

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 28, 2008**

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

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

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

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

Deputy Mayor Sheibley advised that Mayor Klancer was not present due to a personal matter.

Motion 192-08. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Certis to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2008 Village Board meeting as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Deputy Mayor Sheibley advised that she was not in attendance at the October 22nd meeting and she had supplied her recommendations for the UDAG priority. Village Clerk Mohawk stated she reported that Trustee Sheibley had presented her recommendations via Mayor Klancer. Deputy Mayor Sheibley indicated that her second choice was the Hollywood Theater, not the South Water Street improvements.

Motion 193-08. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2008 Special Village Board meeting as corrected. Motion carried 4-0.

POLICE

Village Clerk Mohawk read the September 2008 police report:

“144 reportable calls, 25 arrests, 6 motor vehicle accidents, 5 violent domestics, 47 traffic tickets.

There is a Gowanda Varsity football game on Halloween at Hillis Field with a 7:00 p.m. kick-off.

We will have extra patrol for Halloween with marked and unmarked vehicles with foot and bike patrol. A recommendation that side streets have a 10:00 p.m. curfew and the

business district have a 10:30 p.m. curfew due to the Haunted House at the Hollywood.”

There were two actions items on the agenda under the police department to rescind two prior motions creating positions of Village Justice and Court Clerk at the suggestion of the auditors.

Motion 194-08. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Certis to rescind Motion 52-06 creating the position of Village Justice. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion 195-08. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee Nephew to rescind Motion 53-06 creating the position of Court Clerk. Motion carried 4-0.

JOINT ACTIVITY

Trustee Certis reported that the Recreation Commission meeting was held on October 16, 2008. He reported that the Learn to Ski sign ups for the eight week program took place on Monday, October 27th, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. The soccer program went well. An average of 32 children took part. Hopefully ice skating will begin in December. Men’s basketball begins January 6 and runs through March. Roller skating will not be held due to construction at the Gowanda Elementary School.

Trustee Certis reported that the next meeting is Wednesday, November 12th, at 1:00 p.m. Deputy Mayor Sheibley advised they will continue to review the roles and responsibilities of the various job titles.

FIRE

Trustee DeCarlo advised the fire department has had about 140 calls so far this year.

Trustee DeCarlo thanked everyone who showed up for the bridge dedication.

Trustee DeCarlo reminded everyone to check their fire alarms and holiday lights for safety.

TREASURER

Treasurer Schilling advised that she attempted to attend the trails grant seminar in Batavia but had car problems. She indicated that she spoke with Lynn LeFevre who indicated that the Village project would rank very high. Ms. LeFevre did, however, indicate that she had some ideas for other projects and would like to meet with Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson to discuss them.

Treasurer Schilling advised that Mayor Klancer asked her to get a motion to hire a commercial realtor to sell 31 Jamestown Street.

Motion 196-08. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Nephew to hire a commercial realtor to sell 31 Jamestown Street. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson indicated that the low bid for tree trimming and cutting is Covey Tree in the amount of \$10,800. Mr. Hutchinson indicated there is a great value in trimming or cutting trees that might come down to prevent injury to Village residents or property. Trustee Certis indicated the topic was discussed at length in work session and he feels it is important.

Motion 197-08. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee Nephew to approve the low bid from Covey Tree for \$10,800 for trimming and cutting trees in the Village. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson advised that the sewer plant has been replacing the rotary load pumps with a newer technology. He advised that he received a quote for a double disc pump but it exceeds the amount that can be awarded so he will need to do a bid. He requested permission to bid the equipment. These are pumps that pump sludge at the treatment plant. The money would probably come out of the repair reserve funds or appropriated fund balance if there is enough.

Motion 198-08. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee DeCarlo to authorize Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson to go out to bid for these pumps. Motion carried 4-0.

Trustee Sheibley introduced Legislator John Mills who arrived about 7:15 p.m. He reported on the County budget and the proposed 3.6% property tax increase. The Legislature is not in favor of such an increase. They have proposed an amendment to the County Executive's budget for 0% property tax increase. The Soil & Water Conservation and Cooperative Extension positions will be restored. All raises for the department officials will probably be eliminated. There will be a reduction in the labor force. 351 jobs have been eliminated from the County budget. Legislator Mills indicated the retirement costs in years to come will be about \$1 billion. Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson asked if there was any move to bring the County Water and Sewer Authorities under the direction of the County and would there be any financial benefit to do so. Legislator Mills indicated it would be an asset. Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson also asked if the County has any four-year plans. Legislator Mills advised that the County Executive has a 4-year plan for forestry, parks, bridges, infrastructure items, etc. This way County Executive Collins is not practicing crisis management. Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson asked if Aldrich Street is on the list of streets to be fixed. Legislator Mills indicated it is close. Trustee Sheibley asked if the Recycling Coordinator position is back in the budget. Legislator Mills indicated it is a State-funded position. It is important as this individual manages the grants through N.E.S.T.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson presented information on Wastewater Panels which is more for Village officials. It deals with the obligations, strategies, asset management, infrastructure management, etc. Trustee Sheibley indicated there are two sessions in Dunkirk.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson indicated that the Town of Collins requested the Village to relinquish lead agency status for SEQR for the STEL house on Aldrich Street.

Motion 199-08. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Certis to relinquish lead agency status for SEQR for the STEL house on Aldrich Street. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Works Superintendent Hutchinson advised that the waterline is in for the new fire hall. He indicated he would have a total cost for the next Board meeting.

ADMINISTRATION

Village Clerk Mohawk advised the annual maintenance agreement is up for the copy machine. The cost is \$936.00 per year and is a budgeted item.

Motion 200-08. Motion by Trustee Certis, seconded by Trustee DeCarlo to authorize the expenditure for the annual maintenance agreement for the Toshiba Estudio 350 in the amount of \$936.00 per year. Motion carried 4-0.

Village Clerk Mohawk reported that the other police car is out for bid.

ENVIRONMENT

Trustee Nephew indicated the tree committee is locating sites for trees. Bare root trees will be planted sometime in the next three weeks. The sites should all be called in by the end of this week.

Trustee Sheibley advised that the next meeting is set for Wednesday, November 12th, at 7:00 p.m. She thanked the Board for accommodating the date change so she can attend the Cattaraugus County Youth Board meeting scheduled for November 18th.

Trustee Sheibley spoke with Craig Brown regarding the merger with TLC Health Network and Brooks Memorial Hospital, now known as the Lake Erie Health Care System. She advised that Mr. Brown will attend the November 12th meeting for an update.

Motion 201-08. Motion by Trustee DeCarlo, seconded by Trustee Nephew to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 7:35 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

The next Village of Gowanda Board meeting is November 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen V. Mohawk
Village Clerk