

Seneca Village Council held a regularly scheduled Council meeting at Seneca Village Hall on March 2, 2021 and the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Olson and Commissioners Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Attorney Robert Russo, Village Engineer Casey McCollom and Village Clerk Jennifer Peddicord

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

A motion was made by Comm. Callahan and seconded by Comm. Higgins that the Council approve the February 16, 2021 council meeting minutes as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Weber that the Council approve the payment of bills as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber

Nays: None

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS AND ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMISSIONER VICTOR: Comm. Victor advised that this is the vault up on the hill. Jim Applebee has been working with G.A. Rich & Sons, Inc. on putting the quote together and has talked to other municipalities that have worked with them and G.A. Rich & Sons, Inc. comes highly recommended. This will be the only project done for the water department this year. During this work, the water will be shut off to the entire village, so the plan is to do the work overnight on a Saturday night. All businesses and residents will be notified of the planned shut-off when it is scheduled. A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Callahan to approve an expenditure to G.A. Rich & Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$34,139.00 for vault rehab.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber

Nays: None

COMMISSIONER HIGGINS:

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Victor to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-07, An Ordinance Amending the Seneca Code of Ordinances Pertaining to Open Burning by Implementing Fines. The ordinance implements a fine of \$75.00 for the first offense and up to \$500.00 for repeated offenses.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-08, An Ordinance Amending Section 4 of Chapter 3 of Title 7 Regarding Village Parks. This amendment increases the minimum fine to \$75.00 and up to \$500.00 for repeated offenses.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber

Nays: None

MAYOR OLSON:

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve the amendment of Ordinance 21-09, An Ordinance Amending the Seneca Code of Ordinances Pertaining to the Appointment of the Village Clerk and Treasurer.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber

Nays: None

Mayor Olson presented the Seneca Code of Ordinances pertaining to Recycling Service and Waste Removal Contractors. Discussion was held regarding concerns about potentially going to one waste hauler. The council agreed that this section of the code should be repealed and will be brought back at the next council meeting for a first reading of ordinance repealing same.

Mayor Olson advised that he will bring back discussion regarding downtown development at the next council meeting.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT AND NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC PROPERTY, WATER & SEWER:

Commissioner Victor announced that cross connection control surveys have been mailed out to all residential and commercial customers. There is also a link available on Facebook to complete the survey on-line.

ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE - CALLAHAN:

None.

STREETS - WEBER:

Commissioner Weber advised that every summer we clean up the creek along Commerce Street. This will require rental of an excavator, which Scott Holman will run. A motion was made by Comm. Weber and seconded by Comm. Victor to approve an expenditure to Illinois Truck & Equipment for excavator rental for Crotty Park clean-up not to exceed \$3,000.00.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber

Nays: None

Mayor Olson advised that he has asked for approval from the state to clean up the I&M Canal. He is waiting to hear if it will be approved.

Commissioner Weber is still looking into a snow route ordinance. We are currently looking at various other municipalities' ordinances. Comm. Higgins advised that there is an issue with Union Street and Main Street during significant snowfall.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY - HIGGINS:

Commissioner Higgins presented an ordinance amending the Seneca Code of Ordinances Pertaining to Mobile Homes for discussion. He advised that the ordinance adopts the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974. The proposed ordinance also implements annual fees, permit requirements, and an age restriction of 10 years for mobile homes. This ordinance will be brought back for approval at the next council meeting.

Chief George Lamboley advised the council that he has received an updated quote from Watchguard for body cameras. He requested council approval to spend \$20,000.00 on body cameras. He advised that the police department will attempt to recoup some of the money spent on body cameras by applying for grants. Body cameras will be mandated by 2025 and Chief Lamboley wants to get ours in place before they become more expensive and difficult to find. Request for approval of the \$20,000.00 expenditure will be brought back at the next council meeting.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS - OLSON:

Mayor Olson presented an ordinance adopting a 2021 zoning map for discussion. A proposed zoning map was provided to council. The Planning Commission will make their recommendation to adopt the zoning map at their next meeting.

Mayor Olson announced that the Village is holding a photography contest. The winning photographs will be displayed in the council chambers and on the village's new website. Commissioner Weber suggested providing prizes to the winners.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Comm. Callahan and seconded by Comm. Victor to enter into executive session at 6:22 p.m. to discuss personnel.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber

Nays: None

The council returned to regular session at 6:31 p.m.

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Callahan to adjourn the March 2, 2021 council meeting at 6:32 p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber

Nays: None



Jennifer A. Peddicord
Jennifer A. Peddicord, Village Clerk