

Seneca Village Council held a regularly scheduled Council meeting at Seneca Village Hall on July 20, 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

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 to approve the July 6, 2021 council meeting minutes as presented.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Weber that the Council approve the May treasurer's report, 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:

Mayor Olson signed a Proclamation regarding National Night Out 2021, which was read by Officer Mark Razny. Officer Razny then gave a brief overview of National Night Out on August 3, 2021 and invited all to attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMISSIONER WEBER:

Commissioner Weber presented an Ordinance Amending Section 2 of Chapter 1 of Title 7 of the Seneca Code of Ordinances Pertaining to Sidewalk Construction for discussion. This ordinance hasn't been updated for 20 years. Changes include the base requirement, inspection required, and the village will pay for the concrete as long as funds are available. This will be brought back at a future council meeting for adoption. Commissioner Weber also advised that 150 feet of sidewalks have been replaced so far in town this year.

A motion was made by Comm. Weber and seconded by Comm. Victor to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-25, Ordinance Amending Section 3 of Chapter 4 of Title 6 Pertaining to Parking Time Limit on Main Street. The east side of Main Street will be limited to two hour parking, and the west side will have no time limit, but 24 hour parking is prohibited.

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. Weber to approve an expenditure to Correct Digital Display in the amount of \$7,080.00 for installation of scoreboard at Fran Kasten Field. The funds for the scoreboard and installation were donated.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve an expenditure to Hawkins, Inc. in the amount of \$4,300.94 for water treatment plant chemicals.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve an expenditure to Underground Pipe & Valve Co. in the amount of \$15,028.60 for parts for fire hydrants. This will be paid out of the fire hydrant fund. The water department is fixing almost all of the fire hydrants in town.

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

Nays: None

With regard to the additional expenditure for the community garden, Commissioner Weber advised that this bid has been previously paid and may be brought back at a future meeting to discuss.

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve an expenditure to Ayers Electric in an amount not to exceed \$4,500.00 for electrical upgrades. This upgrade is for the electrical system at the well house and for the plug in for cruise night. This will all be completed by Cruise Night on August 7.

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

Nays: None

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 \$3,858.84 for credit card expenses.

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 an expenditure to Miller Tree Service in the amount of \$1,500.00 for removal of dead trees. The dead trees were in the alley behind a residence on Cash Street.

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

Nays: None

Commissioner Weber addressed the council regarding the recent flooding and the collapse of River Road. The affected roadway has left a 15-20 foot deep hole. Comm. Weber has asked that the community stop going out to the area. The village officials have met with Senator Rezin, Representative Welter, IDOT and the LaSalle County EMA regarding this matter. Village Engineer Casey McCollom advised that the village is working towards funding 100 feet of bridge, which will cost approximately \$1 million for the structure alone. With land acquisition and engineering fees included, it is estimated that the total cost will be \$1.1 million. Grant funds will cover 80/20 at best. The entire process from engineering to completion could take 20-24 months. Casey suggested that engineering work could be done in advance of the grant process, which would be at the village's expense, and would expedite the replacement timeline. He also indicated that bonds should be a last resort. Mayor Olson advised that there are conference calls set up this week to look for funding. The current bridge was built in 1965 and had different construction requirements, so new plans need to be created. Unfortunately, the current street program will need to be paused for the time being. Commissioner Callahan indicated that we should be conservative in our spending for now.

Mayor Olson thanked all of the state and local officials that have responded to our requests for help due to the flooding and road collapse, including IDOT and the City of Montgomery that provided us with replacement barricades.

Commissioner Weber also gave an update regarding the resurfacing of 170/Main Street in the village. IDOT has a multi-year plan and shows this work will be done in the 2023-2027 timeframe. Commissioner Higgins emphasized that the village is not allowed to do any work on Main Street without IDOT's permission. Per Casey McCollom, only the first year of the plan is guaranteed. One of the reasons that the work is taking so long to be done is the federal requirement that the sidewalks meet ADA compliance.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY - HIGGINS:

Commissioner Higgins presented an Ordinance Approving a Minor Subdivision at the Request of LaRou Brothers Ranch LLC Relating to Real Property for discussion. Two brothers own property on the south side of River Road and one brother wants to subdivide a larger parcel to build a home. The public hearing was held last week and the Plan Commission recommended the subdivision be approved. This will be brought back for adoption at the next council meeting.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS - OLSON:

A motion was made by Commissioner Weber and seconded by Commissioner Higgins to approve the adoption of Resolution No. 588, Destruction of Executive Session Recordings.

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

Nays: None

Mayor Olson announced that Carolyn Lockridge has submitted her resignation from the Seneca Regional Port District. The Port District has recommended that Craig Hepner be appointed to fill Ms. Lockridge's unexpired term. A motion was made by Commissioner Callahan and seconded by Commissioner Higgins to approve the appointment of Craig Hepner to the Seneca Regional Port District for the completion of an unexpired term, ending May 31, 2022. Mayor Olson thanked Ms. Lockridge for her service.

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

Nays: None

Mayor Olson presented an Ordinance Establishing the Beautification, Betterment and Tourism Committee for discussion. This ordinance would make the BBT committee an official board of the village. The terms would run concurrent with the mayor's term of office. Funds will be budgeted annually for the committee. This will be brought back for approval at a later meeting.

Mayor Olson thanked the BBT for their work on their first annual golf outing, which was a great success.

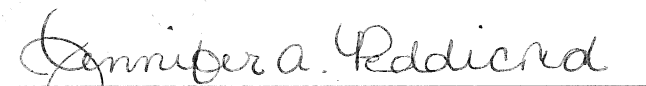
PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dan Anderson addressed the council regarding the road washing out between the village and VanCleave's property to the west of town. He indicated this would be a perfect place for a culvert. He also thanked the village employees for their work cleaning out the canal.

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Callahan to adjourn the July 20, 2021 council meeting at 6:45 p.m.

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

Nays: None



Jennifer A. Peddicord, Village Clerk