

TOWN OF SENECA
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
APRIL 19TH, 2022

7:30 PM Regular Meeting

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Privilege of the Floor
5. Supervisor's Report
 - a. CR4 & CR20 Intersection Update (Link to 3/23 County Meeting on Website)
 - b. Memorial Day Planning
 - c. Verizon Tower Update
6. Approval of Minutes: March 22nd, 2022- Regular Meeting
7. Communications:
 - a. Ontario Pathways Newsletter
 - b. Association of Towns Membership Certificate
 - c. The Inside Dirt Newsletter
8. Reports:

Highway
Water
CEO
Assessor
Town Clerk
Historian
Casella

9. Accept Supervisor, Town Clerk, and CEO Financial Reports
10. Warrants:
 - a. **Resolution #54-22:** 2022 Warrants
11. New Business
 - a. **Discussion:** Highway Building Preparation
 - b. **Discussion:** Town Property Sale
 - c. **Resolution #52-22:** Opposing Any Decrease to the Farm Labor Overtime Threshold (Pulled from 3/15)
 - d. **Resolution #55-22:** Accepting Board of Assessment Review Resignation- John Gordner
 - e. **Resolution #56-22:** Board of Assessment Review Appointment- James Perry
 - f. **Resolution #57-22:** Authorization to Approve Excess Property
 - g. **Resolution #58-22:** Authorizing Purchase of Confined Space Entry Kit
12. Old Business
13. Privilege of the Floor
14. Adjournment

RESOLUTIONS

TOWN OF SENECA

Regular Board Meeting

April 19th, 2022

Resolution # 54-22

Authorization to Pay the 2022 Audited Vouchers

Claim Category	Claim Numbers	Claim Amount
GENERAL		
HIGHWAY		
WATER		
SEWER		
HALL		
STANLEY		
SENECA CASTLE		
TRUST & AGENCY		
WATER CAPITAL SYSTEM		

Ayes	Nays	Abst.	Absent	Motion	Second

Resolution #52-22

Opposing Any Decrease to the Farm Labor Overtime Threshold (Pulled from 3/15)

(Pulled from March Meeting)

WHEREAS Agriculture is New York State's largest industry; and

WHEREAS There are 33,400 farms in NYS and 6,900,000 acres of operated farmland; and

WHEREAS Farms are critical components of our regional economy and are necessary to ensure supermarkets are stocked with food; and

WHEREAS the agricultural industry in New York State contributed more than \$5.4 billion in agricultural economy sales to the New York economy each year; and

WHEREAS The Farm Laborers Wage Board has proposed to decrease the farm labor overtime threshold from 60 to 40 hours; and

WHEREAS from the outset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, farmers have stepped up and ensured their operations continued and were responsible for donating thousands of pounds of food to local food banks at a time of significant need; and

WHEREAS Western New York Farmers face a tremendous number of challenges outside of their control including changes in consumer demand leading to price change, obtaining labor, climate change, land management policies, foreign market competition, livestock, and crop disease; and

WHEREAS in addition to the practical issues related to growing and selling food products, New York farmers have to contend with wavering levels of government regulations including changes in wages and overtime thresholds; and

WHEREAS One of the more pressing issues for the farming community has been mandated overtime requirements since the 25019 Farm Laborers Fair Practice Act, currently gives farmworkers a right to overtime after sixty (60) hours work each week; and

WHEREAS Western New York farmers are reliant on migratory work forces during the short growing season here in Western New York as workers are here for only a few months in the spring and summer and they have only so many hours each year to get the work done; and

WHEREAS the act does not prohibit the Farm Laborers Wage Board from arbitrary decreasing the overtime threshold again hereby increasing costs to local farms; and

WHEREAS decreasing the overtime threshold will negatively impact the farming community by increasing costs to farmers, who are already operating under very tight margins and will potentially cut into work opportunities for migrant workers; and

WHEREAS cutting budgeted support levels and drastically increasing costs through government interference should be avoided whenever possible; and

WHEREAS NYS Assembly Deputy Minority Leader Steve Hawley has voiced concern through letters written to Governor Kathy Hochul and NYS Labor Commissioner dated January 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS most of the testimony provided in the hearing process requested “No Change” to the overtime threshold. This is another example of New York City Interests ignoring the “other New York” and its robust economy; and

WHEREAS The Planning and Environmental Quality Committee has reviewed this resolution and recommended its adoption; now, there, be it

RESOLVED This board urges the support of the farmers and migrant workers who do not want their hours reduced and urges utilizing all budgeted funding for the promotion of New York State farming products, provide critical applied research, ensure access to markets, educate the public and connect them to their food and other programs designed to benefit local farmers; and further

RESOLVED This board urges opposing any decrease to the 60-hour farm worker overtime threshold proposed by the Farm Laborers Wage Board; and further

RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be sent by the Clerk of this board to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, NYS Assembly Speaker Heastie, Assemblyman Hawley, Senator Rath, NYS Labor Commissioner, NYS Agriculture and Markets Commissioner, NYS Farm Bureau, Assemblyman Jeff Gallahan, Senator Pamela Helming, Senator Samra Brouk, and the Ontario County Farm Bureau

Ayes	Nays	Abst.	Absent	Motion	Second

Resolution # 55-22

Accepting Board of Assessment Review Resignation- John Gordner

WHEREAS the Town of Seneca has recently received a resignation from the Board of Assessment Review Member, John Gordner; and

WHEREAS Mr. Gordner's Resignation was effective on April 12, 2022; and

WHEREAS Mr. Gordner was appointed to the Board of Assessment Review by the Seneca Town Board on October 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS Mr. Gordner has contributed Significantly to the Board of Assessment Review through his sharing of thoughts and insights, as well as his willingness to assist when needed; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED The Town Board of the Town of Seneca hereby accepts the resignation of Mr. John Gordner, extending sincere gratitude for his service to this community.

Ayes	Nays	Abst.	Absent	Motion	Second

Resolution # 56-22

Appointment to Board of Assessment Review

BE IT RESOLVED the Town Board of the Town of Seneca hereby appoints Mr. James Perry to the Planning Board effective Immediately for the term expiring on September 30th, 2025.

Ayes	Nays	Abst.	Absent	Motion	Second

Resolution # 57-22
Authorization to Approve Excess Property

WHEREAS the following property has exhausted its useful life and is no longer necessary to operations:

- Water Department: Gray 2018 Ford F150 4x4 Super Cab, 10 Speed Automatic with tow package and mileage of approximately 52,000

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the above-mentioned items are hereby declared surplus equipment and shall be auctioned, donated, recycled, or junked as is applicable

Ayes	Nays	Abst.	Absent	Motion	Second

Resolution # 58-22
Authorizing Purchase of Confined Space Entry Kit

WHEREAS the Water Superintendent wishes to have a Confined Space Entry Kit on-site and ready for use; and

WHEREAS quotes for a confined space entry kit have been collected in accordance with the Town of Seneca Procurement Policy; and

WHEREAS it is the recommendation of the Water Superintendent to purchase the kit from United Rentals for the following items:

- Harness
- Pulley Split Mount
- Tripod Caribiner
- Tripod
- Cylinder
- Calibration Kit
- Gas Probe
- Gas Detector

for a cost not to exceed \$2,998.31 as detailed in Quote 205141025 and \$1455.73 as detailed in Quote 205140975; and

WHEREAS funds for this purchase exist in the 2022 Adopted Town Budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Town Board of the Town of Seneca hereby accepts Quote 205141025 from United Rentals and authorizes the Water Superintendent to execute this purchase for a total cost not to exceed \$4,454.04.

Ayes	Nays	Abst.	Absent	Motion	Second