

PRESENT:

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

Marsha B. Merrick, Village Clerk/Treasurer

ALSO PRESENT:

Corrinne Green – The Statesman manager

1. MEETING OPENED:

Mayor Hatheway opened the meeting at 5:00PM. The minutes of the February 9, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Trustee Gajewski moved to approve the minutes as presented with second from Deputy Mayor Brennan. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Duff-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, Trustee Wilcox-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

2. SOCIAL HOST LEGISLATION DISCUSSION:

Trustee Wilcox stated that the discussion has been postponed until the March 23 meeting when Rachel Pena can attend. An outline of the law was distributed for the Board members to review prior to that meeting.

There will be a meeting on March 3 in Room 205 at the County beginning at 10:30AM. Some members from the Steuben County coalition and possibly the Steuben County DA will be there to discuss how they were able to institute the social host law on a countywide basis. In brief, *the law addresses the problem of underage drinking where it most frequently occurs by closing the loophole that allows it to take place at house parties. It would further reduce easy access to alcohol by youth, would reduce binge drinking, and hold teens and adults accountable for their behavior. Equally important, it provides law enforcement officials an important tool in their communities to prevent tragedy rather than react to it. It assists both the adult and the child to make wise decisions. Finally the law reinforces a consistent message that underage drinking is unhealthy, unsafe and unacceptable.*

3. SUMMER RECREATION PROPOSAL:

Mayor Hatheway met last week with Rob Walker, now interim CEO of GLOW YMCA and Jeff Townsend, their business manager. Board members were given a proposal for the 2015 summer. The proposal is much the same as recent years except for the cost per camper raising \$5 (from \$55 to \$60) due to the minimum wage rate increase recently instituted.

An information packet has been prepared and Rob would like to get this in the hands of the school kids as soon as possible. Jeff Townsend has been in touch with program supervisor Jeff Rose and he has seen the proposal and information packet as well. Typically hiring takes place soon and they would like to be able to hire some kids as counselors in training that perhaps have been with the program for a while and are familiar with the way the program operates.

It was noted that as in the past, there will be some instances of other (out of district) kids attending; visiting grandchildren for example. A letter has gone out to Town of Groveland supervisor Carman asking if Groveland would be willing, as in the past, to reimburse the Village for Groveland kids that participated in the program. Mayor Hatheway noted in his letter that we need to know if Groveland is participating before program registration takes place. Historically 10% of the participants are kids from the Town of Groveland.

The fee increase per camper could be added to the enrollment fee, currently \$5/child/week although that has not been decided as yet. The program did grow last year and there is optimism it will continue to grow. Discussion followed and it was noted that a mid-session conference or other regular official feedback about the program from the Y folks will be helpful.

Deputy Mayor Brennan moved to accept the Memorandum of Understanding for the 2015 year between the GLOW/YMCA and the Village of Geneseo at a cost of \$10,500 for the swim program and \$60 per camper for a six-week program commencing July 6 through August 14 for children entering first grade through children entering tenth grade for four hours daily. A caveat was added that there will be periodic data sharing during the duration of the program. Trustee Gajewski seconded the motion and the vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Duff-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, Trustee Wilcox-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

#### 4. HIGHLAND PARK USE:

Mayor Hatheway stated that he met with Rick Walton and Mike McCaughey along with Sean Ledwith, Jason Frazier and Kurt Frazier about baseball teams using Highland Park. There are kids that are in between little league and high school baseball (13-14 years old). Travel teams for this league have been formed and they need a ball diamond that is slightly larger than the one little league uses.

In order for them to play at Highland, they would need to rip out some of the grass to make the infield deeper. This would be done to the minor league field and would allow for dual use of the field. There are posts in the ground now for the bases at 60'. Another post would be installed at 70 feet and the bases would be moved depending on what league was playing at the time. The renovation is doable and Little League representative Sean Ledwith supports the concept. The older kids would play other days than Little League and there would be no overlap in the field times. Discussion followed.

Deputy Mayor Brennan wondered about contiguous community members that will put up with park use seven days a week including parking issues, noise and excitement. Baseball might then tie up the park for most of the week. Trustee Wilcox wondered why the grass needed to be ripped up and Mayor Hatheway illustrated the way the infield would have to be expanded. The travel team organizers are prepared to pay for the dirt which will cost \$4-5,000. Trustee Duff suggested that in consideration of what Deputy Mayor Brennan mentioned, perhaps a caveat that if it becomes intrusive the permission to use Highland Park will be withdrawn.

Following further discussion, the consensus of the Board was to approve of the use of the Park for 2015 with the understanding we will review the advantages and disadvantages when the season ends.

#### 5. MAIN STREET PROJECT:

There will be meeting on Wednesday with the engineers from LaBella to discuss their findings following the Phase II Environmental Assessment for the area where underground tanks are located (57 Main Street).

#### 6. FISCAL MATTERS:

- Budget: Mayor and Budget Officer Hatheway stated that as the process begins for 2015-16, the property tax cap is a constraint again this year, as well as the new property tax freeze. The Property Tax Freeze Credit is a two-year tax relief program that reimburses qualifying New York State homeowners for increases in local property taxes on their primary residences. In order for the credit to be available to the homeowners in a local taxing jurisdiction, the jurisdiction must comply with the New York State Property Tax Cap and, after the first year, must also develop an *efficiency plan*. The efficiency plan is based on 1% of the tax levy of this year. Therefore, the plan must show a savings from consolidation, eliminating positions or sharing services that amount to \$16,000 in the Village's case. The plan has to be submitted to the State by the beginning of June for all entities regardless of fiscal year. Discussion followed. Mayor Hatheway added that the County is willing to take the lead on shared services savings, and help in any way they can, such as the recently adopted shared highway agreement. The sale of the nursing service could be their savings. Mayor Hatheway attended a meeting in which they discussed possible ways to come up with savings for this purpose. The efficiency plan must be done each year for three years. Needless to say, budget preparation is getting more and more difficult with the constraints placed on local governments by the State.
- Fiscal stress measure: CFO Merrick was notified by the State Comptroller's Office that following review of the 2014 Annual Update Document (Annual Report), it has been determined, based on fiscal and environmental indicators, that for the second year in a row the Village of Geneseo has *no designation* in terms of fiscal stress. Compared to other villages in the state (at 15%), Finger Lakes villages (11%), and Large Upstate villages (15%), Geneseo sits at 5% on the scale. Mayor Hatheway stated that the score is derived from taking all three funds into account, general, water and sewer.

#### 7. SUMMER FESTIVAL:

Mayor Hatheway talked to Insurance Agent Chanler to clarify once again the necessity of obtaining certificates of insurance for vendors wishing to participate in the sidewalk sales days and in the park. Andrew remains adamant that insurance is required. Rotary and the downtown merchants want to get something started by mid-March in terms of Festival planning. It was decided back in July that all of the parties need to meet and talk about the festival.

Discussion followed. The Board consensus was to get interested parties together. Rotary President David Woods has said that they are still looking at the possibility of serving beer and wine at the Festival in a fenced off area. Trustee Gajewski stated that there needs to be something in writing describing the parameters of the alcohol sales.

Following further discussion, the Board decided that they would invite the interested parties to a meeting on March 4 at 5PM.

#### 8. GMA:

Mayor Hatheway had a recent conversation with Louise Wadsworth who is impressed with what the merchants have accomplished. The Association has been formed, with a constitution in the works, Angel Berry as the Chair and Spring Morrow as the Vice-Chair. They also have a secretary and treasurer and merchant voting member. They are formalizing a bank account and have put together a calendar of events. Donations to various charities will take place with event proceeds and a list of charities is being compiled. The ChocoFrolic event held on February 7<sup>th</sup> was a success. They are planning a May Day wine stroll as their next event in order to further promote downtown.

9. COLLEGE-VILLAGE MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for this Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup>. The Board compiled a list of discussion topics.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

The Rotary Good Neighbor Committee minutes tell of a family bowling event where 68 people attended. Bus transportation and fees for 41 bowlers were paid for by Geneseo Rotary. The committee continues to do good things for local youth and is to be commended.

Clerk/Treasurer Merrick responded to a local resident who was seeking reimbursement of a service call when her sewer backed up.

Owners of the property at 3 South Street (housing storage units and the Valley Liquor Store) are wishing to convert the storage unit area of the building to a three unit apartment building. In February they were granted three variances (2 side yard and one back yard setback) in order to do that. A public hearing on site plan review for the project will be held this week at the Planning Board meeting and another ZBA is scheduled for March 3 for relief from the requirement for green space and to consider a parking area variance. The discussion that followed resulted in asking Mayor Hatheway to write to the ZBA expressing the Board's concerns.

11. PUBLIC SAFETY:

Chief Osganian distributed his weekly activity report to the Board.

Trustee Wilcox notified Fire Chief Manzo that the Board agreed to increase the ambulance billing rates for 2015, but that for the next increase they will need more detail on rates around the immediate area.

Trustee Wilcox moved to approve the following new members of the Department: Patrick McGinnis, Nicholas Mamatoss and Daniel Teall. Trustee Gajewski seconded the motion and all were in favor. Trustee Wilcox moved to accept the following resignation from the Department: John Wadsworth. Trustee Gajewski seconded the motion and all were in favor.

12. PUBLIC WORKS:

DPW crews continue to battle the elements during this rather harsh winter season. With regard to the water leak in the vicinity of 56 Second Street, Supt. Frazier is waiting until they are sure of where the leak is rather than digging up more of the pavement than is necessary.

Trustee Gajewski reported that the wastewater treatment plant digester is back up and running. The 'bugs' have been added and they continue to regulate the temperature which, is difficult during this winter season. Supt. McTarnaghan has been working on budget, yearly reports, plowing, and a few no water calls from folks whose pipes are freezing. Trustee Wilcox wonders if during the food waste gas processing research there could be a discussion of a collection point for restaurants as well. It is a good way to "recycle" food waste rather than landfilling.

13. TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Deputy Mayor Brennan: nothing further.

Trustee Duff: Margaret stated there is a link on the Geneseo website for the Long Point Park committee. Meetings will include inviting people from the groups that would have significant ideas. Scheduled for the

meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup> is the Conesus Lake Association. There are ample opportunities for shared services. Plans are in the works for a new museum in the former Beer Garden area of the park.

Trustee Gajewski: Ben mentioned the grand opening of the Riviera Theater and two coffee shops in the Village.

Regarding the Bank Street proposal, Trustee Gajewski said that the developer would have liked an answer three months ago as to whether or not alcohol consumption will be allowed on the sidewalk in an enclosed dining area. They (David Matthews) are planning to go to the Planning Board Wednesday with the sidewalk plans and the entire project. Discussion followed. In order to allow a permit for the purpose of serving alcohol on the sidewalk, there will need to be a Local law for that purpose. As was discussed in the last meeting, there are several Code changes that are needed and this could be part of that package. In the meantime, the developers can go to the Planning Board, while others will continue to work on getting the other Code changes together and include this item with them. The timeframe for completion of that process would be approximately four months.

Trustee Wilcox: Bob reported that a really good sub committee of the Tourism group, chaired by Jim Whitehead, has been working on the concept of walkability in the community. Another committee has been formed to discuss the prospect of forming a tourism *board* rather than just a committee.

#### 14. CLERK/TREASURER'S REPORT:

Clerk Merrick distributed the January Treasurer's Report to the Board.

Following review by Trustee Gajewski, voucher numbers 708-788 (for general, water, and sewer funds) were presented for approval. After discussion and pending signatures from department managers on some vouchers, Trustee Gajewski moved and Trustee Duff seconded the motion to approve general fund vouchers in the amount of \$110,362.38. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Duff-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

After discussion, Trustee Gajewski moved and Trustee Duff seconded the motion to approve water fund vouchers in the amount of \$47,133.48. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Duff-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

After discussion, Trustee Gajewski moved and Trustee Wilcox seconded the motion to approve sewer fund vouchers in the amount of \$10,202.26. The vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Duff-Aye, Trustee Gajewski-Aye, and Mayor Hatheway-Aye.

Trustee Gajewski moved to approve an HR12-Geneseo Building Project voucher in the amount of \$21,127.42. Deputy Mayor Brennan seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Trustee Gajewski moved to approve an HR19-Main Street Project voucher in the amount of \$833.00. Deputy Mayor Brennan seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Trustee Gajewski moved to approve a Community Development Fund voucher in the amount of \$142.50. Trustee Brennan seconded the motion and all were in favor.

#### 15. OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Hatheway noted that the new SUNY president, Dr. Denise A. Battles, will be in town next week and a dinner in her honor is planned for March 10<sup>th</sup> at the Genesee Valley Club on East Avenue in Rochester.

Deputy Mayor Brennan mentioned a memorial bench program advertised in a catalog she received. Perhaps it could be something to think about for the parks and around the Village.

#### 16. ADJOURN:

With no further business to discuss, Trustee Wilcox moved to adjourn the meeting with second from Trustee Duff. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:21PM. Marsha B. Merrick, Village Clerk