

VILLAGE OF GENESEO
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 17, 2013

PRESENT:

Richard B. Hatheway, Mayor
Sandra F. Brennan, Deputy Mayor
Benjamin W. Gajewski, Trustee
Bob Wilcox, Trustee

Marsha B. Merrick, Village Clerk/Treasurer
David Woods, Planning Board Chair
Andrew Chanler, Fire Chief

ALSO PRESENT:

John and Thelma Gillette	Jim Brunner	Angel Berry	Spring Morrow
Howard Appell	Arleen Somerville	Michelle Schlossel	Rocco J. Dragani
Kathryn Fitzsimmons	Grayce McLaughlin	Louise Wadsworth	Connie Saffan
Bob & Donna Kelsey			

1. MEETING OPENED:

Mayor Hatheway opened the meeting at 5:00PM. The minutes of the May 20, 2013 regular meeting were reviewed. Trustee Gajewski moved to approve the minutes as amended with second from Trustee Wilcox. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, Trustee Wilcox-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

The minutes of the June 3, 2013 regular meeting were reviewed. Deputy Mayor Brennan moved to approve the minutes as presented with second from Trustee Wilcox. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, Trustee Wilcox-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

2. JIM BRUNNER – WATER CONCERNS:

Mr. Brunner came before the Board to discuss water usage and fees between the entities, Geneseo Village and Town, SUNY Geneseo and the Town of York. Mayor Hatheway had provided him with a copy of the billed water consumption spreadsheet from Clerk Merrick that spans several years. Jim noted that since the advent of the master meters at the College, the College consumption numbers have risen significantly. Since their sewer bill is directly related to the amount of water they consume, it would stand to reason that the fee for sewage treatment (billed annually to SUNY) will increase as well. The Board concurred and discussion followed.

Sewer rates were discussed. Mayor Hatheway explained that the Town Sewer District contract, signed in the early to mid-1990's, stipulated that out of district users would pay one and a half times a Village user rate because these users had never contributed to the already existing infrastructure they were tapping into. More recently when the agreement was renewed, the 1.5 times factor was still included, but it was agreed that future increases in rates for the Town Sewer District users would be the same dollar amount as the increase to Village users. As for the annual sewer bill for SUNY Geneseo, it is based on actual operating expenses of the wastewater treatment plant for the prior fiscal year then multiplied by the amount of water consumed by the College versus the amount of water consumed by the Village users. That bill amounts to approximately \$150,000 per year.

Discussion followed with regard to where the water lines go, especially as the lines leave the Village such as the Doty line running from the College into the Town.

Mr. Brunner is hopeful that in the future, things will be more equitable with all of the users of the Village facilities. He wishes the information contained in the spreadsheet was more available. Mayor Hatheway stated that the information is distributed annually in May to all of the users via the

Annual Water Quality Report published in the Genesee Valley Penny Saver and available at many other places including the Village Office and the local library.

Mayor Hatheway referred to a recent study of water rates in central and western New York. According to that study, the *average* monthly water bill of the 17 municipalities surveyed was \$27.97; in comparison, the Village of Geneseo rate was \$7.17. The lowest monthly rate in the study was in the Town of Wheatfield at \$11.59. This study corroborates the notion that Geneseo's water is truly a bargain. Mr. Brunner thanked the Board for their attention to the matter and they noted his concern.

3. WATER PROJECT UPDATE:

Trustee Gajewski talked with Steve McTarnaghan today who said that the project is completed. They are tidying up the site and sending parts back that they didn't need. So far all the tests have passed and the system is back on line and working. In terms of determining if the water is turning over in the tank properly and the retrofitting project is making a difference throughout the system, that information will take a couple of months to compile.

4. GENESEO BUILDING UPDATE:

Jon Norris assures that two top quality companies are working on the project, but now the time is being taken up by school projects that are in the works. The windows on the Doty building look exactly the same as what will be installed in the Geneseo Building, Mayor Hatheway said. The option of having the windows pre-stained before installation was offered. After discussing the option with Jason Frazier, it was decided that having them pre-stained would be feasible and cost-effective. It will save a lot of time in the long run. Jon and the contractors will meet again in another ten days and the project will be starting in mid-July.

5. ASSOCIATION MEETING:

The next Association meeting will be on Wednesday, June 19th in Dansville.

6. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:

NYCOM is hosting planning and zoning workshops in July and August in various locations around the State.

Colleen Schiedel from the Livingston County Health Dept. sent a note of thanks for the Village's participation in the Main Streets Go Blue Campaign. Special thanks to Trustee Duff for her efforts in that campaign.

Arleen Somerville thanked the Board and office staff for the use of the building for the Orientation Advisor event held in early June.

Insurance Agent Andrew Chanler sent a letter today outlining the insurance policies for 2013-2014. When the binder comes in the he will be glad go through it page by page for anyone who wants to review the coverage in detail. In the letter he states, *NYMIR to me stands out as one of the best providers of municipal insurance today. The service and attention to detail for underwriting, loss control and claims is exceptional.* Andrew also stated that there is an online training opportunity for zoning and planning board members through the insurance carrier.

Mayor Hatheway stated that a wonderful letter was received today from the State Office of Parks and Recreation. It was enclosed with the fully executed copy of the Grant Agreement Modification Form – Appendix X and stated that *Your final payment is being processed.* That is welcome news for the project that began in 2009.

There will be a Zoning Board of Appeals public hearing for signage at the Homestead tomorrow at 4:30PM.

Three Connectivity Plan meetings were held last week and David Woods attended two of the three. It was the first public opportunity to see the Geneseo pilot plan and it went very well. The job done by the consultant was good and there were good suggestions offered. The plan ties in with the trails and other pedestrian access currently available. There is a need for several new crosswalks, one at Volunteer Road in front of Wegman's especially. As the Homestead gets used more as an event location there will be a need to cross 20A (South Street) on not only the east/west section but also on the Route 20A/39 section going north/south. The plan provides a comprehensive look at the Village and how it expands out into the County. Having the Connectivity Plan in place will be a benefit when applying for any grants that become available.

7. PUBLIC SAFETY:

Trustee Wilcox reported for Chief Chanler that six fire fighters graduated from the New York State Firefighter 1 class held at the County Training Facility in Hamptons Corners. This is a 28 week course (evenings and weekends) totaling 88 hours. All aspects of firefighting are covered and it acts as a prerequisite for further training. Members of the class were Jon Roodenburg, Tim Kelley, David Wickson, Jackie Nocita, Nick Izzo and Karley Nocera.

Trustee Wilcox moved to allow the Chief to seek a request for proposal for the replacement of the 2006 chief's vehicle and the 1996 squad car. Both vehicles are due for replacement and still have a great deal of trade-in value. Deputy Mayor Brennan seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Also, the new ambulance has been in service for the past two weeks and they are very pleased with it.

Deputy Mayor Brennan stated that Chief Osganian included some 4th of July statistics in his report as the holiday is coming up in a couple weeks. There will be increased patrols during the holiday.

8. PUBLIC WORKS:

Trustee Gajewski stated that Steve reported to him that they are servicing motors at the wastewater treatment plant, mowing and catching up on work since the water project is completed. Steve has met with MRB to work on the hydraulic modeling of the system. The computer model will enable them to work other things into the system and run scenarios to see how the system reacts to added lines etc.

Supt. Frazier sent the following report of items the DPW crew is working on:

1. Tank Project: Completed, Everything went very well. The Tank is back in service.
2. Crew has been starting to change out the street signs along Main St. Main St should be done this week, then continue on the inter portion of the Village.
3. Streets are being milled and patched before they are sealed this year. The streets that are scheduled for sealing are: Westview, Chestnut, Park, Groveland, and Crossett. They are also patching our water dig areas and some general cracked areas.
4. LL&P contracting is starting the street light project; they are starting on the south end of Main St. They should be done in a couple of weeks.
5. Crew has been mowing the perimeter sewer right of way, and performing yearly maintenance.
6. We are in the process of getting our new Fuel Management System installed at the Fire Hall. They are installing a new card reader and pumps on both of our 1000 gallon tanks.
7. We have taken over the planting area at the South St end of Main St in front of the 7-11 gas station.
8. We repaired two water service leaks, one on Oak St and one on Elm St. with no problems.

New posts have been changed with the Main Street signs. The new posts went right over the current posts for an aesthetic change, Ben reported.

The Board discussed plans for a celebratory picnic for water/sewer/DPW crew members following completion of the water project. The date will be July 7 at Long Point Park.

9. TRUSTEES:

Deputy Mayor Brennan: Sandy reported that County grant writer Bernie Thoma responded with regard to the transportation grant. Anything improved with grant funding must have public access and be owned and controlled by the public. He also stated that Route 20A does not appear to be a state or federal scenic byway, so the TEP grant would not work. Sandy said there are many trails in New York State that are not along scenic byways. This technicality came as a surprise to Sandy and she is going to look into it more. David Woods said another thing to keep in mind would be a trail feasibility study paid for with a planning grant through the UPWP program. Applications for that grant program are due in October.

Trustee Gajewski: Ben followed up on Village email addresses for the Board members. According to Tom Hill, the website manager, it would be very easy to set those up. It would be a separate email box to check, however. Ben will check with Clerk Mack to see if there would be any other work that Integrated Systems would have to perform.

Mayor Hatheway stated that he has been in contact with Scott Taylor at the YMCA. The contract is still unsigned for this summer's program; however he communicated that the Village is going ahead with the program but they are still working out a plan if the enrollment is low. The cost of the program is based on 120 kids participating. If the numbers are far below that, there needs to be some sort of discount given. Dick also spoke with program supervisor Jeff Rose who has been to each one of the classrooms promoting the program. Marketing of the program has been done.

Trustee Wilcox: Bob reported that some of the Main Street Supporters and Tourism committee members are here to see what the merchants have in mind during that portion of the meeting to follow. Each merchant received an invitation to tonight's meeting in paper form and/or email from Louise Wadsworth.

Bob also reported that there is a new demand for brochures. They can be included in wedding gift bags for folks that come from out of town to a wedding and stay at local hotels.

10. CLERK/TREASURER:

Following review by Trustee Gajewski, voucher numbers 001-090 (for general, water, and sewer funds) were presented for approval. After discussion, Trustee Gajewski moved and Trustee Wilcox seconded the motion to approve general fund vouchers for \$194,321.62. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, Trustee Wilcox-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

After discussion, Trustee Gajewski and Deputy Mayor Brennan seconded the motion to approve water fund vouchers for \$51,534.61. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, Trustee Wilcox-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

After discussion, Trustee Gajewski moved and Deputy Mayor Brennan seconded the motion to approve sewer fund vouchers for \$39,285.16. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, Trustee Wilcox-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

After discussion, Deputy Mayor Brennan moved and Trustee Gajewski seconded the motion to approve HR18-Water System Improvement Project vouchers for \$7,075.46. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, Trustee Wilcox-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

After discussion, Deputy Mayor Brennan moved and Trustee Wilcox seconded the motion to approve an HR12-Geneseo Building Project voucher for \$13,585.00. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, Trustee Wilcox-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

11. THELMA & JOHN GILLETTE:

Mr. and Mrs. Gillette travel around the country seeking out little towns and villages that are like Geneseo. They have a lot of information about how little towns survive and how they can make things better including lowering taxes for the residents. They have travelled all across the United States. They spend summers in Geneseo and offer their information to any of the committees that would like to hear about innovative ways to do things better. Mayor Hatheway suggested a workshop approach so that the ideas can be spread around and the Board thanked them for their offer of assistance.

12. GENESEO MERCHANTS:

The Board members met with the local merchants in the boardroom where Mayor Hatheway welcomed them to talk about working together to make Geneseo better. The discussion soon turned to the issue of sidewalk permits needed for vendors during the Summer Festival. The main issue was the requirement for the vendors to carry insurance coverage and provide proof of that to the Village. Angel Berry stated that they are not having success obtaining street vendors because of the insurance requirements. The food vendors are all set, as they are required to carry insurance and obtain permits from the health department. But small business people have a tougher time affording insurance coverage for their pursuits. The requirement does not affect the “not for profit” businesses, because they already have insurance. Angel pointed to a more relaxed attitude for the vendors in the City of Rochester and the availability of insurance waivers.

Insurance Agent and local business owner Andrew Chanler spoke to the availability of vendor insurance policies that can cost as little as \$115 per year. This coverage would protect the small business owner wherever they sell their wares as well as covering them for any liability issues connected with their business in their home.

Spring Morrow stated that the merchants have worked hard to build a list of crafters for downtown events and create a cooperative marketing program. There are fifty vendor spots available and they aren't going to come close to that number because of the insurance requirement, according to her.

With regard to the sidewalk permit requirement, each business would be required to fill out the permit. It would be best to fill out a permit in the beginning of each year that would cover any of the outdoor events.

Angel and Spring expressed surprise at the large number of merchants that attended tonight's meeting. However, only four have paid their dues to the merchant's association, in spite of the large amount of effort aimed at bringing everyone on board. Spring has not received a single response from merchants who plan to put their wares out during the sidewalk sales next month.

Mayor Hatheway stated that this is discouraging from the standpoint of the Village as a lot of effort and resources are put into making Main Street appealing and welcoming. Other municipalities have business improvement districts, but in Geneseo this extra cost is borne by all the taxpayers. Angel replied that the group is trying to help the merchants be as successful as they can be. There were record sales at the Geneseo Family Restaurant and the Not Dot Shop during the Fall Festival. Arleen Somerville added that there are 100's of hours spent on marketing Main Street by the Tourism Committee.

Based on all of that, this Main Street should boom, said Spring Morrow. However, if you look at the PennySaver, not very many downtown merchants are advertising.

Howard Appell stated that perhaps the festival committees of all the local municipalities can get together and coordinate a schedule and network together to have things going on all during the year. Maybe like a pet parade tournament. Grayce McLaughlin stated that it's unfortunate that the airshow, festival and the alumni weekend all fall together in July. Even though it's nice to bring everyone together for those three large events, it might be better to spread them out during the summer.

Trustee Wilcox reminded the group to stay positive. He hears frequently how lucky folks are to live here in Geneseo. It looks inviting and welcoming and there are lots of things to do. Mayor Hatheway added that by fall the new streetlights will be in as well as more benches and the building renovations will be completed for the Main Street businesses that received a grant as well as the Geneseo Building window and exterior project. An added bonus is the impending renovation of the Riviera Theater.

Discussion continued and the merchants were instructed to fill out the sidewalk permits and submit them to the Village Office along with insurance certificates. The merchants were thanked for their willingness to come and talk about Main Street and what can be done to make it better. The merchants thanked the Board for giving them the opportunity. Everyone hoped for a successful festival season.

13. MEETING CLOSE:

With no further business to discuss, Deputy Mayor Brennan moved and Trustee Gajewski seconded the motion to adjourn. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, Trustee Wilcox-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:16PM.

Marsha B. Merrick, Village Clerk