

TOWN OF SENECA  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 21, 2018

The regular meeting of the Seneca Town Board, County of Ontario, State of New York was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2018 at the Seneca Town Hall, 3675 Flint Road, Stanley, NY 14561 at 7:30pm.

PRESENT:

Andrew Wickham, Supervisor	Howard Keeney, Councilman
Jim Malyj, Councilman	Charles Smith, Councilman
Jason Mosher, Councilman	Kate Silverstrim, Town Clerk
Jim Lawson, Highway & Water Superintendent	Shana Jo Hilton, Assessor

NECESSARILY ABSENT:

Jerry Hoover, CEO

Supervisor Wickham called the regular meeting to order at 7:30pm. The supervisor led the pledge of allegiance. Roll call was passed over as all in attendance were acquainted.

**Approval of Agenda**

Supervisor Wickham requested two additions to the agenda; under Supervisor's Report, add B. Geneva Water Capital Plan and under Communications, add K. Thank you note from Seneca Castle Book Club.

On motion made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Mosher, to amend the agenda for the August 21, 2018 meeting. Carried.

On motion made by Supervisor Wickham, seconded by Councilman Keeney, to approve the amended agenda for the August 21, 2018 meeting. Carried.

**Privilege of the Floor**

Mrs. Sue Campbell thanked the board for budgeting and approving the kitchen remodel at the Courthouse and stated that the completed renovations look wonderful. Additionally, Mrs. Campbell spoke of a more personal matter that recently occurred. Around the end of June, Mrs. Campbell painted the fire hydrant in front of her home. She stated that the hydrant had not been painted in many years so was looking very rusty and dingy. She and her husband maintain the area around the hydrant to ensure access in an emergency and felt that a fresh coat of paint would do no harm. On July 31, Mrs. Campbell returned home from work to find that the hydrant in front of her house had been painted over, in bright yellow, and that no other hydrants on her road, or in town, had been painted that day or even recently. She is very disappointed that there wasn't any communication from the Water Superintendent prior to repainting the hydrant. There was discussion between the board, Mrs. Campbell and Superintendent Lawson, then Supervisor Wickham thanked Mrs. Campbell for her input.

Mr. Larry Townley shared that a week ago Saturday night he had family visiting from out of town and wished to take his grandson outside to watch the meteor shower around 11:30pm. Mr. Townley was

unable to do so because the smell from the Landfill was so strong at his house that evening. His grandson even made a remark about not wanting to live in this area because it stinks so bad. This causes concern for Mr. Townley, especially regarding procedure being adhered to at the Landfill site. Mr. Townley stated that he thinks the landfill is operating outside of the permissible hours. Then with the recent tragedy that occurred, he asked when will Casella be held responsible for resolving these issues of trash and stones, as well as the odor problems. Supervisor Wickham briefly introduced Mr. Mark Clinker, the new General Manager for Casella operations at the Ontario County Landfill, who had just joined the meeting. Supervisor Wickham asked that Mr. Clinker speak to this in his report and thanked Mr. Townley for his input.

### **Supervisor's Report**

Supervisor Wickham announced the upcoming Waste Collection events coming up in Ontario County. On September 8<sup>th</sup> the towns of Seneca and Gorham will host a joint E-waste collection event that will be free for residents of the two towns. On September 15<sup>th</sup> there is a household hazardous waste event at the Town of Canandaigua transfer station, this event is open to all Ontario County residents and pre-registration is required. There will be an agricultural plastics collection event in late September that more information is to come on. On October 4<sup>th</sup> there will be a Shred Day at the County Complex in Hopewell. This is open to all county residents and early arrival is highly recommended. On October 13<sup>th</sup> the Town of Seneca will host a residential tire collection event. Town residents will have first preference to pre-register, any openings will then be offered to county-wide residents. On November 3<sup>rd</sup> the towns of Geneva, Victor, and Canandaigua will accept pumpkins for disposal at their transfer stations. On November 10<sup>th</sup> there is an E-waste event for Bristol, East and West Bloomfield residents, and finally, on November 16<sup>th</sup> the Town of Seneca will host an agricultural tire collection event available to town residents only. Supervisor Wickham put out a call for helping hands for the September 8<sup>th</sup> E-waste and October 13<sup>th</sup> tire collection events, please contact him if you are able to help on one or both of these days.

Supervisor Wickham then reported on the Water System Capital Project. Representatives from MRB Group, HUNT Engineering, and the towns of Geneva and Seneca recently met to finalize the scope of this project. The final project will cost approximately \$4.2 million and that is how much the grant will be submitted for. Currently the two Supervisors are working with surrounding municipalities to collect letters of support for the application. The application deadline is September 7 and both he and Supervisor Venuti, as well as the engineers, feel there is a very good chance we will be awarded the grant. If awarded, this grant could fund up to 60% of the project.

### **Accept Minutes**

On motion made by Councilman Keeney, seconded by Councilman Malyj, to accept the minutes from the July 17, 2018 regular meeting. Carried.

Supervisor Wickham presented the communications.

Written reports were submitted by the Highway & Water Superintendent, Assessor, and Town Clerk and are on file in the Town Clerk's office.

There were no additions to the Highway report.

From the Water Report, the board asked Superintendent Lawson about the procedure for a Town of Gorham resident to connect to the Town of Seneca Water District, the number of residents who have already done so, and the location of the current water main on Goose Street. Superintendent Lawson stated that he wishes to focus on getting water to all of Seneca's residents before extending the water main to serve out-of-town customers.

CEO, Jerry Hoover was necessarily absent. His financial report was submitted to the board and there were no updates to include on an additional written report.

From the Assessor Report, Supervisor Wickham highlighted that the Town of Seneca is now at 100% equalization rate and commended Shana Jo Hilton on her excellent work.

In addition to the Town Clerk report, Supervisor Wickham congratulated Kate Silverstrim-Jensen on her recent marriage. Additionally, the board is glad to see that many residents have used the new system to pay their water bills online.

Supervisor Wickham again introduced Mark Clinker, General Manager of the Ontario County Landfill. Mr. Clinker thanked everyone for having him. He feels it is important to sit with those who are the experts here, such as town residents who have lived around this landfill for many years. Since he has been here he has received both positive and negative feedback, and although he has many years of experience working with landfills, it will take some time to get to know this particular site and how it operates. To speak to earlier comments, he will address any operation outside of permissible hours and will check logs and cameras for that past Saturday evening. He stated that he is here to do a good job and to support the folks in this community, and he is aware that there is work to be done at this site. Anytime there is a tragedy such as the loss of a life, it is serious. He has already been looking at the procedure and asking if it is enough or if there is more they can do. However, he stated, there is also a fine line between being responsible and taking responsibility for CDL drivers who have been trained to follow protocol like inspecting their trucks. This is a very visible, challenging project and there is a responsibility for Casella to address the odors, litter, and accidents.

Supervisor Wickham noted that at the recent County PEQ meeting, there was an in depth discussion regarding the accident and Chairwoman Singer clearly stated that the recent accident is still under investigation.

Councilman Keeney stated that he observed a truck exiting the landfill this past Saturday. It pulled out onto Route 5 & 20 with the mud flaps still tied up. He asked Mr. Clinker if there are signs on site to help remind drivers of their responsibility.

Mr. Clinker stated that there are some signs and they could look into having more, but also that after time drivers become blind to them because they are always there.

Councilman Smith stated that the truck never would have had a rock in it if it hadn't been at the landfill and questioned if they can do a better job of keeping the roads onsite clear of large rocks.

Mr. Clinker stated that all landfills have an aspect of driving off-road due to the nature of the business. However, at this site they do bring in recycled asphalt to make the road base, rather than using stone, to prevent large rocks from getting picked up. He feels it really comes back to checking trucks and educating drivers.

Councilman Mosher suggests installing great big signs, and perhaps changing them periodically, so that driver's cannot miss the reminder to inspect.

Supervisor Wickham noted that in addition to working with Casella, he is also working on Sheriff Povero to step-up law enforcement presence in that area and to set up inspection stations right by the Landfill. He feels that this will get the message to the truck owners that we are serious about this.

Mr. Clinker stated that Casella has also been working on getting Route 5 & 20 better cleaned. They brought in a high pressure washer to not only sweep but also wash stones off the road and that has seemed to work pretty well.

Supervisor Wickham thanked Mr. Clinker for his report and for his receptiveness and willingness to work with us.

**Accept Supervisor, Town Clerk, and CEO Monthly Financial Reports**

On motion made by Councilman Malyj, seconded by Councilman Mosher, to accept the financial reports of the Supervisor, Town Clerk, and CEO. Carried.

**RESOLUTION #74-18 – AUTHORIZATION TO PAY THE AUDITED VOUCHERS**

BE IT RESOLVED, hereby authorizing the Supervisor to pay the following audited vouchers:

General, claim # 1062-1064 & 1067-1089 in the amount of \$ 14,430.88  
Highway, claim # 1081, 1083 & 1091-1110 in the amount of \$ 125,841.96  
Sewer, claim # 1064 & 1065 in the amount of \$ 2,018.48  
Hall Lighting, claim # 1066 & 1090 in the amount of \$ 401.72  
Stanley Lighting, claim # 1066 & 1090 in the amount of \$ 371.98  
Seneca Castle Lighting, claim # 1066 & 1090 in the amount of \$ 313.50  
Water, claim # 293-306 in the amount of \$ 8,292.67  
Trust & Agency, claim # 83-98 in the amount of \$ 2,272.70

**On motion made by Councilman Keeney, seconded by Councilman Smith, this resolution was:**

ADOPTED        AYES 5  
                     NAYS 0

**New Business**

- A. Budget Timeline – work on the budget will begin August 27, 2018 with worksheets distributed to department heads. The Tentative Budget will be filed with the Town Clerk by September 25, 2018 and the Budget Workshop was scheduled for September 27, 2018 at 5:00PM. The final budget will be adopted at the November 20, 2018 regular meeting.

**RESOLUTION #75 -18: AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION IN COOPERATIVE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BID**

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca, Ontario County, New York, desires to participate in a Cooperative Bidding Program conducted by The Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties from year to year or, until this Resolution is rescinded, for the purchase for supply of electricity; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca is desirous of participating with The Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties in the joint bid of the commodities and/or services mentioned below as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca has appointed The Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties as representative to assume the responsibility for drafting of specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids, reporting the results to the Town of Seneca, and making recommendations thereon; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Seneca and The Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties hereby accepts the appointment of The Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties to represent it in all matter related above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca authorizes the above-mentioned Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties to represent it in all matters regarding the entering into contract for the purchase of the below-mentioned commodities and/or services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca agrees to assume its equitable share of the costs incurred as a result of the cooperative bidding; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Seneca, Ontario County, New York hereby is authorized to participate in cooperative bidding conducted by The Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties for supply of electricity and if requested to furnish The Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties an estimated minimum number of units that will be purchased by The Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties. The Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties is hereby authorized to award cooperative bids to the bidder deemed to be the lowest responsive and responsible meeting the bid specifications and otherwise complying with Article 5-A of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York relating to public bids and contracts.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, The Town Board of the Town of Seneca hereby directs the bookkeeper to complete and sign the letter and Participant Information Form, and the Town Clerk to attach a copy of this resolution and to return this information to The Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates Counties.

**On motion made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Malyj, this resolution was:**

ADOPTED       AYES 5  
                  NAYS 0

**RESOLUTION #76-18: HIRE PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT**

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca has a job opening for a full-time Public Works Maintenance Assistant; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca has advertised for this position, accepted applications, and interviewed selected candidates approved by the Ontario County Department of Human Resources; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Seneca hereby approves the hiring of Randy Coolbaugh to fill the full-time Public Works Maintenance Assistant position. As he currently has both a C & D water license and a CDL drivers license he will be paid a probationary hourly rate of \$23.13, raising to \$25.70 after 6 months on the job to be charged to the 2018 adopted budget line SW1-8340.1 (Transmission & Distribution Personal Services).

**On motion made by Councilman Mosher, seconded by Councilman Keeney, this resolution was:**

ADOPTED        AYES 5  
                     NAYS 0

- D. Holiday Party – Supervisor Wickham stated that the town would like to look at catering options for this year’s event, so it would be beneficial to have the date set well in advance. The party is usually on Wednesday in the second week of December. December 12, 2018 was agreed upon.

**Old Business**

Supervisor Wickham stated that there was nothing new to report regarding the Cornell certiorari.

Councilman Malyj, chair of the Seneca Castle School Bell Committee, reported that the committee has meet twice since the last Town Board meeting. Minutes from those meetings have been submitted to the board this evening. In these meetings the committee got to see the bell and begin coming up with ideas for it. They would like to have the bell sandblasted and powder-coated so committee members are seeking quotes for that work. Councilman Malyj has also reached out to Ontario Pathways because they have a great sign that took a photo and etched it onto wood. He was concerned because it looks expensive, but was surprised to learn that it is actually very affordable. The committee is also thinking about constructing a roof to cover the bell and a light to illuminate the sign. They like the gazebo that a FL BOCES group constructed for the town and are interested in speaking with them about constructing a smaller version to house the bell and plaque, and they would like to place the memorial at the playground.

Councilman Smith asked if the clapper will be removed from the bell.

Councilman Malyj stated that they had discussed this and there are a few ideas for how to keep it stationary.

Councilman Malyj also stated that the Town of Seneca Historical Society is willing to use some of their budget to fund this project.

Councilman Mosher suggested the committee also speak with an Engineering firm or other professional office that may donate funds or services for the project as well.

Supervisor Wickham thanked Councilman Malyj for continuing to move this project forward for the town and the McFetridge family.

**Privilege of the Floor**

Mr. Larry Townley had some additional questions. To Mr. Clinker he asked about the procedure when drivers leave the landfill and whether there is contact between the scale person and the driver. Mr. Clinker stated that there is personal contact as the driver is given a receipt for every load. Mr. Townley suggested that the scale person hand out a pamphlet to each driver that is big and bright and reminds them of their responsibilities. Mr. Townley then asked if there was more the town could do to move along the certiorari. Supervisor Wickham stated that currently the judge is deliberating on the case and we do hope to have his ruling in the very near future. Mr. Townley asked about the possibility of our transfer station being relocated to the landfill. Supervisor Wickham clarified that the discussion of a transfer station at the landfill is separate from the Town of Seneca and would simply be an alternative option for haulers, especially local haulers, but would not affect Town of Seneca transfer station operations and is currently only in the discussion phase. Mr. Townley asked about the status of the compactor at the transfer station. Mr. Clinker was not aware of this, Supervisor Wickham will follow up with him to bring him up to speed. Mr. Townley then asked what other municipalities we supply water to. Supervisor Wickham stated that we supply Benton regularly and are an emergency supply for Gorham and Hopewell. There is a proposal for the system to supply Earl's Hill and Torrey as well. Mr. Townley suggested to the Town Board that we look to other town's to fund the project. Supervisor Wickham stated that the cost is recuperated in the rate that is charged for supplying the water, which is set annually by the board. Mr. Townley also suggests charging a higher rate for high usage. He feels that the high users are causing the wear and tear to the system and feels the small guys should not have to pay an increase. He is also concerned that if we increase water rates for other municipalities, then they may turn around and try to stick it to us. Supervisor Wickham thanked Mr. Townley for his input.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm on motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Mosher. Carried.

Kate Silverstrim-Jensen, Clerk  
Town of Seneca