

The Seneca Village Council held a regularly scheduled council meeting at Seneca Village Hall on December 5, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Roll Call: Present: Applebee, Barla, Olson, Spicer
Absent: Timmons

A motion was made by Comm. Olson and seconded by Comm. Applebee that the Council approves the November 21, 2017 council meeting minutes as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Applebee, Barla, Spicer
Nays: none

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Olson that the Council approves the payment of bills as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Olson, Applebee, Spicer
Nays: none

No Seneca Business Spotlight presentation

Communications, Petitions, Reports and Additional Agenda Items:

1. Well #2 Information
2. Holiday Gathering Recap
3. 605 N. Main Street Demolition Project Update
4. Crotty Park – Walnut Street Water main Improvement Update
5. Sanitary Sewer Extension Union Street to Lincoln Street Update

Old Business:

Public Property Timmons:

In Comm. Timmons' absence, Comm. Olson provided the council with updated hourly equipment and personnel rates pertaining to the revision of ordinance #00-08; consensus of council was for Attorney Russo to update accordingly. No questions were presented.

Accounts and Finance Barla:

Comm. Barla stated the yearly tax levy has been presented to council with no rate changes; due to the decreased EAV, residents may see a slight decrease in their taxes. No questions were presented.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Olson that the council adopts ordinance #17-17 the yearly tax levy.

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Olson, Applebee, Spicer
Nays: none

Comm. Barla stated the village has sufficient funds to pay off current bonds, but after checking with financial advisor it would not have been beneficial to the village to do so. The abating bond ordinance was reviewed by council and no questions were presented.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Applebee that the council adopts ordinance #17-18, abating a portion of the taxes levied to pay principal of and interest on general obligation refunding bonds, series 2012A, series 2012B, series 2012C and series 2016.

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Applebee, Olson, Spicer
Nays: none

Public Health & Safety Applebee:

Comm. Applebee stated the police department has advertised the 2017 Shop with a Cop event in area newspapers and radio. This program provides donations for needy children to shop for holiday gifts for them and their families with a police officer or staff, upon returning to the station, gifts are then wrapped and refreshments are enjoyed. Comm. Applebee indicated that although donations have increased this year, there is a need for additional donations and/or volunteers to help with the program.

New Business:

Public Property Timmons:

In Commissioner Timmons' absence, Mayor Spicer stated that well #2 is not currently functioning at full capacity due to what is believed to be an inoperative check valve and/or coupling problem. He indicated that a technician will be present on tomorrow's date to diagnose and correct the issue. Commissioner Applebee asked if the problem would affect the water usage in any way and the Mayor indicated it would not affect the water supply. Mayor Spicer also said the meter reading tool that is used for monthly reading of the remaining 330 old water meters was determined to be broken, after sending it to the company for repairs, the village was notified that the company will no longer provide service on the equipment. It was announced that staff will resume meter replacement to updated radio read water meters to all remaining customers. Also, a billing to Hawkins, Inc. was presented for approval by the council for the purchase of water treatment plant chemicals. No questions were presented.

A motion was made by Comm. Olson and seconded by Comm. Barla that the council approve an expenditure of \$4,190.58 to Hawkins, Inc. out of the water department.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Barla, Applebee, Spicer
Nays: none

A billing to A & E Septic Services was presented for approval to the council by Mayor Spicer, he stated this is the remaining cost for creek and I & M Canal clean up. Comm. Olson announced that he felt the project has turned out great and Comm. Applebee added that it was a job well done.

A motion was made by Comm. Olson and seconded by Comm. Applebee that the council approves an expenditure of \$6,000.00 to A & E Septic Services out of the Public Benefit Fund.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Applebee, Barla, Spicer
Nays: none

Accounts and Finance Barla:

Comm. Barla stated that previously the council approved a transfer of \$5,000.00 from the video gaming fund to the downtown general checking account for the purpose of paying for rental of the holiday decorations. No questions were asked.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Olson that the council approves an expenditure of \$2,654.40 to HAP Industries, Inc. out of the downtown development fund.

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Olson, Applebee, Spicer
Nays: none

Comm. Barla also presented an invoice from P & M Electric for the purpose of correcting problems related to street lighting within the TIF 1 area. No questions were presented.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Applebee that the council approves an expenditure to P & M Electric for \$4,895.45 out of the TIF 1 fund.

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Applebee, Olson, Spicer
Nays: none

Comm. Barla explained to the council that a transfer is required from the TIF 1 fund to repay the Windmill Fund for the Union Street project. No questions were presented.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Olson that the council approve the transfer of \$40,000.00 from the TIF 1 fund to the Windmill for the repayment of the Union Street project.

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Olson, Applebee, Spicer
Nays: none

Public Affairs Mayor Spicer:

Mayor Spicer stated the Graves Park project was upheld for approximately six months due to the necessity of an archaeological survey of the property prior to any excavation. An expenditure was reviewed by council relating to the study, no questions were presented. In addition, Village Engineer Guy Christensen stated that Stott Contracting will resume working on the storm sewer for the new park tomorrow; that all of the water/sewer work has been completed and overall approximately 50% of the excavating portion of the project has been completed.

A motion was made by Comm. Olson and seconded by Comm. Applebee that the council approves an expenditure of \$1, 818.89 to Karen Atwell out of the Park Board Funds.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Applebee, Barla, Spicer
Nays: none

Mayor Spicer reviewed the proposed timeline of the Graves Park project and also encouraged the council to view the area as to the progress that has been made. Comm. Barla stated recently a holiday lighting ceremony was held at the corner of Main Street and Williams Street and he commended all involved with the event. Mayor Spicer added the Comm. Barla provided a prepared speech during the ceremony and also that Luella Rooney and Rudy Maierhofer were in attendance to light the tree. Engineer Guy Christensen provided updates on the following: the demolition project for 605 N. Main Street has been postponed due to an active Nicor gas line on the property. The contracts have been prepared regarding the Crotty Park – Walnut Street water main project and the project will begin soon. The Sanitary Sewer Extension Union Street to Lincoln Street will begin this week. Comm. Barla asked Engineer Christensen to notify all homeowners involved, he indicated he would update owners and also obtain tap on location information from the owners as well.

Public Comment

Ms. Kathy Haralson, resident asked for clarification on whether the Graves Park project will include a municipal swimming pool or a splash pad. Mayor Spicer stated that priorities have been set by the Park Board on the Graves Park project, including playground equipment, sporting fields, dug outs and shelters and that a municipal pool has never been included in the plans for the park. Mayor also stated that the splash pad feature would only be built if after the main structures mentioned are completed and resources remain in the park board fund to do so.

A motion was made by Comm. Olson and seconded by Comm. Applebee that the December 5, 2017 council meeting is adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Applebee, Barla, Spicer

Nays: none

Theresa L. Russell, Village Clerk