

## **Minutes**

**8 West Main Street, Gowanda, NY 14070**

**September 9, 2021**

**Budget Workshop: 6:00pm**

**Public Hearing: CDBG 7:00pm**

**All stand for the Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Roll Call:**

Supervisor: John T. Walgus: present

Councilperson: Theresa A. Girome: present

Councilperson: Gloria J. Tomaszewski: present

Councilperson: Robert O. Dingman: present

Councilperson: Seth H. Howard: present

### **Others present:**

Town Clerk: Denise M. Trumpore

Chuck Bell: H Sicherman/ The Harrison Studio

Wanda Koch: The Wicked Glen

Jack Broyles

Jarek Howard

Tenley Howard

**Supervisor John T. Walgus:** \* I open the floor for public comment on the Public Hearing for the CDBG application approval for a micro-brewery at 29 South Water Street. Mr. Chuck Bell, Senior Vice-President of the H Sicherman/The Harrison Studio will be speaking about the CDBG application along with Wanda Koch from the Wicked Glen. \* I have processed payroll and paid the prepays. \* As part of the town's effort to apply for FEMA funding for flood mitigation projects in the town along with Cattaraugus County, the Planning and Zoning board will be tasked to formulate a flood ordinance. I have asked Cattaraugus County Emergency Services and Cattaraugus County Economic Development Dept. for help with this project. The Planning and Zoning Board will also need to review the marijuana law. \* I have enclosed in your packets answers to last month's questions on the purchasing of a new copy machine. \* Good Neighbor Tree Service has performed the grubbing work of Thatcher Brook from the trash rack south towards Van Etten Road. \* In your packets are questions and answers from a

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ZOOM meeting I attended with Senator Borello regarding the new marijuana laws of NYS. In our conversation with Senator Borello he was dead set against any marijuana dispensaries. All the supervisors and mayors who attended the meeting were against the new dispensary law and all opted out or intend to opt out after holding a public hearing. The new law states you cannot be in possession of more than 3oz's of marijuana and must pay a 13% sales tax fee. \* The annual Cattaraugus County Farmer-Neighbor dinner will be held on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the West Valley Fire Hall beginning at 5:30pm. \* The Dog Control Officer would like to know if anyone has an old Verizon smartphone they are not using. She has transferred the DCO phone number to her AT&T smartphone, but it doesn't work very well within her area with AT&T. She explains it would be much easier to use a Verizon installed smartphone. Both the DCO and Judge Schindler have transferred the town phone numbers to their personal smartphones instead of using the town owned flip phones. \* The bids for the water well at the highway garage were opened on September 7<sup>th</sup> at noon, \* I ask for a budget workshop on October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. \* We will need a resolution tonight for two budget transfers; \$30.00 from A1990.4 – Contingent to A1220.4 – Supervisor - Contractual and \$72.00 from A1990.4 – Contingent to A1410.4 – Town Clerk – Contractual.

**Highway Superintendent Daniel H. Ackley:** \*absent \*from notes. \* Sorry I couldn't make it to tonight's meeting. I am hosting a foreign exchange student from Germany, and I wanted to be there when he steps foot on USA soil. \* Backhoe is back in service, but I haven't had the chance to try it out yet. \* Removed gravel and woody material out of trash rack. \* Skid paving on Point Peter Road. \* Called Wilky Well Drilling on cost per foot if well depth went over 300', the price would stay the same. \* Just a side note – In that area of Persia water is a gamble at a reasonable depth and deep wells usually incorporate a water conditioner.

**Councilperson Theresa A. Girome:** \*I attended the Village Board meeting on September 9<sup>th</sup>; Mayor Smith stated the construction for Dollar General might be completed by spring or summer of 2022. Also, there had been a nine-month study concerning traffic and possible patrons at the location on Buffalo Street; therefore, parking and traveling in and out of the lot should not be an issue. \* The next Village meeting will take place at the Village Hall on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Councilperson Robert O. Dingman:** \* I reviewed the Water/Sewer District contract with the Village; I ask for authorization to proceed with the Village on the Town's behalf in coming to an intermunicipal agreement with the Village. I will contact the Village with questions on the contract and the Town Attorney on his recommendation. \* It is my understanding that the Village is going to now opt-out of the marijuana law.

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**Councilperson Seth H. Howard:** \*Read general bills. \* Read highway bills. \* Attended an Ambulance meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup>. \* I would like a resolution to have a budget workshop on October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

**Councilperson Gloria J. Tomaszewski:** \* Took an online Harassment seminar. \* I Received a resignation letter from Building Inspector Mel Shaw, therefore I would like a resolution to advertise for a new Building Inspector.

**Assessor Kate Harrington:** (by email) \* School bills were mailed on September 1<sup>st</sup>. This release of school taxes, the first to be issued from the new tax bill, can make some assessment errors obvious (e.g., missing STAR exemption). If you notice that an error has been made, please notify our office immediately. \* Corresponded with several property owners about their assessments, tax bills, and exemptions. \* Added seven property transfers for the month of July.

**Town Clerk Denise M. Trumpore:** \*

Total transactions for August - 137

Total Collected: \$ 2,720.00

Towns Portion: \$ **854.04**

\*I ask for a resolution to accept the minutes from August 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Chuck Bell: H. Sicherman/ The Harrison Studio:** \* Talked with the Town Board members on the CDBG application. Request was made to move forward on the application. NYS Office of Community Renewal administers the CDBG. Some points to keep in mind if the application is approved and what it entails. –

- The town would have to have a Fair Housing policy in place.
- The town would have to have a American Disabilities Act policy in place.
- The town would have to set-up a non-bearing interest account with the bank.
- The town will monitor the project.
- Application will be for \$100,000.00 - \$16,000 of that is for administrative costs, which the town can submit for reimbursement of work they do.
- Chuck Bell would prepare the application and the Town would then submit it to New York State Office of Community Renewal on Wanda Koch's behalf.

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- Town could hire a consultant to oversee project- which is what H Sichertman/ The Harrison Studio does. Consultant would protect the towns interest.
- Has potential to create jobs and growth in the town.
- Would be a 2-year project.

**Jack Broyles:** Regarding the CDBG application, stated he felt the Village would first have to approve this before moving forward since it is under Village Zoning laws. He remembers an individual who tried to open a micro-brewery in the Village, and it was opposed. \* Stated he would work with Bob Dingman on the Water/Sewer District contract with the Village.

**RESOLUTION # 68 Audit of Claims**

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

The following was

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Howard, Tomaszewski, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED that the bills contained on Abstract #9 for General and Highway have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:**

**Abstract 9- General Vouchers # 129 to # 139 Total: \$ 7,535.60**

**Abstract 9- Highway Vouchers # 47 to # 53 Total: \$ 26,696.55**

**RESOLUTION #69 Approval of Minutes**

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Howard, Tomaszewski, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS - 0

**RESOLVED to approve the minutes from August 12, 2021.**

**RESOLUTION # 70 Financial Report**

On a motion of Councilperson Tomaszewski

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Tomaszewski, Girome, Howard, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS - 0

**RESOLVED to accept the financial report for August 2021.**

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**RESOLUTION # 71 CDBG application**

On a motion of Councilperson

Seconded by Councilperson

ADOPTED AYES –

NAYS –

**RESOLVED to submit an CDBG application on Wanda Koch's behalf to the New York State Office of Community Renewal for a micro-brewery at 29 South Water Street.**

**RESOLUTION # 72 Budget transfers**

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Howard

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Dingman, Howard, Girome, Tomaszewski, Walgus

NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED to transfer \$30.00 from A1990.4 – Contingent to A1220.4 – Supervisor – Contractual and \$72.00 from A1990.4 – Contingent to A1410.4 – Town Clerk – Contractual.**

**RESOLUTION # 73 Water/Sewer Intermunicipal agreement**

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Howard

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Dingman, Howard, Girome, Tomaszewski, Walgus

NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED to authorize Bob Dingman to negotiate with the Village on an Water/Sewer Intermunicipal agreement.**

**RESOLUTION # 74 Building Inspector**

On a motion of Councilperson Tomaszewski

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Tomaszewski, Girome, Howard, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED to advertise for a Building Inspector.**

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**RESOLUTION # 75 Workshop**

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Dingman

ADOPTED                   AYES – 5 Howard, Dingman, Girome, Tomaszewski, Walgus

NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED to have a budget workshop on October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.**

**RESOLUTION #76 Wilky Water Well Drilling**

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED                   AYES –5 Howard, Girome, Tomaszewski, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED for Dan Ackley to talk with Wilky Well Drilling regarding the bid they submitted to the town.**

Hearing no objection, Supervisor Walgus closed the public hearing and the meeting in memory of town resident Allan VanEtten at 8:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise M. Trumpore

Town Clerk

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