

TOWN OF SENECA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JULY 19TH, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Seneca Town Board, County of Ontario, State of New York were held at 3675 Flint Road, Stanley, NY 14561 on the 19th day of July 2022 at 7:30 PM.

PRESENT	
Drew Wickham	Supervisor
Jason Mosher	Deputy Supervisor/ Councilman
Howard Keeney	Councilman
Jim Malyj	Councilman
Jesse Orbaker	Councilman
Haley Eagley	Town Clerk/ Tax Collector
Shana Jo Hilton	Town Assessor
Brian Prater	Water Superintendent
Jim Lawson	Highway Superintendent
Kathy Mastellar	Town Historian
Brian Sanders	Manager of Ontario County Landfill

Supervisor Wickham called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The Supervisor led the pledge of allegiance. Roll call was completed and all in attendance were acquainted.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Supervisor Wickham looked for a motion to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. The approval was motioned by Councilman Mosher and seconded by Councilman Orbaker. Motion carried. There were a couple of additions to the agenda under "Communications". Line E: Non-Resident Landfill Comment; Line F: Non- Resident Landfill Comment; and Line G: Letter of Intent for County Road 4 and County Road 20 Intersection Improvements. Approval of the amended agenda was motioned by Councilman Keeney and Seconded by Councilman Malyj. Motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Privilege of the floor was offered, and nobody wished to speak at this time.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

LANDFILL MEETING RECAP:

Supervisor Wickham stated that we had great landfill meetings at each of the 3 fire houses. The deadline for completing a landfill survey was July 22, 2022. Until we act on this, we will accept surveys for those that did not get a chance to take them. We will make the findings public at our August Monthly Meeting. Also at the August Monthly Meeting, Supervisor Wickham mentioned that County Director Carla Jordan and County Administrator Chris DeBolt will be attending to give a presentation on the County's take on the landfill and what effects our decision will have on how the county handles the waste of Ontario County. This is just more information for us to have on hand as we move forward with this topic.

FARM WORKER HOUSING UPDATE:

Supervisor Wickham thanked CEO Hoover for his dedication in leading this plan forward; however, the New York State Office of Community Renewal is very reluctant to work with municipalities. While the projects that the county sought out fit all the requirements for this, the funds may be coming from a different source with the state. There will be more on this in the future.

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EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT:

Supervisor Wickham announced that Reese Middlebrook was attending tonight's meeting. Reese is a Boy Scout from Troop #68 in Hall. He is currently working on an Eagle Scout project and has been discussing with Supervisor Wickham. The Eagle Scout project will be at Butcher Cemetery on Prospect Hill Road. Supervisor Wickham turned our attention to Reese to explain what he would like to do. Reese would like to start by placing a sign at the cemetery as there is currently no sign there and the cemetery is difficult to see from the road. Reese already has someone who is willing to donate the sign to his project. The next item he would like to accomplish is to clean the marble, limestone, and granite headstones. He has discussed this with someone who has a lot of experience with this type of cleaning, and he learned a lot of information about that.

Reese explained that the third major item that he would like to focus on is to restore Bethel Benton's daughter's headstone. Her headstone is currently broken in half. For those that do not know, Bethel Benton is a revolutionary war veteran, and he donated the parcel that the cemetery lies on to the community many years ago.

The last item that he would explore is to get every stone on the property re-stored and standing. He would love to make a new base for every stone in the cemetery, but with his timing of aging out of the troop being in September, he felt that this was a good compromise. There are about 10 stones in the cemetery that need to be re-stored back to standing.

Reese concluded his presentation of his project and opened for the board to ask questions. Councilman Mosher asked what material he planned for the sign to be. Reese explained that it would be wood. Councilman Orbaker asked how he planned to lift the heavy stones back up and Reese said that the person he spoke to about cleaning the stones, also has a set-up to help lift the stones back up. Councilman Keeney asked if there was any way that we could assist Reese in his Eagle Scout project and Supervisor Wickham explained that we have already pledged any assistance that we can to help him. The cemetery is not currently in pristine shape, so any help that Reese can provide is a kick-start to what the town can finish.

Supervisor Wickham looked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 21st regular meeting. The motion was made by Councilman Mosher and seconded by Councilman Malyj.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications were reviewed and are available to view at the Town Hall upon Request.

Supervisor Wickham announced that the American Legion Winnek Post #396 is set for a grand opening of September 17, 2022, at 11:00 AM. If this changes, we will make an announcement.

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DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The reports were reviewed by the board and are available to view in person, upon request, at the Town Hall.

HIGHWAY:

Highway Superintendent Lawson's report made mention of a few items that would not be completed due to price increases. Supervisor Wickham asked what those items are, and the major item is about 10 miles of oil and stone. Councilman Mosher asked how much that would cost us to complete. Mr. Lawson stated that the original 15-mile length was going to cost \$320,000.00 and he only has \$160,000.00 left in the Road Repair Budget. This leaves him \$170,000 (minimum) short. Councilman Orbaker asked if it would cost more for us to hold off on it, but the answer to that is a gamble. Mr. Lawson stated that he got word that the price might drop in August by a little bit, but they will not stay down.

Councilman Malyj asked how the speedbumps are working out in Seneca Castle. Mr. Lawson stated he still has one more set to install.

Councilman Orbaker inquired about the paving on Flint Road. He told Mr. Lawson that he thinks it looks great but was curious of how much we raised the road and if we are okay with the wires that are hanging across the road. He explained that we already had one wire get ripped off a residence by a piece of farm equipment and wondered who takes care of notifying NYSEG. Mr. Lawson stated that the wire in question has been hanging low for an exceptionally long time. Councilman Orbaker mentioned that as a farmer himself, he knows that there are certain roads that do not have any room to be raised and just suggested that we be more mindful of that. Supervisor Wickham asked Highway Superintendent Lawson if he makes NYSEG aware of low-hanging wires that he sees, and he stated that NYSEG is supposed to be checking them regularly.

Councilman Orbaker asked when they planned to smooth out the approach on Rilands Road. Highway Superintendent Lawson said they plan to take care of that the week following the meeting.

Councilman Mosher had one more question regarding the material shortage. He asked if it was at all possible to spend less next year in the budget to get this shortage taken care of this year. He would hate to see the plows do damage to the work that they have already done and then have the price of oil be even more next year. Highway Superintendent Lawson explained that this is a total gamble. He has no idea what the prices will do next year. Councilman Mosher asked if there was maintenance that he could hold off on this year. Mr. Lawson said there is nothing he can hold off on this year, but he will continue to think about this topic.

LANDFILL:

Mr. Sanders said that they are focusing on cover and grass seed. They have roughly 40 acres vegetated and stabilized. They got some much-needed rain, and it was just what they needed. Casella submitted plans to the DEC for a leachate tank installation. He hopes that they can complete that by the end of the year.

Supervisor Wickham looked for a motion to approve the Supervisor, Town Clerk, and Code Enforcement Financial Reports. Councilman Mosher made the motion that was seconded by Councilman Keeney

RESOLUTIONS

RES. NUMBER	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	MOTION	SECOND
#69-22	Authorization to pay the 2022 Audited Vouchers	5	0	0	Councilman Mosher	Councilman Orbaker

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Privilege of the floor was offered, and nobody wished to speak at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:09 PM Councilman Keeney made motion to enter executive session for the proposed acquisition, sale, or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof. There are to be no decision made or voted on in this executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Malyj.

At 8:57 PM, councilman Mosher made a motion that was seconded by Councilman Orbaker to exit executive session. Immediately following at 8:58 PM a motion was made by Councilman Keeney and Seconded by Councilman Malyj or adjourn the regular monthly town board meeting.

Respectfully,
Haley S. Eagley
Town Clerk
Town of Seneca