

VILLAGE OF GENESEO
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

February 7, 2011

PRESENT:

Richard B. Hatheway, Mayor Marsha B. Merrick, Clerk/Treasurer
Sandra F. Brennan, Trustee
Margaret Duff, Trustee
Thomas J. LaGrou, Trustee

PUBLIC PRESENT:

Dave Bojanowski Dave Matthews Bob Wilcox
Josh Williams

1. MEETING OPENED:

Mayor Hatheway opened the meeting at 5:00PM. The minutes of the January 24, 2011 regular meeting were reviewed. Trustee Brennan moved to approve the minutes as amended with second from Trustee LaGrou. The vote was as follows: Trustee Brennan-Aye, Trustee LaGrou-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

The minutes of the January 24, 2011 public hearing on a proposed tax exemption were reviewed. Trustee Brennan moved to approve the minutes as presented with second from Trustee LaGrou. The vote was as follows: Trustee Brennan-Aye, Trustee LaGrou-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

Trustee Duff entered the meeting.

2. FARMER'S MARKET COMMITTEE:

Dave Bonjanoski distributed a draft business plan for a farmer's market and a plot plan of where the market could be placed on Center Street including a social area. This site had been chosen over others that were considered including the Village Park, Highland Park and the Municipal lot. Dave Matthews added that the Center Street location is a better fit for the market as it is more centrally located and has been used in the past for various events such as during Summer Festival and the Arts Stroll. It will add vibrancy to downtown and has more advantages than disadvantages. Trustee Brennan asked if it would be better in the municipal lot. Dave Matthews responded that the lot provides good space but visibility is a downside and the market itself would take away from the parking availability. Having the market on Center Street would lend itself to an overflow into the lot if necessary.

With regard to locating the market in the Village Park, Bob Wilcox stated that the Park would be a good spot except for the parking situation and the issue of not allowing vehicles on the grass. Another issue would be if the market were on a Friday afternoon there could be traffic issues.

As for what day of the week the market would be held, Dave B. stated that has not yet been determined. The committee is talking to vendors at this point in the process and seeing what best fits into their schedules. The plan is to have the market open for 3-4 hours one day a week.

Trustee LaGrou would like to see the street kept open. Dave M. said that the tents could be positioned for that purpose and the trucks could be parked in the municipal lot after unloading.

The next step is to contact the vendors and see how many are willing to commit to the Geneseo market. The committee is hoping for eight to ten to start. If the vendors cannot be secured, the market will not be viable. APOG is willing to serve as a conduit for the fiscal management of the market in the beginning. Moving ahead they have goals outlined in the business plan and they have a consultant

on board to give recommendations along the way. With regard to insurance for the market, Trustee LaGrou will be checking with Insurance Agent Chanler to see if it can be covered under the Village liability policy.

At the close of the presentation the Board was enthusiastic about the work done thus far, continued to offer its support and thanked the committee for their due diligence.

3. II (Infrastructure Improvements) PROJECT UPDATE:

Supt. McTarnaghan has visited with most of the Main Street residents involved in providing easements to the Village for the project. One resident who was not on board with the concept has now agreed to help solve a problem that he has had in the past so that future residents will not experience the same issues.

A letter has been sent to USRDA declining any further involvement with them as a potential funding source, because of their lack of available funds.

Approvals from DOH have been granted and verbal approval from DEC as reported in prior meetings. Plans will be available in mid-February and the Board will consider bids to be awarded in March.

4. HIGHLAND PARK UPDATE:

Mayor Hatheway has spoken with Dave Matthews about possible locations to group tables and other items in the park; Dave will get back to him with recommendations. The crew is still working on the perimeter trail and Clerk Merrick compiled a list of expenditures for the project thus far. With a \$728,000 total budget, \$655,000 has been spent thus far without factoring in our share of force labor and equipment. This information has been forwarded to grant administrator Bill Reemtsen so that he can add those items. \$8,600 has been spent on the Chiara property out of recreation fees collected on new construction over the past several years.

Trustee Brennan has been working with Supt. Frazier on a forestry grant through DEC. The project totals \$18,928 including \$11,428 in trees and mulch, \$6,000 in labor and \$1,500 in grant administration. Sandy and Jason are hopeful that the application will score well and be competitive with others submitted. Among other things in the narrative, Sandy cited the Village Comprehensive Plan of 2007: *Expansion and development of Highland Park follows Objective D4-3 of the Village of Geneseo Comprehensive Plan of 2007, which reads "Maximize the use of existing parks" and "Upgrade Highland Park ...; consider provision of additional recreational opportunities that will draw together different generations and attract people to the Village core.* The application is due by February 10th and Jason will be delivering it to the DEC hopefully on the 9th.

Supt. Frazier reported via Trustee Duff that the trail is still underway and underground conduit has been run from the press box to the scoreboard to eliminate the exposed wiring that was there previously.

5. DOT LETTER:

A letter has been received from NYS Dept. of Transportation regarding the traffic light at the intersection of Main Street and Route 20A. A field review of the light revealed that a detector was malfunctioning in the controller. The signal maintenance crews corrected the malfunction on January 18th. DOT gave a number to call when and if there is another issue with the functioning of the signal light.

With regard to a recommendation continually raised by the Health Department for a guardrail to be installed on the east side of Route 256 in front of the Village Water Treatment Plant, DOT has reviewed the accident history in the vicinity and determined that *run-off-the-road accidents are no more likely to occur at this location than on other sections of state highways in the region.* With

competing safety needs and limited resources, it would be impractical for the Department to provide guide rail to protect every location at risk of being struck by errant vehicles. We have therefore concluded that guide rail is not warranted at this location.

6. BUDGET PROCESS:

Mayor Hatheway has been gathering information and reviewing prior budgets to begin the process for this year. He fears the Governor's proposed 2% tax cap and the impact that could have on Village fiscal planning. In prior years conservative budgets have been passed with tax rate increases on the order of 2.5%, 2.7%, 2.6% and 2.9% – essentially equal to the rate of inflation. The tax cap would be placed on the *levy* or the amount raised by taxes. Those increases have amounted to more than 2% in prior years, averaging 4% over the past seven years due mainly to the increased cost of health care and pension contributions. On a similar front, salaries/employee benefits amount to 40% of the Village budget in comparison to salary/benefits consuming about 18 % of the State's total budget. Mayor Hatheway stated that what this means is that the Village budget has basically remained flat in areas other than salary and benefits for employees. The outlook is rather dismal, he concluded.

7. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

College/Village: the meeting is scheduled for this Friday at 8AM at the Campus House.

Association: the next meeting of the Association of Village Boards of Livingston County is scheduled for Wednesday, February 16th in Dansville.

Façade Meeting: An informational meeting for the Village of Geneseo New York Main Street Program was scheduled for Thursday, February 17. However, Trustee Brennan feels that meeting should be rescheduled due to there not being enough time to reach out to the business owners and stress the importance of attending the meeting to find out about the program benefits. Mayor Hatheway will call Thoma Development representative Rich Cunningham to reschedule.

8. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:

Supervisor Merrick from the Town of Groveland wrote to acknowledge receipt of the 2011 Ambulance contract in the amount of \$5,000. Chief Chanler had suggested a contract amount of \$7,500 based on the amount of un-reimbursed ambulance calls to the Town, but Supervisor Merrick didn't agree with that amount and the fact that it was presented to him after the Town budget was adopted. Supervisor Merrick would like to discuss the 2012 contract with Chief Chanler and members of the Village Board well before August when budget preparation begins.

Along with that, Supervisor Merrick asked for reimbursement of the overpayment of summer recreation program expenses in the amount of \$1,694 for last year's program.

Notification has been received from Attorney Lippitt stating that he is joining the lawfirm of Osborn, Reed & Burke, LLP on March 1, 2011. Fees will remain the same for his services.

The property tax cap resolution the Board adopted in December was sent to a number of State representatives, Mayor Hatheway reported. One response has been received from State Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb who agrees with the Village stance that if property tax caps are going to be imposed on local municipalities, then there should be reductions in State mandates also.

The Village received notice of a claim from RG&E for damage to a gas line on January 30, 2011 on Stuyvesant Manor. Village crews were working in the area when the damage occurred.

A request has been received from Julie Matthews, Livingston County Steering Committee Member requesting use of Highland Park on May 1 for a marathon style event hosted by YMCA. They would like use of a green space area in the park and one pavilion with start time between 2 and 3PM and they expect to be finished in 2-3 hours. The Board was supportive and discussion followed with regard to a combined grand opening celebrating the newly expanded park on the same day.

A request has been received to hold a CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) walk in the Village on Sunday, March 27, 2011. Students of Jones Hall on the Campus along with community members will be hosting the walk that will begin and end in the Village Park. The Board was supportive.

A notice of claim has been received from Marilyn Wachholder on Crossett Road for a sewer backup episode that occurred on December 2, 2010. The Village crews responded to a complaint of a sewage in a basement; upon investigation it was determined the Village sewer main was flowing as it should. The Village crew determined that the back up was not because of an obstruction in the main, but rather due to an issue in the lateral on the affected property. The claim, in the amount of \$12,000, has been submitted to the Village insurance carrier.

Notification has been received that a catering liquor license application has been submitted for an event center to be located on the Homestead property (Wadsworth). The concept under consideration is to turn the main house into a venue similar to that at Sweet Briar. The new center would not be in competition with Sweet Briar, but rather would cater to the overflow. The highest priority is installing an industrial kitchen and being granted a license to serve alcoholic beverages only to private guests at events that are being catered. The Homestead itself is zoned mixed-use, while the rest of the property is included in the planned residential development zone. The next step is for the Planning Board to consider the proposal. The Village Board was supportive of the overall concept and of Mayor Hatheway writing a letter of support to the State Liquor Authority as well. Code Officers O'Keefe and Maxwell plan to enlist the aid of State Code Office representatives for oversight in order to avoid any conflict of interest issues.

9. PUBLIC SAFETY:

Trustee Brennan and the Board members received Chief Osganian's January report of activity.

10. PUBLIC WORKS:

Supt. McTarnaghan reported via Trustee LaGrou that two water main breaks have occurred, one on Route 20A on January 24th and one in Stuyvesant Manor on Sunday, the 30th. The crew has also been servicing equipment, plowing snow from streets and sidewalks, working on items for the II Project, working on water plant equipment and pumping out regulator pits along with routine water reads and water and wastewater sampling.

Supt. Frazier reported via Trustee Duff the following additional items:

1. Cavalry Rd streetlights are installed by LL&P/RGE, now RGE owns the lights and will maintain them.
2. Salt supply is getting low, but should be enough to get through February; additional supply might be necessary for the rest of the year.
3. Sidewalks have been plowed many times, but due to the foot traffic it is hard to get the sidewalks down to concrete without salting them. Bank Street, Court, and University sidewalks are salted regularly.
4. We have had seven more salt runs since January 24th and all personnel have been called in, including the WTP/STP personnel.
5. Lima Road has been staked out so that RGE can install poles and streetlights very soon.

11. TRUSTEES:

Trustee Brennan: Sandy reported that the façade and sign grant committee met today and reviewed two applications for the County grant program. One was for a sign at Body & Face by Kristin at 58 Main Street (for a new perpendicular sign for the upstairs business at street level). The other application was from Marcia Podhorecki (127 Main Street) who has plans for stately renovations

to that building. The Committee ranked the two applications and now they will go to the County for consideration with many from other villages (Dansville has ten). Code Officer O'Keefe is concerned that the program guidelines don't match completely with Village Code guidelines. Trustee Brennan will review the differences upon her return from vacation later in the month.

Trustee Duff: nothing further.

Trustee LaGrou: nothing further.

12. CLERK/TREASURER:

No report – gearing up for budget process to begin.

13. MEETING CLOSE:

With no further business to discuss, Trustee LaGrou moved and Trustee Brennan seconded the motion to adjourn. The vote was as follows: Trustee Brennan-Aye, Trustee Duff-Aye, Trustee LaGrou-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 6:22PM.

Marsha B. Merrick, Village Clerk