

Seneca Village Council held a regularly scheduled Council meeting at Seneca Village Hall on April 20, 2021 and the meeting was called to order at 6:05 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. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Victor that the Council approve the April 6, 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 payroll and 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:**

**COMMISSIONER VICTOR: NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) Vandalism at Crotty Park.
- 2) Water and sewer rate increase.

**COMMISSIONER WEBER: NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) Street sign at Canal Road and Commerce Street.
- 2) Valley View streetlights.
- 3) Streetlights in the village.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**COMMISSIONER VICTOR:** A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-15, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 of Title 7 Regarding Park Hours and Violation of Park Rules in Village Parks. This amends the park hours to be from dawn to dusk.

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

Nays: None

**MAYOR OLSON:**

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-16, An Ordinance Amending Paragraph J of Article 6 of Chapter 8 of Title 3 of the Seneca Code of Ordinances Regarding Restrictions on Issuance of Liquor License. Per Mayor Olson, this removes the restriction requiring corporations to have an agent or manager living in village limits.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Weber and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-17, Ordinance Repealing Chapter 7 of Title 2 of the Seneca Code of Ordinances Regarding Public Safety Advisory Council. Mayor Olson advises that we no longer need this ordinance, as we do not have a Public Safety Advisory Council.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Victor to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-18, An Ordinance Repealing Chapter 1 of Title 4 of the Seneca Code of Ordinances Regarding Emergency Services Provisions. Mayor Olson advised that the village is no longer in charge of emergency services, as the fire and ambulance are their own district now.

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

Nays: None

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT AND NEW BUSINESS:**

**PUBLIC PROPERTY, WATER & SEWER:**

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Callahan to approve an expenditure to Building Asset Systems, LLC in the amount of \$2,000.00 for labor related to replacement of control valves at water plant. This covers labor and materials and the work is being completed now.

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

Nays: None

Commissioner Victor announced that village clean-up days will take place June 11 and 12 at Olson's Recycling on Jackson Street. This is the week after garage sales. Comm. Victor read a list of what is not accepted. Senior citizens can ask for pick-up by the FFA by contacting village hall.

Commissioner Victor announced that the Peg Davis Civic Fund donated funds for the softball scoreboard at Graves Park and the softball field will be named the Peg Davis Field in her honor. A Seneca resident donated the funds for the baseball scoreboard at Graves Park and the baseball field will be named the Fran Kasten Field.

Commissioner Victor advised that there has been a problem with vandalism at Crotty Park, specifically the bathrooms, which have been open less than two weeks, were vandalized within the first few days that they were open. The Park Board has spent a great deal of money building our parks and a lot of time and money went into making the bathrooms at Crotty Park ADA compliant. Every time they are vandalized, more money is spent on repairs, which could be going towards further improvements. We are looking into getting cameras in the park so we can, hopefully, catch any offenders. If we catch any vandals, we intend to prosecute to the fullest extent of the law.

**ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE - CALLAHAN:**

A motion was made by Comm. Callahan and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve an expenditure to First Midwest Bank Visa in the amount of \$3,029.92 for miscellaneous credit card expenses.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Callahan and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve an expenditure to Wex Bank in the amount of \$1,965.32 for fuel expenses.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Callahan and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve an account transfer of \$26,043.04 from General Funds to Motor Fuel Tax Funds.

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

Nays: None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made by Comm. Callahan and seconded by Comm. Weber to enter into executive session at 6:16 p.m. to discuss Personnel.

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

Nays: None

The council returned to regular session at 6:40 p.m.

A motion was made by Comm. Callahan and seconded by Comm. Victor to approve annual raises in the amount of \$2.25 for full-time and part-time, non-union employees, effective April 1, 2021.

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

Nays: None

**STREETS - WEBER:**

A motion was made by Comm. Weber and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve the adoption of Resolution 584, Resolution for Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code. Village Engineer Casey McCollom explained that before any motor fuel tax funds can be spent, IDOT requires a resolution. The request for expenditure of motor fuel tax funds in the amount of \$201,000.00 does not include local funds. Comm. Weber advised that more funds are available.

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

Nays: None

Commissioner Weber advised that he was contacted by a local resident that lives on Canal Road and learned that they are having problems with getting deliveries because the road is unmarked. The village is putting up a street sign at the corner of Commerce and Canal.

Commissioner Weber was contacted by a resident of Valley View about streetlights. There are currently only two streetlights in Valley View. A survey of Valley View residents was done about 20 years ago. The Village will be sending a new survey out to all Valley View residents regarding streetlights in the near future.

Commissioner Weber advised that the streetlights in town that are on wood poles belong to ComEd. ComEd will only come to town to replace streetlights when there are several on the list. If you see a streetlight that is not working, contact village hall.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY - HIGGINS:**

Commissioner Higgins presented an Ordinance Amending the Text of the Zoning Ordinance Regulating the Minimum Lot Size of Mobile Home Lots. He advised that the zoning ordinance currently requires a 3,500 square foot lot and will be amended to require a 6,000 square foot lot. Discussion was held regarding the amount of taxes that are derived from mobile homes in town.

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Victor to approve an expenditure to Everbridge, Inc. in the amount of \$3,000.00 for annual Nixle subscription.

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 an expenditure to Superior, LLC in the amount of \$3,331.25 for annual maintenance of report and CAD systems with Grundy County dispatch.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Callahan to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Village of Seneca and the Metropolitan Alliance of Police, Seneca Chapter #396, effective April 1, 2021 through March 30, 2024. Comm. Higgins thanked Nancy Gross, Jennifer Peddicord and George Lamboley for all the work they did on the contract, and advised that all parties came out with a good deal and everyone is happy. One change that was made was regarding body cameras.

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

Nays: None

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS - OLSON:**

A motion was made by Comm. Weber and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve a donation in the amount of \$3,500.00 to the Seneca Shipyard Festival Committee for cruise night. Mayor Olson advised that he spoke with Renee McKinney regarding the cancellation of Shipyard Days and they would like to have possible entertainment with a beer garden at the cruise night in August.

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

Nays: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

A motion was made by Comm. Callahan and seconded by Comm. Higgins to adjourn the April 20, 2021 council meeting at 6:54 p.m.

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

Nays: None

  
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Jennifer A. Peddicord, Village Clerk