

Seneca Village Council held a regularly scheduled Council meeting at Seneca Village Hall on December 7, 2021 and the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Commissioner Victor

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. Weber and seconded by Comm. Callahan to approve the November 16, 2021 council meeting minutes as presented.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Victor

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve the November 29, 2021 special council meeting minutes as presented.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Victor

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: Victor

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS AND ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

COMMISSIONER CALLAHAN:

A motion was made by Comm. Callahan and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-35, Annual Tax Levy Ordinance.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Victor

Commissioner Callahan announced that the adoption of Amended Ordinance 21-32, Annual Bond Abatement Ordinance, was being passed until the next council meeting, as we are waiting for more information from the County Clerk's office.

COMMISSIONER WEBER:

Comm. Weber and Casey McCollom gave an update regarding the River Road replacement project. Casey advised that Chamlin has received IDOT's comments and updated plans have been submitted to IDOT. The anticipated timeline is: December 23 Chamlin will start advertising for bids; December 30 is the second publication date; January 17 the bids will be open; potential approval of the bids can be done as early as January 25, if a special meeting is scheduled, or on the next council meeting of February 1. There is an eight day waiting period between the bid opening and the approval of the bid. Potentially, IDOT will give their final approval by February 1st. There is an anticipated 45-day completion time for the project, weather permitting. The plans were revised to include a concrete approach slab due to the winter weather.

COMMISSIONER HIGGINS:

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Callahan to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-36, Ordinance Amending the Text of the Zoning Ordinance Regulating the Size of Accessory Buildings. This changes the size from 900 square feet to 1,000 square feet.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Victor

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve the adoption of Ordinance 21-37, Ordinance Amending the Text of the Zoning Ordinance Increasing the Fees for Variances. The fee is increasing from \$250.00 [sic] to \$500.00, which will now include the publication fees and a portion of the attorney's fees.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Victor

MAYOR OLSON:

A motion was made by Comm. Callahan and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve the adoption of a Resolution of Support for the Rebuild Downtowns & Main Streets Capital Grant. No funds will be contributed by the village.

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

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT AND NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC PROPERTY, WATER & SEWER - VICTOR:

In Comm. Victor's absence, Mayor Olson announced that Village Hall is offering gift certificates for water bill payments again this year. Donations can be made toward specific water customer accounts, or generally to a resident in need this year. Your donation can remain anonymous or you can be recognized on the gift certificate. This program was a great success last year and approximately \$2,500.00 in donations were received and applied toward customer accounts. Anyone interested can contact village hall for more information.

ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE - CALLAHAN:

None.

STREETS - WEBER:

A motion was made by Comm. Weber and seconded by Comm. Callahan to approve an expenditure to Chamlin & Associates in the amount of \$24,451.50 for engineering services related to River Road Bridge replacement. Casey advised that approximately three-quarters of the fees have been billed so far.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY - HIGGINS:

None.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS - OLSON:

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve an expenditure to Grundy County Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$100.00 for 2022 membership dues.

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

Nays: None

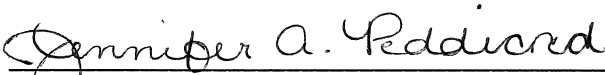
Absent: Victor

Mayor Olson announced that letters of interest will be accepted until January 4, 2022 for a Planning Commission vacancy and a Park Board vacancy.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Doug Kalwa addressed the council regarding the ongoing problem with semis parking overnight at the BP station.

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Callahan to adjourn the December 7, 2021 council meeting. A voice vote was held. All ayes. No nays. The council meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.



Jennifer A. Peddicord, Village Clerk