

**Minutes of the Geneseo Town Board Meeting**  
**August 14, 2024**

**Members Present:**

William Wadsworth, Town Supervisor  
Matthew Griffo, Deputy Town Supervisor  
Ronald Maxwell, Town Councilmember (arrived at 4:40 PM)  
Robert Deming, Town Councilmember  
Gary Mix, Town Councilmember  
Ellen M Zapf, RMC Town Clerk

**Others Present:**

Ericka Elliott, Attorney (arrived at 4:38 PM)

**Visitors:**

David Parish

**Meeting Opening:**

Supervisor Wadsworth called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM and Councilmember Deming led the group in the pledge to the flag. Supervisor Wadsworth requested a moment of silence to be held for service men and women serving around the world.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Deputy Supervisor Griffo moved, and Councilmember Deming seconded the motion to approve the July 10, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Maxwell-absent, Mix-aye, and Griffo-aye. Nays: None.

**Approval of Abstract #7 of 2024:**

Councilmember Deming moved, and Councilmember Mix seconded the motion to approve Abstract #7 of 2024 and vouchers 394 through 397 as they stand.

| FUND                                            | AMOUNT      |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| GENERAL A VOUCHERS                              | \$5,349.50  |
| GENERAL B VOUCHERS                              | \$44.71     |
| HIGHWAY DA VOUCHERS                             | \$3,662.54  |
| HIGHWAY DB VOUCHERS                             | \$3,662.54  |
| SW6 CAPITAL FUNDS                               | \$0.00      |
| SPECIAL LIGHTING DISTRICT VOUCHER (SL)          | \$195.46    |
| SEWER DISTRICT #1 (SS1)                         | \$87.25     |
| WATER OPERATING & MAINTENANCE<br>VOUCHERS (SW0) | \$482.08    |
| SPECIAL ITEMS (H2)                              | \$0.00      |
| FIRE CONTRACTS (SF)                             | \$0.00      |
| ENGINEERING (SW1)                               | \$0.00      |
| BOOHER HILL RD WATER DISTRICT (SW5)             | \$0.00      |
| TOTAL                                           | \$13,482.08 |

Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Maxwell-absent, Mix-aye, and Griffo-aye.  
Nays: None.

**Approval of Abstract #8 of 2024:**

Councilmember Deming moved, and Councilmember Mix seconded the motion to approve Abstract #8 of 2024 and vouchers 398 through 456 as they stand.

| FUND                                            | AMOUNT       |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| GENERAL A VOUCHERS                              | \$45,739.25  |
| GENERAL B VOUCHERS                              | \$3,515.14   |
| HIGHWAY DA VOUCHERS                             | \$3,693.33   |
| HIGHWAY DB VOUCHERS                             | \$5,914.05   |
| SW6 CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS (H6)                  | \$123.28     |
| SPECIAL LIGHTING DISTRICT VOUCHER (SL)          | \$389.44     |
| SEWER DISTRICT #1 (SS1)                         | \$49,499.96  |
| WATER OPERATING & MAINTENANCE<br>VOUCHERS (SW0) | \$63,453.95  |
| SPECIAL ITEMS (H2)                              | \$0.00       |
| FIRE CONTRACTS (SF)                             | \$0.00       |
| ENGINEERING (SW1)                               | \$0.00       |
| BOOHER HILL RD WATER DISTRICT (SW5)             | \$0.00       |
| WATER DISTRICT 6- LIMA RD (SW6)                 | \$44,537.50  |
| TOTAL                                           | \$216,865.90 |

Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Maxwell-absent, Mix-aye, and Griffo-aye.  
Nays: None.

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**Accept the Town Clerk’s Monthly Report – July 2024:**

Councilmember Mix moved, and Deputy Supervisor Griffio seconded the motion to accept the Town Clerk’s Monthly Report for July 2024.

|                                                      |                    |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Supervisor for General Fund</u>                   | <u>\$ 5,852.00</u> |
| <u>Supervisor for Part Town Fund</u>                 | <u>\$ 1,154.00</u> |
| <u>Livingston County Treasurer for Dog Licenses</u>  | <u>\$ 98.00</u>    |
| <u>NYS Ag. &amp; Markets for spay/neuter program</u> | <u>\$ 40.00</u>    |
| <u>New York State Department of Health</u>           | <u>\$ 225.00</u>   |
| <u>TOTAL</u>                                         | <u>\$ 7,369.00</u> |

Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Maxwell-absent, Mix-aye, and Griffio-aye.  
Nays: None.

**Open Public Hearing for Local Law #1 of 2024 - Partial Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers:**

Supervisor Wadsworth opened the public hearing for proposed Local Law No. 1 for 2024. A Local Law to add a new Article to Chapter 96 “Taxation” to the Code of the Town of Geneseo, providing a Partial Exemption from Real Property Taxes to Certain Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers and asked for public comment.

Supervisor Wadsworth received a notice from the Livingston County Water and Sewer Authority stating that per our Water Services Agreement they can amend the fees we pay for our water services if we are notified by August 1, 2024. The Town has received this notice and our annual fee for billing and collection services will increase from \$11,500 to \$12,000 per year. The rental for the meter reader will remain the same at \$250 per quarter, which will make a yearly total of \$13,000.

Town Clerk Zapf has reached out to Empire Access for a quote for internet service. The Town can get GIG Business Internet (1000x100MBPS) and IP Address for \$190.00 per month. We are currently paying Spectrum \$219.00 a month for both. This would be a savings of \$30.00 a month with no increases for 36 months. Hardware and installation are at no charge. Integrated, our IT company has stated that it would take approximately 30 minutes to make the change over which would cost around \$45.00.

**Accept the Quote from Empire Access for Internet for the Town Hall:**

Councilmember Deming moved, and Councilmember Mix seconded the motion to accept the quote from Empire Access to supply internet service to the Town Hall at \$190.00 per month for 36 months. Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Maxwell-aye, Mix-aye, and Griffio-aye. Nays: None.

The Town Clerk received a quote from Edmunds GovTech for new clerk, code, accounting, and payroll software services. These would replace the programs we have with Williamson Law. The Board would like to know what we currently pay Williamson Law for these services.

**Update - Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Board:**

Councilmember Mix gave the following update:

- Provided a draft letter for Supervisor Wadsworth and Mayor Ivers to sign. Would like the Board to review and discuss at the next meeting.
- Sequencing initiatives for sidewalks and crosswalks.

**Budget Transfers:**

Supervisor Wadsworth spoke to the Board regarding budget transfers and the setup of capitol project accounts for the purchase and renovations of the new town office building. The Board took the following action:

**Approve the Budget Transfers:**

Deputy Supervisor Griffio moved, and Councilmember Deming seconded the motion to approve the following budget transfers:

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|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|----------|--------------|-------------------------------------------|--|
| Budget Transfers & Appropriations for Highway Funds |             | Increases will be financed by the following changes |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| AUGUST 14, 2024                                     | Increase    | Decrease                                            | Increase   | Decrease | Appropriated |                                           |  |
|                                                     | Expenditure | Expenditure                                         | Revenue    | Revenue  | Fund Balance | Explanation                               |  |
|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| General (Town Wide) Fund (A)                        |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| Expense Accounts                                    |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| A.1450.490 Election - Miscellaneous                 | \$525.00    |                                                     |            |          |              | Cost of election-billed by Livingston Co. |  |
| A.1910.400 Unallocated Insurance                    | \$2,710.00  |                                                     |            |          |              | Increased Insurance Premiums              |  |
| A.8540.490 Drainage - Miscellaneous                 | \$4,685.00  |                                                     |            |          |              | Over spent line                           |  |
| A.8810.490 Cemetery - Miscellaneous                 | \$7,235.00  |                                                     |            |          |              | No expense budgeted - over spent line     |  |
|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| A.1990.400 Contingency Account                      |             | \$15,155.00                                         |            |          |              | Transfer from Contingecy to fund lines    |  |
|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| Totals in General (Town Wide) Fund (A)              | \$15,155.00 | \$15,155.00                                         |            |          |              |                                           |  |
|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| Part Town Fund (B)                                  |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| Expense Accounts                                    |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| B1420.490 Attorney - Contractual                    | \$15,000.00 |                                                     |            |          |              | Legal Fees                                |  |
| B1440.490 Engineering - Miscellaneous               | \$9,000.00  |                                                     |            |          |              | Development fee - Escrow                  |  |
| B3620.430 Code Enforce. - Training/Dues             | \$25.00     |                                                     |            |          |              | Overspent line                            |  |
| B3620.440 Code Enforce. - Computer Support          | \$285.00    |                                                     |            |          |              | Overspent line                            |  |
| B8010.490 Zoning - Miscellaneous                    | \$140.00    |                                                     |            |          |              | Overspent line                            |  |
| B8020.430 Planning - Conference/Dues                | \$45.00     |                                                     |            |          |              | Overspent line                            |  |
|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| B1990.400 Contingency Account                       |             | \$15,000.00                                         |            |          |              | Transfer from Contingecy to fund lines    |  |
| B3620.480 Code Enforce. - Gasoline                  |             | \$310.00                                            |            |          |              | Transfer to overspent lines               |  |
| B8020.490 Planning - Miscellaneous                  |             | \$185.00                                            |            |          |              | Transfer to overspent lines               |  |
|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| Revenue Accounts                                    |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| B2170 Escrow Projects                               |             |                                                     | \$9,000.00 |          |              | Escrow Fees Received-appropriation        |  |
|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| Totals in Part Town Fund (B)                        | \$24,495.00 | \$15,495.00                                         | \$9,000.00 |          | \$0.00       |                                           |  |
|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
| GRAND TOTALS ALL FUNDS                              | \$39,650.00 | \$30,650.00                                         | \$9,000.00 | \$0.00   | \$0.00       |                                           |  |
|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |
|                                                     |             |                                                     |            |          |              |                                           |  |

Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Maxwell-aye, Mix-aye, and Griffio-aye. Nays: None.

**Approve the Setup of Capitol Project Accounts:**  
Councilmember Mix moved, and Councilmember Deming seconded the motion to setup the following capitol project accounts:



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**Carryover Balance in Joint Checking Account:**

Supervisor Wadsworth stated that there is a carryover balance from December 2023 in the joint checking account in the amount of \$1,438.36. This is not based on any outstanding amount. Our accountant would like to move the money from our joint checking account to the B fund. The Board took the following action:

**Transfer the Carryover Balance in the Joint Checking Account to the B Fund:**

Deputy Supervisor Griffo moved, and Councilmember Deming seconded the motion to transfer \$1438.36 from the joint checking account to the B fund. Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Griffo-aye, Maxwell-aye, and Mix-aye. Nays: None.

**Update - New Town Office Property - continued:**

Councilmember Deming has been working on a payment schedule for the new property. Supervisor Wadsworth suggested that the Board Members take some time to review the schedule.

**Executive Session:**

Deputy Supervisor Griffo moved, and Councilmember Deming seconded the motion to enter executive session at 5:27 PM to discuss the employment history of a particular person, inviting Attorney Ericka Elliott. Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Griffo-aye, Maxwell-aye, and Mix-aye. Nays: None.

**Close Executive Session:**

Deputy Supervisor Griffo moved, and Councilmember Maxwell seconded the motion to close executive session at 5:59 PM with no action taken. Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Griffo-aye, Maxwell-aye, and Mix-aye. Nays: None.

**Close Public Hearing:**

Councilmember Deming motioned and Deputy Supervisor Griffo seconded to close the public hearing for Local Law #1 of 2024 and the Board took the following action:

**Adopt Local Law #1 of 2024 - Partial Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers:**

Councilmember Deming moved, and Councilmember Maxwell seconded the motion to adopt Local Law #1 of 2023 as follows:

**LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2024**

**A LOCAL LAW TO UPDATE AND AMEND CHAPTER 96, ARTICLE VII, OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF GENESEO TO AUTHORIZE A PARTIAL TAX EXEMPTION FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXES TO CERTAIN ELIGIBLE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NEW YORK STATE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW SECTION 466-a**

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Geneseo as follows:

**ADD new Article VII, entitled “Partial Tax Exemptions for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers.”**

**Section 1. ADD new §96-21 entitled “Purpose and Intent.”** The intent of this Local Law is to adopt a real property tax exemption for certain qualifying volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers in the Town of Geneseo in accordance with New York State Real Property Tax Law §466-a.

**Section 2. ADD new §96-22 entitled “Extent of Exemption.”** Real property owned by an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service residing in the Town of Geneseo shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of 10% of the assessed valuation for county purposes provided the owner(s) meet the qualifications set forth in Section 3 below.

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**Section 3. ADD new §96-23 entitled “Exemption Granted.”**

A. To be eligible for the exemption authorized by Real Property Tax §466-a and implemented by this Local Law, the real property must be owned by an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service residing in the Town of Geneseo subject to the following additional requirements:

(a) the enrolled member resides in the town which is served by such incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service; (b) the property is the primary residence of the enrolled member; (c) the property is used exclusively for residential purposes; provided however, that in the event any portion of such property is not used exclusively for the enrolled member’s residence but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided by this section; and (d) the enrolled member has been certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service for at least two (2) years.

B. Any enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service residing in the Town of Geneseo who accrues more than twenty (20) years of active service and is so certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service, who also meets all the requirements set forth in Section 3, shall be granted the 10% exemption as described above for the remainder of his or her life as long as his or her primary resident is located within the Town of Geneseo.

C. An un-remarried spouse of volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker killed in the line of duty shall be eligible to receive the 10% exemption as described above provided that: (a) such un-remarried spouse is certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service as an un-remarried spouse of an enrolled member; and (b) such deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least five (5) years; and (c) such deceased volunteer had been receiving the exemption prior to his or her death.

D. An un-remarried spouse of a deceased volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker shall be eligible to receive the 10% exemption as described above provided that: (a) such un-remarried spouse is certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service as an un-remarried spouse of a deceased enrolled member; and (b) such deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least twenty (20) years, and (c) such deceased volunteer and un-remarried spouse had been receiving the exemption prior to the death of such volunteer.

**Section 4. ADD new §96-24 entitled “Severability.”** If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

**Section 5. ADD new §96-25 entitled “Effective Date.”** This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Maxwell-aye, Mix-aye, and Griffio-aye. Nays: None.

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**Informational Items:**

- Code Office Report
- Letter – David Parish
- Letter – Water Hook Up – Tax Map #72.-1-3.1

**Adjournment:**

Deputy Supervisor Griffo moved, and Councilmember Maxwell seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 PM. Motion carried with Wadsworth-aye, Deming-aye, Griffo-aye Maxwell-aye, and Mix-aye. Nays: None.

Ellen M Zapf, RMC  
Town Clerk