

TOWN OF SENECA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 19th, 2023

The 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 19TH day of September 2023 at 7:30 pm.

PRESENT	
Drew Wickham	Town Supervisor
Jason Mosher	Councilman/ Deputy Supervisor
Jim Malyj	Councilman
Jesse Orbaker	Councilman
Haley Eagley	Town Clerk/ Tax Collector
Shana Jo Hilton	Town Assessor
Kathy Mastellar	Town Historian
Jim Lawson	Highway Superintendent
Randy Coolbaugh	Water Superintendent
Dan Jones	Ontario County Landfill

Supervisor Wickham started with the Pledge of Allegiance and dispensed with Roll Call as everyone in attendance was acquainted. Councilman Keeney was deemed necessarily absent. Dan Jones of Casella was in attendance in place of Brian Sanders to give a report on the Landfill.

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 no amendments to the agenda.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Supervisor Wickham looked for anyone who wanted privilege of the floor, or any comments on the general meeting. Nobody wished to speak at this time.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

PAVILION BUDGETING ITEM: The Pavilion has had two fireplaces (one on each side) since it was built. Those are beginning to fail and it's becoming increasingly difficult to find parts for them to keep them going. CEO Hoover and Supervisor Wickham have been discussing the possibilities of replacing the two fireplaces or converting them over to a furnace system to heat the building a little more evenly. Supervisor Wickham stated that replacing the fireplaces would be around \$6,000-\$7,000 and a furnace would be roughly twice that amount. A positive to switching over to a furnace would be that it would open the main room up. We would remove the fireplace in the center and the building would be one big room. We had originally designed the building to try and rent two parties out at the same time; however, that hasn't happened as much as we intended it to and since COVID-19, we have actually stopped allowing that as a whole.

Councilman Orbaker said that he would be in favor of the furnace option.

Councilman Mosher asked if there would be a drastic difference in longevity if we did either option. Supervisor Wickham stated that it would be about the same time frame as our other furnaces either way.

Councilman Mosher followed up and asked CEO Hoover if he had any quotes yet. CEO Hoover explained that he's working on getting quotes to share. He then explained that the idea would be to take out the center wall where the fireplaces are and make it one big opening. Bump out the bathroom hallway a couple of feet to create a furnace room and have the ductwork run over the center of the room above the drop-ceiling and then drop out of that ceiling. CEO Hoover said while he's still waiting for quotes and has nothing set yet, his thoughts would be that it would be somewhere in the \$20,000 range to complete the removal and the replacement. He explained that there is money in

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the park budget to cover this. He said we definitely have to do something because we have been struggling to get parts for those fireplaces for the better part of 5 years and it's becoming almost impossible.

Councilman Mosher asked if this would deplete the park fund with this one project and CEO Hoover explained that there would still be money to work with for the year even with this project.

Supervisor Wickham explained that he just wanted to get these thoughts out to the public since it gets utilized a lot and he just wanted to start the conversation for what could come in the near future.

Supervisor Wickham looked for a motion to approve the minutes from August 15th. Motion was made by Councilman Orbaker and seconded by councilman Malyj.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications were reviewed and are available to view during business hours at the Town Hall upon request.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

HIGHWAY: Highway Superintendent Lawson wanted to add that he included photos of the Kidder Road Culvert in his report. Since we last reported on this issue, the South Side had finally rotted and broke loose. He said there's about a 4 foot hole in the east shoulder at this point. He spoke to the county, and they have barriers available. Highway Superintendent Lawson spoke to the property owners on either side that would need to use that spot. The property owners are aware and okay with knocking it down to one lane for now. The Town of Benton will be plowing it with their smaller truck this year to keep our big trucks out of that area. He is moving forward with this project and explained that it went from a "budgeting" to "critical".

Councilman Orbaker asked if we still planned to tackle this ourselves. Highway Superintendent Lawson said that he would wait until school was out. By the time they start it crops should already be planted by then. Highway Superintendent Lawson is keeping a close eye on timing and getting this done.

WATER: Supervisor Wickham noted that our new water employee, Cordell Rasmussen, started this week.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: CEO Hoover noted that he met with Seedway regarding their possible new facility. They are looking at moving forward to building and staying in this Town. They will talk to surrounding property owners. They have options for their current location to remain useful. There will be more on this as it develops.

CASELLA: Mr. Jones said that the contractor for the Well Drilling will be on site as soon as the 26th of September, but they don't plan on starting that project until Mid-to-Late October.

Supervisor Wickham looked for a motion to approve the Supervisor, Town Clerk, and Code Enforcement Financial Reports. Motion was made by Councilman Mosher and Seconded by Councilman Malyj.

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NEW BUSINESS

RES. NUMBER	TITLE	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	MOTION	SECOND
#75-23	Authorization to pay the 2023 Audited Vouchers	4	0	1	Councilman Malyj	Councilman Mosher
#76-23	Re-Appoint BAR Member	4	0	1	Councilman Mosher	Councilman Orbaker
#77-23	23-24 County Snow Removal Contract	4	0	1	Councilman Orbaker	Councilman Malyj
#78-23	Adopt Negative Declaration	4	0	1	Councilman Mosher	Councilman Orbaker
AMENDED #78-23	CEO Hoover requested that that a small amendment be made to this resolution to reflect that the Town Board accepts CEO Hoovers findings for Part 2 of the SEQR.	4	0	1	Councilman Orbaker	Councilman Mosher
#79-23	Adopt Local Law #2-2023	4	0	1	Councilman Mosher	Councilman Orbaker
#80-23	Set Public Hearing for Preliminary Budget	4	0	1	Councilman Malyj	Councilman Mosher
#81-23	Authorize Court to Apply for 23-24 JCAP Grant	4	0	1	Councilman Mosher	Councilman Orbaker
#82-23	Authorize Water Rate Increase	4	0	1	Councilman Mosher	Councilman Malyj

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Privilege of the Floor was offered and Amanda Gibeau with the Stanley, Hall, Gorham ambulance wished to speak. She wanted to add that they are putting on a little event on Halloween night before trick or treating starts at the Gorham Fire Hall. She will give us more details in the near future, but they plan to do a costume contest and give away some cider and donuts.

She also added that their Pizza Nights start back up in October. They are sponsored by the Gorham Fire Department and the Gorham Fire Department has covered the cost of renting the Hall Fire House for their fundraisers.

They continue to work on funding for the new ambulance building. They're taking care of some hurdles that they've come across but are still moving along. She made mention that they will need the property surveyed and a "proposed" contract between the Town of Seneca and the Ambulance for the "lease" of the property. The bank is not recommending that either of us enter into a signed contract, but they're asking for the verbiage and proposal to keep on file.

Supervisor Wickham looked for any other comments and resident, Ben Wickham, added that he appreciated the monthly department reports being added to the minutes. He said it was nice to have those available to read through.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business at 8:03 pm Supervisor Wickham looked for a motion to go into executive session. A motion was made by Councilman Mosher and seconded by Councilman Orbaker. Executive session was adjourned on a motion made by Councilman Orbaker and seconded by Councilman Mosher at 8:38 pm. There was no new business following the executive session. The meeting was officially adjourned at 8:39 pm on a motion made by Councilman Mosher and seconded by Councilman Malyj.