

The Seneca Falls Town Board held two Public Hearings and a regular monthly Meeting on Thursday, November 5, 2020 at the Seneca Falls Community Center, 35 Water Street.

Present were Supervisor Michael Ferrara; Councilpersons Dawn Dyson, Douglas Avery, David DeLelys and Steven Churchill. Also present were Patrick Morrell, Attorney for the Town; James Spina, Commissioner of Parks and Recreation; James Peterson, Highway Superintendent; Stuart Peenstra, Police Chief; Deborah VonWald, Assessor; Beverly Warfel, Senior Account Clerk and Peter Baker, Town Engineer.

Public Hearing – 2021 Preliminary Budget: Supervisor Ferrara stated the Town's contribution for health care was reduced from 90% to 85%. There is a 1.3% raise for employees, and some staff cuttings were made. Budget will be subsidized with Landfill revenue, and \$300,000 was added from the Tax Stabilization fund.

A motion was made to open the Public Hearing relative to the 2021 Preliminary Budget at 6:02 P.M. by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Gregory Lazzaro stated we need a long-term plan for the future of Seneca Falls. Loss revenue and lawsuits are not a way to solve problems. We need to have a strategic look at Seneca Falls personnel, and need to have a plan on how and when to decrease staff and avoid layoffs at all costs. Mr. Lazzaro said the future of Seneca Falls is up to the Board with their input – he hopes the Board can come up with a good plan.

Mr. Lazzaro stated at his first budget hearing, he asked what was the retail value of an automobile that was assigned to a department. He was told it did not matter because the vehicle was leased. He said logic states that the higher cost of the vehicle, the more expensive the lease will be, so it will affect the budget.

Mr. Lazzaro said we must have a good relationship with Seneca Meadows. They have a right to protect their business just as the other two businesses up there. You must divest from any lawsuit that we are engaging in with Seneca Meadows and negotiate a fair and equitable agreement. Mr. Lazzaro referred to the pandemic and the National health care crisis, and said you shouldn't raise the premiums from 10% to 15% during this pandemic. Also, most of the time, premiums go up each year because the cost of health insurance goes up each year. Now, the employees will be paying 15% on top of that cost increase, if there is a cost increase.

Mr. Ferrara said there is an increase in health insurance. He said nobody is eliminating anyone's health insurance – it's asking for a little bit more of a contribution. Mr. Ferrara said the previous administration started a policy of leasing vehicles for the Police Department. When he took Office, he didn't see any long-term plan - the previous administration never had a long-term plan as well. He added this administration will have a long-term plan. There is no doubt that there needs to be a long-term economic plan for Seneca Falls starting in January or February, looking at how spending can be cut moving forward.

Anwei Law – It's a Wonderful Life Museum: Anwei Law read a couple of quotes from people who had visited the Museum. She thanked the Board for their contribution to the Museum last year. She mentioned that they don't receive any government assistance because they don't have a payroll – they don't have paid employees; all who work at the museum do so voluntarily. All they received was \$1,000 from the EIDL. Mrs. Law said the Town's contribution helped them tremendously. They are very concerned that they have been cut 65% in the Budget. The Town Board has initially given them \$5,000 for their roll in the Festival, which is sizeable. They have more expenses than anyone else because they pay for all the actors to come here and a lot of the activities.

Mrs. Law said in essence, considering that the Board is giving them \$7,000 next year, it's only \$2,000 towards the Museum and \$5,000 towards the Festival which is difficult for them to comprehend. In 2019, they had 13,000 visitors; this year, at this point, we are at 2,000. It's important for her to talk about how much the Museum spreads the message of It's a Wonderful Life and the connections to Seneca Falls. They are planning for the 75th Anniversary next year, and to have such a cut is really hard. She mentioned that this year, they are having a virtual festival and created a 3-day program. She talked about some of the programs that are on their website. Mrs. Law urged the Board to reconsider this – it's so important for them, going into the 75th Anniversary year.

Mr. Ferrara thanked Mrs. Law and all for what they do. He doesn't think there is anyone here that does not believe in the importance of the It's a Wonderful Life Museum and the whole festival. Obviously, it's an intricate part of Seneca Falls. He asked if there was any savings in the budget this year because they were not bringing in any actors that is a high expense. Mrs. Law replied there are expenses with a virtual festival. Mr. Ferrara said they are not the same level. Mrs. Law replied fairly – maybe a little less. She added there are other kinds of expenses. She thanked the Board for their support.

Rhonda Destino: Rhonda Destino stated due to the pandemic, they have many supporters that didn't feel comfortable coming to the Meeting, but wrote to all of the Board as their representatives to express their support of the vision and the direction of where they are headed as the Town's Visitors Center. Many asked her for an update after last week's Budget Workshop, and at that point in the conversation, they still wanted to support that number of \$120,000 instead of \$108,000. Ms. Destino said she is here to represent those supportive taxpayers who wrote to the Board thanking them for their consideration and also for hearing them out. The Board has heard from her a lot with details. This work of tourism is such a huge asset to the Town.

Ms. Destino stated New York State tourism, before the pandemic, generated \$8.9 billion in State and Local taxes in 2019, saving each NYS household an average of \$1,221 in taxes. They hope to help our local economy bounce back after the pandemic consequences through directing visitors and providing them a wonderful experience as much as they can. She thanked the Board for all their work and support of their tourism-based organization.

Barb Reese: Barb Reese stated she serves the Town on the Waste Management Advisory Committee. She attended the Budget Workshop last week and listened to concerns, cuts being made and trying to figure out how to save some money in the 2021 Budget. She sent the Board a letter regarding her concerns, and thanked them for responding to her. Mrs. Reese urged the Board to reconsider their Budget for 2021. She said each year we face the same budget issue, and all these years there were discussions about the landfill closing, but haven't come up with a plan yet for how we are financially going to do this. If we keep using the money they give us, she feels we will not be financially independent of Seneca Meadows.

Mrs. Reese urged the Board to approve a budget that shows we are being responsible in our planning for the closure of Seneca Meadows by 2025. She requested that the Board consider reducing the \$1.8 million of Landfill revenue that was put into the draft to show that we are shifting some of that responsibility onto the taxpayers. We need to start making adjustments now.

Mr. Ferrara mentioned that besides the revenue part of it, there is also the approach that everybody keeps neglecting which is the environmental issue. A lot of work has to be done on the environmental side as well as the budgetary side. He said we are supposed to be working on a plan of where is our garbage going to go; do we need a transfer station. Further discussion followed relative to environmental issues.

Mark Pitifer: Mark Pitifer stated he is here on behalf of the Bonfiglia Family, Bonadent and Members of Responsible Solutions of Seneca Falls, all of whom would like to express shared sentiment as it relates to the 2021 Budget. As a community, we voted that Local Law #3 be upheld to ensure the 2025 closure of the Landfill. By 2025, the Landfill will likely exceed 74 million tons of trash. Mr. Pitifer stated as a community, they don't want garbage casting a shadow on our true resources – tourism, wine trails, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Women's Hall of Fame*, *National Historical Park* and many others. Mr. Pitifer said we need to wean off the Landfill revenue. Please listen to your citizens who ask that in the best interest of Seneca Falls, you work collaboratively to revise the proposed Budget and try to build a more responsible path towards a budget that does not rely on garbage. Mr. Pitifer said if we stay the course of Local Law #3 for Landfill closure in 2025, then we need to take these last five years to wean off this dependency and create a responsible economic pathway to become trash free.

Mr. Ferrara mentioned that Mr. Pitifer said the Community voted for Local Law #3. Mr. Pitifer said he misspoke – the Community supported it. Mr. Ferrara stated people are concerned about the Landfill, as he is. There are many, many people in our Community who are economically disadvantaged – not everybody can afford the same level of increases that other people can. He represents all the people of Seneca Falls, not just people who come to a meeting and speak.

Frank Sinicropi: Frank Sinicropi stated the five people on this Board are making a decision for the whole Town. The Landfill is an issue that concerns the whole Community. He said this would have been a perfect year to have a referendum on the ballot – why can't the people who live here decide what they want to do with Local Law #3. Mr. Ferrara said he doesn't think it's legal – it's not binding. Mr. Sinicropi went on to say the people in this Community should decide, not the five people here; less than 1/10 of 1% of the population in this Community is in this room. He doesn't want to see taxes go up 43%, it's ridiculous. It's imperative that we start planning because there isn't going to be any money in 2025, one way or another. He added we should have a vote to decide. Mr. Ferrara again stated it would be a non-binding vote – it would be more like a straw vote. Mr. Sinicropi said at least you would know what the majority of the people want. Further discussion followed.

Kyle Black: Kyle Black presented a check for \$896,000 to the Board which represents the third quarter payment. He said this year, it brings the total to about \$2.3 million; with the fourth quarter projection, it brings the total to a little over \$3 million. He added due to the fact that they are an essential service, they are still delivering that tax revenue to the Town. Mr. Black asked how much money is placed in the budget – both operating and

reserves. Mr. Ferrara replied he thinks we budgeted \$3.3 million. Mr. Black said that number is high – he hates to see the Board come up short. He added it's very important that communication happens, especially this time of the year with the budget and the amount you are putting in. Since he hasn't had any communication from the Town asking how much money it's going to be – it's about \$3 million next year. Mr. Ferrara stated it won't impact the Budget if the Board moves forward with the Preliminary Budget - \$1.5 million is in operating and the rest is in reserves. Mr. Black said he wants to make sure he gives the Board the right numbers.

Mr. Avery stated in order to absorb this, he would like the Board to not deal with the Budget tonight. He is requesting another meeting before November 20th in order to take the comments that people have made and absorb them, and go back and look at the Budget. Mr. Churchill agreed with Mr. Avery.

Brad Jones sent an accolade to Mr. Avery for saying tonight is not the night to pass a budget. He said there wasn't even a notice in the Finger Lakes Times, the official public paper, that the Public Hearing was being held this evening. Mr. Ferrara said Mr. Jones just made an accusation – he is 100% sure that the Public Notice was not in the paper. Mr. Jones said he didn't see it – did anyone see it in the paper. The Town Clerk said it was in last Thursday's Finger Lakes Times – she sent the notice in.

Mr. Jones said he is here to offer his services. He said you have people as taxpayers that can come up with the cuts of \$1.4 million this year – don't kick the can down the road again. He offers his services along with Board Members to come up with sufficient cuts. Mr. Ferrara stated after the last Meeting, he reached out to Mr. Jones and told him to meet at his Office to start working on the \$1.4 million, which he didn't do. As he has said before, Mr. Ferrara said that we need to start planning for 2022 in January. Brief discussion followed.

The Board agreed to hold a Special Meeting to discuss the Budget on Friday, November 13, 2020 at 5:30 P.M. at the SF Community Center.

Since there were no further comments, a motion was made to close the Public Hearing at 7:52 P.M. relative to the 2021 Preliminary Budget by Doug Avery and seconded by Dave DeLelys. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Public Hearing – Proposed Local Law #8: At 7:52 P.M., a motion was made by Doug Avery and seconded by Dave DeLelys to open the Public Hearing relative to proposed Local Law #8, a local law to override the tax levy limit established by General Municipal Law. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Ferrara asked if there was any public comment. Since there was no public comment, a motion was made to close the Public Hearing at 7:54 P.M. by Doug Avery and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Supervisor Ferrara called the regular monthly Meeting to order at 7:55 P.M. A roll call of Board Members was taken and all were present; the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Petitioners:

Valerie Sandlas – SF Environmental Action Committee Concerns: Valerie Sandlas stated on behalf of the SF Environmental Action Committee, she is here to address their concerns that Seneca Meadows continues to operate illegally in Seneca Falls. SMI is currently in violation of both Seneca Falls Town Code and New York State Code, along with the Host Agreement, by allowing noxious odors to leave its property. Mrs. Sandlas quoted Town Code and State Code regarding odors. She said gas emissions from Seneca Meadows are endangering our health as verified by the NYS Health Department. She mentioned some of the incidents when gas emissions were detected and said it's unhealthy, it's unacceptable and it's illegal. She requested that the Board take action – contact the DEC Region 8 Solid Waste Manager, the DEC Commissioner in Albany, and inform them that SMI is operating illegally. Mrs. Sandlas added the Board should implement a reliable odor reporting system that the Citizens of Seneca Falls can rely on when they call. She said demonstrate to Seneca Falls and the Children that you care more about them than Seneca Meadows.

Mr. Ferrara stated he has introduced an odor detection system, and is trying to connect the Board with a vendor – it's not cheap. He said if we want to pinpoint the issue and identify what the gases are and where they are specifically coming from, it's going to take some money. Mrs. Sandlas stated in short-term, we need an odor reporting system or a website that our residents can feel confident in. Brief discussion followed.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Public Hearings and Meeting of October 1, 2020 by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Doug Avery. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Budget Workshop of October 6, 2020 by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Doug Avery. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of October 19, 2020 by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Dave DeLelys. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting and Budget Workshop of October 20, 2020 by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Doug Avery. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Ferrara thanked the SF School District and Superintendent Clingerman for helping out a couple of the Town's Staff to get their CDL license at no expense.

Mr. Ferrara said Mr. Churchill was asking about the Dell Contract – there is one more year left on that. He said Mr. Avery was wondering about other communities charging for boating – they are not charging.

Mr. Ferrara said Mr. Jones was referring that municipalities should be paying for infrastructure charges which is illegal because they are not part of our district; the users are part of our district. He added there are eight users on the 414 sewer line and three users on 318; it generates \$250,000 a year for the Water and Sewer Budget.

Reports:

Dog Control Officer: *A motion was made to accept the Dog Control Officer's report by Doug Avery and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.*

Zoning Officer: *A motion was made to accept the Zoning Office report by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dawn Dyson.*

Mr. Ferrara stated Mr. Zettlemoyer is still out of work based on a medical issue; Kim Rose and the Town Clerk have been helping out. He thanked both for their help in this situation.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dawn Dyson to accept the Zoning Office report was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Commissioner of Parks & Recreation: *A motion was made to accept Mr. Spina's report by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Dave DeLelys.*

Mr. Spina stated on Saturday, the Parks & Recreation Staff worked in partnership with the SF Business Association and they were able to put together a Halloween Walk in the Park Program in Peoples Park. There were 278 children all accompanied by adults; 27 Seneca Falls Businesses and local service agencies handed out candy. The entire Parks & Recreation Staff was involved, as well as ten volunteers, including five SF students. Mr. Spina said the Program was great, and they had a lot of great comments and a lot of thanks for the opportunity for kids to wear their costumes, and a lot of parents who did not feel they had to send their kids around to neighborhoods to get candy. Mr. Spina thanked the SF Business Association, his Staff, Volunteers and the Town Board for allowing them to put together these programs the best they can in a really tough time.

Mr. Ferrara stated with the pandemic, there is COVID-19 Crisis Committee at the County level; any event that goes on in the County has to get approval from this Committee. He said Mr. Spina and his Staff did a great job with the plan that was approved by the Committee.

Mr. Ferrara stated he, Mr. Spina and Mr. Passalacqua met to talk about Vince's Park. He said there are serious issues with the pool that needs to be addressed if we are going to open the pool – we are looking at close to a \$200,000 investment in the pool to make it operational. Mr. Ferrara suggested the Board talk to Mr. Spina or Mr. Passalacqua who can give them any data that they may be looking for.

The above motion made by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Dave DeLelys to accept Mr. Spina's report was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Highway Superintendent: *A motion was made to accept Mr. Peterson's report by Doug Avery and seconded by Dawn Dyson.*

Mr. Avery stated Mr. Peterson gave the Board a list of things that were done. He mentioned the Leaf and Brush pickup that is coming up. Mr. Peterson said it will be on November 16th, one day only; leaves and brush should be out the night before. Mr. Avery mentioned that the parking restrictions will go into effect November 1st.

Mr. Spina said he wanted to thank Mr. Peterson and his Crew who have been servicing their lawn mowers and making sure everything is good for winter – their Staff really appreciates it.

The above motion made by Doug Avery and seconded by Dawn Dyson to accept Mr. Peterson's report was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Assessor: A motion was made to accept Mrs. Von Wald's report as presented by Steve Churchill and seconded by Michael Ferrara.

Mrs. Von Wald mentioned the Senior/Aged program which is based on income for seniors 65 years of age or older. The County is presenting, and the towns have to agree, and it has to be wrapped up by the end of December; she sent everybody the current scale and the new scale for income for seniors. Mrs. Von Wald said they lost about 8 or 9 people the last exemption period; Social Security went up and knocked them out.

Mrs. Von Wald said she included in her report State Law 467 (Senior/Aged exemption) and 459-C (Disability) for the Board to review. Mr. Morrell stated the County is in the middle of the process to change the scale. He added there is no requirement that the Town mirror the County's scale and numbers, but it makes things a lot simpler and more uniform and a lot more workable if they are the same. He recommends that the Town move forward with a local law. He will prepare a local law for the December Meeting. Brief discussion followed.

The above motion made by Steve Churchill and seconded by Michael Ferrara to accept Mrs. VonWald's report was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Attorney for the Town: Mr. Morrell noted there are several matters that are coming up on the Agenda that will be addressed as they come up. He referred to what was brought up during the comment period and said New York State Law has specific topics and subjects that can be subject to a referendum. A referendum is a specific thing when there is a vote and that vote determines the outcome. There is a very limited number of subjects that that's allowed for, and what is being discussed here this evening, basically the Budget process, is not one of those subjects where that is an allowable thing. Mr. Morrell said if the Board or the residents of the Town wanted to engage in some type of straw vote, that could be a good thing to gage what the Community is thinking, but the outcome of that vote would not be binding on anybody – it would be for informational purposes only.

Mr. Ferrara asked about 115 Fall Street. Mr. Morrell replied at last month's Meeting, the Board passed a resolution to accept a purchase offer on the property; that is one of the topics that would be subject to a permissive referendum. He said the permissive referendum period has passed, and the Town did not receive any petitions or anything challenging this purchase offer. He added the acceptance of the purchase offer is now effective. He will be working with the Realtor and the Buyer's Attorneys and that process can move forward.

Water & Sewer: Mr. Avery stated he and Mr. Ferrara met with Mr. Tullo before he went on vacation. There are a couple of things from Barton & Loguidice to move forward on tonight. The generator for the Auburn Road Water Plant is underway. He said the algae season has passed. Mr. Varricchio mentioned that they had no issues with that this year – they spent money to fight it. Brief discussion followed.

Town Justices: A motion was made to accept Judge Lafler and Judge Erway's reports by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Doug Avery.

Mr. DeLelys stated there were 61 cases in Wednesday's Court, and 51 cases on Monday; two Jury trials are coming up. Mr. Ferrara mentioned that training for the new Judge starts December 2nd or 3rd.

The above motion made by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Doug Avery to accept Judge Lafler and Judge Erway's reports was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Police Chief: A motion was made to accept Chief Peenstra's report by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Doug Avery.

Mr. DeLelys thanked the Police Department for helping out on the Halloween in the Park event. Later on, the Board will take action on two items on the Agenda – surplus vehicle and a Taser agreement.

Chief Peenstra announced that the Department was awarded \$2,935 this year for the Federal Bulletproof Vest

Partnership program that they apply for every year. He thanked Mr. Spina and the SF Business Association for Saturday's event; it was a beautiful day and the kids had a great time.

Chief Peenstra stated as per the Executive Order 203 by the Governor, a survey was sent out with all the Law Enforcement of Seneca County, and they are compiling those results and hope to post something Monday.

The above motion made by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Doug Avery to accept Chief Peenstra's report was carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Barton & Loquidice: Mr. Baker stated next week they will be talking to SCADA vendors. Mr. Ferrara mentioned that Phase 2 of the Sidewalk Program is still going on. He, Chief Peenstra and Mr. Peterson will be meeting with Matt Schooley of B&L tomorrow to answer any questions; Phase 1 still has to be cleaned up.

MRB Grant Writing Services: A motion was made to accept the report of MRB Grant Writing Services by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dawn Dyson.

Mr. Ferrara stated they have been working on trying to find some grants for Restvale Cemetery for restoration. We started the process with the Town Clerk and Kim DeVay of looking at our records problem and trying to find some grants for digitizing records.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dawn Dyson to accept the report of MRB for Grant Writing Services was carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Mr. Ferrara welcomed a new business in Seneca Falls which opened up today – Bayard Donuts; the Owner is Chris Wagner and his Family.

Seneca Falls Development Corporation: A motion was made to accept the report of the SF Development Corporation by Doug Avery and seconded by Michael Ferrara.

Mr. Avery referred to the DRI and noted that there is no news yet. He said since we lost so much of the Centennial Year for the 19th Amendment, they are going to make a big effort to push that celebration into 2021.

The above motion made by Doug Avery and seconded by Michael Ferrara to accept the report of the SF Development Corporation was carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Other Committee Reports: Mr. Avery stated the Waste Management Advisory Committee met on October 13th and had a special guest – Jacob Fox who is sustainability and composting specialist. He said regardless of whether or not the Landfill is still in existence, this is mostly about what we can do with organic waste to eliminate disposing of it in the Landfill. He added it was a very thought-provoking session for them.

Mr. Ferrara said the Community Advisory Committee looking at the feasibility of a Town Manager continues to meet; they meet next week. He noted the Planning/Zoning Citizen Group will meet next week as they continue to look at zoning changes to put us in the 21st Century.

Communications:

A motion was made to receive and file Communications numbered 1 to 4 by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Doug Avery. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves. Communications numbered 1 to 4 are as follows:

- 1. Network News from Cayuga Lake Watershed Network News.*
- 2. Copy of proposed Local Law #2-2020 amending the Land Use Control Map, from Don Trout, Supervisor, Town of Waterloo.*
- 3. Minutes of the Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting of September 22, 2020.*
- 4. Letter from NYS Department of State stating Local Law #4-2020 was received and filed.*

Dan Babbitt: Dan Babbitt stated his topic is the construction of a much needed new sewer line. He's glad Mr. Churchill mentioned that we all need to be informed about the four different options in order to make the best choice. He realizes Fall Street is fragile and a nightmare to upgrade a State route. The north side of Bayard Street would also be quite destructive, which leaves the Ludovico Trail and the south side of Bayard Street.

Mr. Babbitt said he understands the Ludovico Trail is a contentious issue, and he is hoping some opinions have changed so that we can at least discuss it as an option. This would benefit the Town by saving considerable money, with the added benefit of the least convenience to residents of the Town. It would also add

improvements to the Trail. Mr. Babbitt stated he is looking for the best use of our time and money with mutual cooperation expected from all.

Mr. Ferrara stated we are in the process of setting up an informative meeting for Board Members. After discussion as to possible dates to meet, the Board decided on the date of November 23, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. at the Community Center to review the Kingdom Road sewer line options. Brief discussion followed.

Old Business:

Sale of Surplus Property: Discussed earlier in the Meeting.

Town Demands Related to SMI License to Operate Landfill: Mr. Morrell stated he put together a letter, part of it having to do with the "It Stinks" website people; Mr. Churchill said to hold off on that as we need to talk to them to get more information about turning that into an app. He added most recently, there was an email from David Hou who had some suggestions as well.

Bayard Street Culvert Legal Update: Mr. Ferrara stated he has been in contact with Canal Corporation's Engineer, but hasn't heard back from him yet.

Kingdom Road Sewer Line Update: Discussed earlier in the Meeting – date has been set for a Meeting.

Proposed Local Law #5-2020, Local Law #6-2020 and Local Law #7-2020: Mr. Ferrara said we could not get them on the Seneca County Planning Board Agenda for October; they are on in November. Mr. Morrell stated the Board conducted a Public Hearing on all three Local Laws; after the County Planning Board's review, the Board can move forward at the next Meeting.

New Business:

Approval of Special Events: There were none.

2021 Preliminary Budget: Mr. Ferrara noted the Board will consider and look at it on November 13th. He suggested that if anyone had any questions, they should talk to him or Mrs. Warfel.

Proposed Local Law #8 – Override Tax Levy Limit: Mr. Morrell said this is the tax override - we don't know if it's going to be needed. He recommended that the Board adopt it, and it can always be withdrawn later if not used.

A motion was made to adopt Local Law #8 – 2020, a Local Law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law 3-C, by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Doug Avery. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

W/S – Purchase UV Disinfection Parts: A motion was made by Doug Avery and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Water/Wastewater Department is in need of UV disinfection system parts at the Water Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, the Department has funds in the Budget for this purchase.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board does hereby authorize the purchase of said parts from Koester Associates as a sole source supplier of Trojan UV equipment for \$6,104.36.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

W/S – Purchase Two Lutz-Jesco Pumps for PH Adjustment Project: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Water/Wastewater Department needs to purchase 2 Lutz-Jesco pumps for its PH adjustment project; and

WHEREAS, we received a sole source (letter of representation) and quote from CPE Service Systems Solutions for \$3,765.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the purchase of these pumps from CPE Service Systems Solutions for \$3,765.00.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

W/S – Purchase Pump for Auburn Road Water Tower: A motion was made by Doug Avery and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Auburn Road tower is in need of a new pump to supply water to the north side of Town; and

WHEREAS, the Water/Wastewater Department received two bids; Gatehouse Pumps of Seneca Falls was the low bidder at \$4,501.48.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board does hereby authorize the purchase of this pump from Gatehouse Pumps at a price of \$4,601.48.

Mr. Churchill asked if this money was budgeted; Mr. Ferrara replied yes.

The above motion made by Doug Avery and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the above resolution to purchase a pump for Auburn Road Water tower was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Waive 30-Day Advance Notice for Liquor License: A motion was made to waive the 30-day advance notice for application of a liquor license by Bayard & Bridge, LLC d/b/a Victory Market Café, by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Recreation – Removal of Trees from Academy Square: A motion was made to adopt the following resolution by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Doug Avery:

Be it resolved, that the Seneca Falls Town Board does hereby approve the removal of five trees from Academy Square by Lumber Mac Tree Service at a cost not to exceed the budgeted amount of \$3,520.

Mr. Ferrara stated Mr. Pasalacqua and Mr. Spina have identified five trees that need to be taken down because they are unsafe. Mr. Avery asked if there were any thoughts to replace them; Mr. Ferrara replied they discussed it. He thinks the best thing to do is to wait for the DRI because there's work to be done in Academy Square. Mr. Churchill asked if this was bid out; Mr. Ferrara replied the Town has a contract with Lumber Mac for tree service.

The above motion made by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Doug Avery to authorize the removal of trees from Academy Square was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Recreation – Purchase Laptop Computers: A motion was made by Doug Avery and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the following resolution:

Be it resolved, that the Seneca Falls Town Board does hereby approve the purchase of two laptop computers from Dell EMC at a cost not to exceed \$1,478.40. The purchase will be handled through the direction of the Town's Technology Department, specifically James Martin. The laptops being replaced will be repurposed in the Parks/Rec Department as an emergency backup and as a companion to the projector.

Mr. Spina stated the computers they have are 7 years old and 8 years old which are slow and need replacement. Mr. Martin will refurbish the computers so they can be used as backups. Mr. Churchill asked if they were State bid; Mr. Spina replied they are below State bid price. Mr. Churchill said that is a lot of money for a laptop.

The above motion made by Doug Avery and seconded by Dave DeLelys to approve the purchase of two laptop computers for the Recreation Department was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Purchase Telephone System for Conference Room: A motion was made to purchase a telephone system for the Conference Room by Doug Avery and seconded by Michael Ferrara.

Mr. Ferrara stated because of COVID, he thinks we are headed back in the direction where a lot of things will have to be done through Zoom meetings or remotely. He added this is a better way of communicating.

The above motion made by Doug Avery and seconded by Michael Ferrara to purchase a telephone system for the Conference Room was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made by Doug Avery and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, there is the possibility that we are entering into another phase of COVID-19 shutdown due to increased cases in the State; and

WHEREAS, it would greatly facilitate communication to have remote configuration and support for a telephone in the Conference Room to allow conference calls.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Seneca Falls Town Board does allow the following budget adjustment to the Supervisor's portion of the 2020 Town Budget: An increase to line item A1220.200 (Equipment) of \$250.00 by a transfer from line item A1220.404 (Education).

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Authorize Submitting RFPs for Engineering & Labor Law Services: Mr. Ferrara stated the Board discussed authorizing RFPs for Labor Law and Engineering services. The Town Clerk wants the Board to make it official.

Miscellaneous Fund - \$35,878.28 (Abstract #11)
Highway Fund - \$158,837.92 (Abstract #11)
Water Fund - \$76,581.79 (Abstract #11)
No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Vince's Park Fund - \$538.31 (Abstract #11)
Sewer Fund - \$453,083.44 (Abstract #11)

Being there was no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the Meeting by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

NICALETTA J. GREER
Town Clerk

The Seneca Falls Town Board held a Special Meeting on Friday, November 13, 2020 at the Seneca Falls Community Center, 35 Water Street.

Present were Supervisor Michael Ferrara; Councilpersons David DeLelys, Steven Churchill, Dawn Dyson and Doug Avery. Also present were Patrick Morrell, Attorney for the Town and Beverly Warfel, Principal Account Clerk.

Supervisor Ferrara called the Meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. A roll call of Board Members was taken and all were present; the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Mr. Ferrara congratulated Steven Kelley who was elected the second Town Justice. He thanked Tom Ellis for participating in the Election.

Mr. Ferrara stated he had a conversation with the Assessor about a reval. He requested that Mr. Churchill and Mrs. Dyson discuss a reval with the Assessor at their next Committee Meeting as there hasn't been one in four years. The issue is a lot of houses being sold are being sold for \$60,000-\$90,000 more than what they are assessed for. Mr. Ferrara mentioned that it is a 2-year process, and requested that the Committee report back to the Board in December. Mr. Avery asked if there has to be something in the Budget; Mr. Ferrara replied no – it might be a transfer at some point. He added there is an outside agency if the Board decides to go in that direction.

Resolution – Transfer of Funds: A motion was made to transfer \$2,400 from the Contingency Fund to the Cemetery Fund by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Doug Avery.

Mr. Ferrara explained that the Town has a small cemetery called the Kingdom Road Cemetery which is on Route 5 & 20; there are no headstones, and it has been ignored over the years. There are two trees in the cemetery that are very close to the neighbor's house, the Smith family. They have been maintaining the cemetery for many years by mowing, etc. Mr. Ferrara said we are not 100% sure the trees are ours., but to do a survey, will cost a similar kind of money. He said since it's debatable who owns the trees, he would like to have them removed; \$2,400 would take care of both trees.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Doug Avery to transfer \$2,400 from the Contingency Fund to the Cemetery Fund was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Ferrara stated if Brad Jones was here tonight, he would want to publicly apologize to the Town Clerk and the Town Board. At the October 29th Meeting, Mr. Jones claimed we did not have a Public Notice of our Meeting, which we did. It was in Finger Lakes Time, the Town's official newspaper.

Mr. Ferrara stated there has been some talk about an early incentive program for the Town as a solution to try to eliminate some positions through attrition, etc. His Office has been working on this; based on the criteria, there are twelve people that would be eligible. If the Board wants to pursue this, it would have to be in Executive Session. Based on his opinion, Mr. Ferrara said seven out of the 12 people would definitely have to be replaced.

