

Village of Geneseo Board of Trustees – April 21, 2025

Board Present:

Chris Ivers, Mayor
Keith Walters, Deputy Mayor
Marlene Hamann-Whitmore, Trustee
Eddie Lee, Trustee
Alex Livingston, Trustee

Other Village Representatives Present:

Shawn Forrester, Clerk & Treasurer
Andrew Chanler, Fire Chief
Dan Quinlan, Supt. Public Works

Others Present:

Jeff Crane, Brendan Fuhr, Felicity Thomas, Louise Wadsworth, Mary Kummer, Liz Porter, Meg Reitz, Amy Marchon & Ella Hinckley.

Meeting Opened:

Mayor Ivers opened the meeting at 5pm. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Action Items:

APOG Bench:

Jeff Crane was present to request permission to install a bench in front of the Big Tree Inn in memory of Kurt Cylke. *Deputy Mayor Walters moved to approve the request. Trustee Livingston seconded. With no further discussion the motion passed with ayes from all.*

Farmers Market:

Meg Reitz requested the closure of Center Street for the Farmers Market. She noted that the Market would be open Thursdays June 19, 2025, through October 9, 2025. *Deputy Mayor Walters moved to approve the request. Trustee Livingston seconded.* There was discussion regarding having a manager for the Market. *With no further discussion the motion passed with ayes from all.*

Community Dinner:

Felicity Thomas presented her proposal for a community dinner in the Village Park on May 4, 2025. She explained that the event would be geared toward education and food insecurity. There was discussion regarding the number of possible attendees, where the food would be prepared, and the time of the event (12pm-4pm). *Deputy Mayor Walters moved to approve the request. Trustee Livingston seconded. With no further discussion the motion passed with ayes from all.*

Fire Department Annual Report:

Chief Chanler presented the Annual Fire Department Report. There was discussion regarding coverage, man hours and time of day the most calls happened. Discussion continued with recruitment, future leadership and junior members. The Board requested the Annual Report be posted on the Website. *Trustee Livingston moved to accept the Fire Department Annual Report. Deputy Mayor Walters seconded. The motion passed with ayes from all.* It was noted that the Annual Fire Department Open House would be Saturday, April 26, 2025.

Ambulance Surplus:

Chief Chanler requested that Ambulance 3181 be surplus. He noted that it would be sold to MTS (Medical Transport Service) for \$13,500.00. *Trustee Livingston moved to approve the surplus of Ambulance 3181. Deputy Mayor Walters seconded.* With no further discussion the motion passed with ayes from all.

Assistant Chief Vehicle:

Chief Chanler requested the use of Reserve Funds to purchase a used vehicle to be used as an Assistant Chief's Vehicle. He explained that in the past the Assistant Chief had used their personal vehicle but that it was more difficult to outfit newer vehicles. *Trustee Livingston moved to approve the use of Reserve Funds to purchase an Assistant Chief's vehicle. Deputy Mayor Walters seconded.* With no further discussion the motion passed with ayes from all.

Review of Minutes:

The 4/7/2025, 2/10/2025 and 4/9/2025 minutes were presented. *Deputy Mayor Walters moved to approve the minutes. Trustee Livingston seconded. After discussion the minutes were approved as presented with ayes from all.*

Local Law #1 of 2024 - Property Tax Cap Override:

Deputy Mayor Walters moved to approve Local Law # 2 to override the Tax Cap. Trustee Livingston seconded. After discussion

Local Law #2 was passed with ayes from all.

Budget Review:

Deputy Mayor Walters moved to approve the 2025-2026 Budget. Trustee Livingston seconded. There was much discussion including Fund Balance, Employee Benefits, Police and Fire Services, and other possible ways to conserve. Trustee Lee shared that Village's General Fund balance was over 31% of the budget and suggested an alternative to exceeding the Tac Cap override by allocating small amounts of fund balance, raising revenues or reducing expenses. Mayor Ivers noted that the Board had agreed at the beginning of the Budget process not to touch the fund balance. With no further discussion the 2025-2026 Budget was accepted without change with ayes from all.

Approval of Abstract #11:

Trustee Livingston reviewed and presented the April 2025 Vouchers for approval in the following amounts:

- General Fund: \$143,278.50
- Water Fund: \$53,326.25
- Sewer Fund: \$16,903.78
- Capital Projects: \$26,061.00
- Grand Total: \$239,569.53

Trustee Livingston moved to approve Abstract #11 of 2024-2025, for \$251,049.68. Deputy Mayor Walters seconded. After much discussion the motion passed with ayes from all.

Discussion Items:

Tree Board:

Trustee Hamann-Whitmore updated the Board on the Village's Arbor Day celebration. She continued with the progress being made as well as the requirements of becoming a "Tree City". *Trustee Hamann-Whitmore then moved to form a Tree Board of 5 members. Deputy Mayor Walters seconded. With no further discussion the motion passed with ayes from all.*

Sewer Resolution:

There was discussion regarding the Board Resolution of 7/21/2014, which provided a sewer use fee exemption full-time Village resident employees. It was argued that it was not fair to all employees and there may be a more equitable to value employees. Discussion continued with whether the Board should receive this benefit. *The Board decided that the Mayor and Trustee positions were part-time and would resume previous water bill practices.*

Mayor Updates:

- The Mayor updated the Board on the agreement with LCWSA.
- The Mayor also updated the Board on the NY Forward DRI program progress.

Adjourn:

With no further business Mayor Ivers asked for a motion to close the meeting. *Trustee Hamann-Whitmore moved to close the meeting. Trustee Livingston seconded. With no further discussion the meeting closed at 6:32pm with ayes from all.*

*Shawn Forrester
Clerk & Treasurer*