

The Seneca Village Council held a regularly scheduled Council meeting at Seneca Village Hall on September 6, 2022 and the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Attorney Robert Russo, 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 to approve the August 16, 2022 council meeting minutes as presented.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Weber and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve the payment of bills as presented. Comm. Weber thanked Ferguson's SuperBowls for providing port-a-potties to the Park Board at a significant discount.

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

Nays: None

**BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION:**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS AND ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:**

**Presentation by Clerk Jennifer Peddicord:**

- 1) Clerk Peddicord announced that petition packets will be available on September 20, 2022 for circulation for the positions of mayor and four commissioner seats. Individuals may file for these offices with the Village Clerk during the filing period running from December 12 to December 19, 2022. Village Hall will remain open until 5:00 p.m. on December 19, 2022, the last day of filing.
- 2) Clerk Peddicord gave a statement regarding the recent confusion related to electrical aggregation. Comm. Weber brought to the public's attention that electrical aggregation was voted on and approved by Seneca taxpayers in 2011. The village has been entering into electrical aggregation contracts with various suppliers since that time.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Higgins: A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Victor to approve the adoption of Ordinance 22-12, An Ordinance Approving a Minor Subdivision at the Request of Shipyard Industrial Park, Inc. Relating to Real Property Located in the Village of Seneca. This property is owned by George Lamb and consists of a building being subdivided into four separate parcels.

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

Nays: None

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

**PUBLIC PROPERTY, WATER & SEWER - VICTOR:**

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve the adoption of Resolution No. 605, A Resolution Adopting a Field Use Policy. This policy gives precedent to locally based teams over out of town teams.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve an expenditure to Silver Auto Sales & Service in the amount of \$12,514.00 for a box truck for the water department. Comm. Victor advised that this motion is being made with the stipulation that further inspection of the vehicle will be made before making a decision. The box truck the village currently owns is 42 years old with holes in the floor.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Weber to approve an expenditure to Stanley Steemer in the amount of \$1,825.00 for vent cleaning at village hall. Comm. Victor checked with two other companies, but they do not do businesses. There are 70 vents in village hall and they have never been cleaned. Covid money will cover this service.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve an expenditure to ComEd in the amount of \$6,113.55 for damage to ComEd wires at 350 S. Market Street. This accident occurred on August 31, 2021. The area that was being worked in was JULIE'd. This claim is being turned into insurance and the motion is being approved in the event the insurance company does not cover the claim.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve an expenditure to Republic Services in the amount of \$3,943.32 for sludge fees.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Wood to approve an expenditure to Underground Pipe & Valve Co. in the amount of \$4,224.00 for parts for water repairs.

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

Nays: None

**ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE - WEBER:**

A motion was made by Comm. Weber and seconded by Comm. Victor to approve an expenditure to Revise LLC in the amount of \$1,525.00 for website costs for first year. Clerk Peddicord advised that she has completed training on the website and control of the website has been turned over to her. She anticipates that the website will go live before October 1 and offers some great new features that are user friendly.

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

Nays: None

**STREETS - WOOD:**

A motion was made by Comm. Wood and seconded by Comm. Higgins to approve an expenditure to Tobey's Construction & Cartage, Inc. in the amount of \$119,965.36 for River Road bridge repair final payment. Comm. Weber pointed out that this project came in under budget by \$11,500.00.

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

Nays: None

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY - HIGGINS:**

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Victor to approve an expenditure to Grundy County ETSB in the amount of \$9,027.55 for STARCOM subscription.

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

Nays: None

A motion was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Wood to approve a stipend for Officer Kelsey Kowalski in the amount of \$1.00 per hour for drone licensing, when using the drone. Comm. Higgins advised that in the event of an emergency, Officer Kowalski will be using the drones recently purchased by the Police Department. The stipend will apply only when operating the drones during an emergency.

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

Nays: None


**PUBLIC AFFAIRS – OLSON:**

Mayor Olson gave an update regarding the village cracking down on problem properties in town. Numerous letters have been sent out by the Police Department, the Zoning officer, and the village attorney. The letters pertain to abandoned boats, abandoned vehicles, grass and weeds, fences falling down, and sheds in disrepair. 75% of residents do cooperate. Unfortunately, there are some residents that will ultimately receive tickets and be required to appear in court. Attorney Russo advised that he is looking at updating ordinances that will give the village more teeth with regard to some of these issues.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

A motion was made by Comm. Weber and seconded by Comm. Higgins to adjourn the September 6, 2022 council meeting. A voice vote was held. All ayes. No nays. The council meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.



Jennifer A. Peddicord, Village Clerk