

Seneca Village Council held a regularly scheduled Council meeting at Seneca Village Hall on August 17, 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 Treasurer Nancy Gross, acting as Recording Secretary

A motion was made by Comm. Weber and seconded by Comm. Callahan to approve the appointment of Nancy Gross as Recording Secretary for this council meeting.

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

Nays: None

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 to approve the August 3, 2021 council meeting minutes as presented.

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

Nays: None

Abstain: Weber

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Callahan that the Council approve the June 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:

The photography contest winners will be announced at the next council meeting due to the absence of the Village Clerk.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMISSIONER WEBER: A motion was made by Comm. Weber and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-27, Ordinance Amending Section 2 of Chapter 1 of Title 7 of the Seneca Code of Ordinances Pertaining to Sidewalk Construction. The major change is the requirement for a gravel base instead of a sand base.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber
Nays: None

COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: Commissioner Higgins thanked the Seneca Police Department for their successful National Night Out.

MAYOR OLSON: Mayor Olson brought the Ordinance Establishing the Beautification, Betterment and Tourism Committee back for further discussion. He has asked Attorney Russo to amend the ordinance to provide for staggered terms, rather than concurrent terms with the mayor's term for each committee member so that there is always someone on the committee with knowledge of past practices. Questions arose regarding how the committee will be funded. Mayor Olson advised that it will be funded out of the general fund and is hopeful that the committee will eventually be self-funding. At this time, funds will be based on availability in the budget. The committee has been in charge of all of the flowers downtown, raising funds for the mural, hosted a golf outing, and has now taken over cruise night. The ordinance will be amended and brought back for approval at the next council meeting.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT AND NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC PROPERTY, WATER & SEWER:

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Higgins to defer the expenditure to Knoebel Concrete in the amount of \$3,800.00 for dog pads and sidewalk at dog park. Comm. Victor advises that we will have our village employees do the work instead, which will save us money.

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 the dissolution of an Intergovernmental Agreement Between Seneca Township High School District 160 and the Seneca Park Board concerning the use of Certain Sports and Recreation Facilities. Park Board President Melissa Klicker advised that we are currently unable to use the west campus due to scheduling and there are difficulties with scheduling now that Nadine Maierhofer is no longer a park board employee. Attorney Russo advised that the village is required to give 30 days' written notice to terminate the agreement.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Callahan, Higgins, Victor and Weber
Nays: None

Commissioner Victor commended the village employees, Jim Applebee, Scott Holman, Matt Sticha, Conlan Callahan and CJ Wignes, for their recent work in replacing the two hydrants in town. He also thanked the public for their patience and understanding during the process. One more hydrant needs to be replaced and notice will be given to the public.

ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE - CALLAHAN:

A motion was made by Comm. Callahan and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve an expenditure to First Midwest Bank Visa in the amount of \$3,037.42 for credit card expenses.

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

Nays: None

STREETS - WEBER:

Commissioner Weber presented an Ordinance Amending Chapter 4 of Title 6 Pertaining to Parking Regulations for discussion. This clause in the code says that there is no parking anywhere in town except for emergency physicians and vehicles. This needs to be dissolved. This ordinance will be brought back for approval at the next council meeting.

Commissioner Weber also presented an Ordinance Adding Section 10 of Chapter 4 of Title 6 Pertaining to Snow Route Restrictions to the Seneca Code of Ordinances for discussion. Five streets are included in the proposed ordinance and will be marked as snow routes. No parking will be allowed on one side of each street when there is more than two inches of snow. This will be brought back for approval at the next meeting.

Commissioner Weber gave an update regarding River Road. He advised that on Saturday Chamlin & Associates were out taking core samples. The deepest sample was 37-1/2 feet before they hit rock. He received a text from our engineer today and IDOT may accept our alternative repair to the road. We are waiting for a report from the technical experts and there may be a time limit imposed on the construction of the new bridge. D Construction is working on preliminary pricing.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY - HIGGINS:

Commissioner Higgins advised that school is starting and asked the public to be aware of the kids when they are traveling through town. Two officers will be driving around in the morning and again in the afternoon when school lets out.

Commissioner Higgins presented an Ordinance Amending the Text of the Zoning Ordinance Regulating the Use of Intermodal Containers as Permanent Structures. Currently there are no sea containers allowed in town. This amendment would allow sea containers for commercial properties, like with the industrial park. The Zoning Committee will bring this back up at their next meeting.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS - OLSON:

A motion as made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-28, Ordinance for Working Cash Fund.

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 an expenditure to Grundy County Chamber in the amount of \$200.00 for advertising in the Community Guide.

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

Nays: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Callahan to adjourn the August 17, 2021 council meeting at 6:27 p.m.

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

Nays: None



Nancy A. Gross, Recording Secretary