

# MINUTES

## Public Hearing & Regular Meeting

October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The Public Hearing/ Regular Meeting of the Seneca Town Board, County of Ontario, State of New York was held at 3675 Flint Road, Stanley, NY 14561 on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020 at 7:30 PM.

### PRESENT

|               |                               |                 |                           |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Jason Mosher  | Deputy Supervisor/ Councilman | Haley Eagley    | Town Clerk/ Tax Collector |
| Howard Keeney | Councilman                    | Shana Jo Hilton | Assessor/ Bookkeeper      |
| Jim Malyj     | Councilman                    | Kathy Mastellar | Town Historian            |
| Jesse Orbaker | Councilman                    | Jim Lawson      | Highway Superintendent    |

### NECESSARILY ABSENT

|              |                      |              |                          |
|--------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Drew Wickham | Town Supervisor      | Jerry Hoover | Code Enforcement Officer |
| Brian Prater | Water Superintendent |              |                          |
|              |                      |              |                          |

Deputy Supervisor Mosher opened the Public Hearing on the 2021 Preliminary Budget at 7:30 PM. He wanted to start by thanking the town personnel for putting together a very responsible budget in light of the uncertainty that COVID-19 has brought about. Deputy Supervisor Mosher commented that the expenses for 2021 are projected to be \$4,612,557.00 which is down \$1,106,549.00 from last year. Included in this year's budget is a continued buydown of the Town and County Tax Levy in the amount of \$500,000. With that, Deputy Supervisor Mosher offered the floor to anyone who wished to comment on the 2021 Preliminary Budget. Nobody wished to speak in favor of or against the 2021 Preliminary Budget. All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the hearing was closed at 7:31 PM.

At 7:31 PM, Deputy Supervisor Mosher called the regular Town Board meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was passed over as everyone in attendance was acquainted. A note was made for the necessary absence of Supervisor Wickham, CEO Hoover, and Water Superintendent Prater.

Deputy Supervisor Mosher looked for a motion to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. The approval was motioned by Councilman Malyj and seconded by Councilman Orbaker. Motion carried.

In addition to the approved agenda, Deputy Supervisor Mosher wished to amend for an addition to New Business. We added "A. Resolution #85-20: Authorization to hire an MEO on an as-needed basis". Deputy Supervisor Mosher looked for motion to approve the amended agenda for tonight's meeting. The motion was made by Councilman Keeney and seconded by Councilman Orbaker. Motion carried.

Deputy Supervisor Mosher gave privilege of the floor and nobody wished to speak at this time.

### SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Deputy Supervisor Mosher wanted to give an update on our Sewer Rate Study. Mr. Jeff Smith with Municipal Solutions is working on a recommendation for our sewer system. Mr. Smith intends to get a final recommendation to us for our next board meeting. In the meantime, he brought a preliminary recommendation to our attention. Deputy Supervisor Mosher wanted to reiterate that this is preliminary, but wanted to say that one of Mr. Smith's recommendations is to lower the initial hook-up fee. There will be other additional recommendations from Mr. Smith and we're hoping to have a comprehensive report to review for our next board meeting.

Deputy Supervisor Mosher looked for motion to approve the minutes from the September 15<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting and the September 30<sup>th</sup> Budget Workshop. Motion was made by Councilman Malyj and Seconded by Councilman Keeney. Motion carried.

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### DEPARTMENT REPORTS

#### HIGHWAY:

Highway Superintendent Lawson wanted to highlight a bullet-point on his report. He stated that the Highway Department auctioned off their 2017 Chevy Silverado 2500HD through Auctions International. He stated that the truck went to Wayne County Ford in Honesdale, PA. The Town of Seneca Purchased the truck, brand new, in 2017 for \$28,303.70. Being sold this year at \$25,200.00, after 3 years of use, Mr. Lawson figured that the truck cost the Town of Seneca \$1,088.53 per year.

Councilman Keeney asked if Highway Superintendent Lawson had candidates for the Mechanic/MEO position. Mr. Lawson responded by explaining that he has a few approved as of now. Being that the new process is online through the county and goes right up to the date of application closing (which was October 9<sup>th</sup>)- the county reviews and allows any pending applications up to 10 days to respond, so he is waiting on those. Highway Superintendent Lawson feels optimistic so far; however, with this new process it could be into November before he is able to move forward.

#### TOWN CLERK:

Clerk Eagley pointed out the portion of her report that states that she is able to process hunting licenses again. NYS DEC made a change with their computer program to print hunting licenses. Upon this change, the person who issues hunting licenses had to take a certain exam and being that NYS is so backed up, it had been a while before they offered it to Clerk Eagley. Upon passing this exam, NYS DEC called and went through the necessary set-up for the new system and allowed us to start issuing them again.

Deputy Supervisor Mosher looked for motion to approve the Supervisor, Code Enforcement, and Town Clerk's financial reports. Motion was made by Councilman Malyj and seconded by Councilman Orbaker. Motion Carried.

### NEW BUSINESS

| Resolution Number | Resolution Title                                       | Ayes | Nays | Absent | Motioned           | Seconded          | Carried? |
|-------------------|--|------|------|--------|--------------------|-------------------|----------|
| # 84-20           | Authorization to pay the October 2020 Audited Vouchers | 4    | 0    | 1      | Councilman Orbaker | Councilman Keeney | Yes      |
| # 85-20           | Authorization to hire an MEO on an "as-needed" basis.  | 4    | 0    | 1      | Councilman Keeney  | Councilman Malyj  | Yes      |

For Resolution #85-20, Deputy Supervisor Mosher asked if Highway Superintendent Lawson could give detail. With winter coming fast and the application process being slower than usual, Highway Superintendent Lawson asked our newly retired MEO, Don Kinney, if he would be able to come back, on an as-needed basis while they get through the hiring process. Our area had snow in early November last year, so Mr. Lawson wanted to be prepared in the case that we aren't fully staffed yet.

Councilman Orbaker asked if this was only limited to Mr. Kinney. As it is on an as-needed basis, at this time, Highway Superintendent Lawson would like to hire him as he's familiar with the routes and the equipment, he's been in our payroll already and he's still listed in our drug testing pool. Mr. Lawson stated this is being proactive as we work to be fully staffed.

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## OLD BUSINESS

Councilman Malyj wanted to speak for the Seneca Castle Bell Committee. He hasn't heard anything new about the sign yet, but they did order it and it's currently being made.

## PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Deputy Superintendent Mosher gave privilege of the floor one last time. Nobody wished to speak and with that the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 PM. Motion for adjournment was made by Councilman Keeney and seconded by Councilman Orbaker. Motion carried.

Respectfully,

Haley Eagley  
Town Clerk

DRAFT