ambulance Service. He indicated that the employees did some of the items that they could do but did not address all of the problems.

FIRE

Trustee DeCarlo congratulated Mary Stratton for her success on the Wheel of Fortune.

Trustee DeCarlo mentioned the letter from Roberta Raiport resigning from the Gowanda Ambulance Service Board of Directors. A letter of appreciation will be sent to Ms. Raiport.

Motion 160-11. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Certis to accept the resignation of Roberta Raiprot from the Gowanda Ambulance Service Board of Directors, effective immediately. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee DeCarlo read a letter to the Gowanda Fire Department from the Binghamton Fire Bureau:

“On behalf of the Binghamton Fire Bureau, I wish to express my appreciation and thanks to each and every one of you for your help during this area’s devastating flood last month and the problems it created. We alone could not have accomplished the tremendous work involved to save the City and help the residents.

Thank you again for your help. It was greatly appreciated and will not be forgotten.

Daniel F. Thomas, Chief, Binghamton Fire Bureau”

Trustee DeCarlo advised that Disaster Coordinator Crassi will be attending a meeting once a month to keep the Board updated.

TREASURER

Treasurer Schilling advised that the closing on the \$2.5 million BAN will take place on October 27th at a rate of 1.31% from Chase.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson advised that Russo Development has agreed to contract with the Village for 5 years to haul the prison backwash sludge to the sewer plant. The Village agreed to give them a reduced rate.

Motion 161-11. Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee McKeever to authorize a rate of \$20.00 per thousand for waste hauling for Russo Development. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee DeCarlo asked if Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson contacted the DEC about the gravel bar in Cattaraugus Creek.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson received a letter from FEMA indicating that they will fund the full amount requested for the Pt. Peter Reservoir.

Village Attorney Chadsey indicated an RFP was prepared for Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson’s position. When the responses are received, she will send them on.

ADMINISTRATION

Village Clerk Mohawk indicated she was under the impression she could hire someone for the office position. The Village Board indicated she should advertise the position. It was decided that the resumes should be returned within a week. Treasurer Schilling

advised that the office is anxious to have someone start since Office Clerk Trumpore will be leaving at the end of the year.

Motion 162-11. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to authorize Village Clerk Mohawk to hire a part-time office clerk at a rate not to exceed \$12 per hour, depending on the skill set of the individual, with one week paid time off, advertisement to run for 1 week, interest due by November 1, 2011. Motion carried 5-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk advised that the next Village Board meeting is November 8th which is Election Day. Trustee Sheibley suggested November 7th, Mayor Klancer suggested November 16th. Village Clerk Mohawk advised that Wednesdays are not good nights for her. Treasurer Schilling indicated she would take the minutes.

ENVIRONMENT

Phil Palen advised that the nursery will dig the trees and have them ready for planting next week. He advised they will need a load of mulch. Mr. Palen advised he would order the stakes.

Phil Palen asked if the two trees on Chestnut Street that were cut down included stump grinding. He advised that only 16 trees need maintenance. Trustee DeCarlo reported that NYSEG trimmed the trees along Broadway Road last week. Phil Palen indicated that 21 trees will be planted this fall, some at the Zoar Gateway Park.

Trustee Sheibley asked about the letter received from Supervisor Stopen from the Town of Perrysburg about assuming the Village of Perrysburg contracts. Village Attorney Chadsey reported she has already been in contact with the Town of Perrysburg attorney about these contracts. She will have draft documents prior to the next Board meeting. Some of the contracts are very old and have certain provisions. Some are renewable, some are not. Village Attorney Chadsey indicated the Village can brush up the description of what services are actually being provided.

Trustee DeCarlo read a letter from the Town of Perrysburg:

“The Town Board of the Town of Perrysburg has received the Fire Protection contract between the Village of Gowanda and the Town of Perrysburg.

We would like to have a one-year contract. This would enable the board to review the needs of the residents on Prospect Street as the property assessments and taxes no longer pay the amount necessary to pay for this service from Gowanda.”

Treasurer Schilling advised that the Village opted for a three-year contract as the Village has recurring expenses. Mayor Klancer asked if our current contract has a provision that allows for either party to get out. Treasurer Schilling stated no.

Motion 163-11. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Certis to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 7:45 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

The next Village of Gowanda board meeting is November 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen V. Mohawk
Village Clerk