

celebration which the SFDC is coordinating with several other organizations. He said they are requesting that the Town provide the tools to do the job that the Board decided needs to be done when it passed the plan.

Mr. Lazzaro asked what they were requesting. Mr. Graziano responded:

- In Year 1, they are requesting the continued support of the Farmer's Market. Also, Economic Development Personnel/Contract which requires a 3-year commitment; 2020 19th Amendment Celebration Planner and Operating expenses for a total of \$438,970.
- In Year 2, they are requesting the continued support of Farmers' Market; 2020 19th Amendment Celebration Planner and Operating expenses for a total of \$46,900. (Mr. Graziano noted it drops significantly because the Economic Development Person/Contract is eliminated).
- In Year 3, it drops significantly to \$15,500 for Farmers' Market support and Operating expenses.

Mr. Lazzaro remarked that this is a pretty big amount that they are asking for. Mr. Graziano stated it's what the Board passed to do economic development – it's going to take an investment to do what they decided to do.

Mr. DeLelys asked if it can be split up over three years. Mr. Graziano replied the problem with splitting it up over three years is getting a commitment from a good qualified economic developer which will take a 3-year commitment. Mr. DeLelys asked about splitting it up over three years. Mr. Graziano said he doesn't know how that would work, but he is sure there is a way to do it. Mr. Avery said - otherwise, they would ask the Board to transfer all the money to them and they would hold it? Mr. Graziano responded yes.

Mr. Lazzaro stated there are other issues going on in this Town and it doesn't seem to be too business friendly. We have a Board appointed Board who is suing the Town. We have a company who he feels the Board is being belligerent to – refusing any sort of income from them to proceed in a sound and economic future. Mr. Lazzaro said he doesn't know how to move ahead when we don't know what kind of funds we are going to have for the rest of this year and years to come. Mr. Graziano said he thinks that makes the argument to move forward with a vision and a plan to get past where we are. Discussion followed.

Mr. Avery referred to the \$396,870 for the Economic Development Personnel/Contract, and said what if the Board funded one year of it, and if the Landfill money does resume, then fund the other two outside the Budget which would be a good use for some of those funds. Mr. Graziano stated this was scaled year after year which gave them the option of hiring someone as an employee. He said if it was divided into three, they can manage that.

Old Business:

IMA Agreement: Mr. Lazzaro stated this is the Intermunicipal Sewer Agreement with Seneca County, Seneca Falls, Tyre and Junius for wastewater treatment, operation and maintenance for the Route 318 and Route 414 municipal sewer system.

A motion was made authorizing the Town Supervisor to sign the Intermunicipal Sewer Agreement with Seneca County, Tyre and Junius for wastewater treatment, operation and maintenance of the Route 318 and Route 414 municipal sewer system by Greg Lazzaro and seconded by Lou Ferrara.

Mr. Baker stated the concept Agreement which was approved by the Board in September includes the new sewer on Route 318 along with the existing gravity sewer on Route 414. It provides a formalized agreement between Tyre, Seneca Falls, the County and Junius as far as how any new or existing users will be charged, what the cost would be to maintain those existing systems, provisions for the County to contract with the Seneca Falls Sewer Department to provide maintenance of the existing systems along there, provides provisions for billing at the current out-of-district rates that Seneca Falls has and there are provisions for connections of new users and provisions providing for, at least, an annual review of policies and operating.

Mr. Baker stated each individual town in the County have an agreement to sign; a similar resolution that went before the County Board last night was tabled. Lengthy discussion followed.

The above motion made by Greg Lazzaro and seconded by Lou Ferrara authorizing the Town Supervisor to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with Seneca County, Tyre and Junius for wastewater treatment, operation and maintenance of the Route 318 and Route 414 municipal sewer system was carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Engineering Services – Phase II Sidewalk Project: A motion was made to move ahead with choosing engineering services by Greg Lazzaro and seconded by Doug Avery. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Mr. Lazzaro indicated that they are reviewing the bids and will be sharing that with the Board.

New Business:

2019 Preliminary Budget: A motion was made to adopt the 2019 Preliminary Budget by Greg Lazzaro and seconded by Lou Ferrara.

Mr. Avery referred to the SF Development Corporation's request and said he doesn't see how, at this point in the process, the Board can absorb \$488,000; \$55,000 is in the Budget now. He thinks one-third should be put in the Budget.

A motion was made to amend the Preliminary Budget by increasing the Economic Development line item to a total of \$162,990.00 by Doug Avery and seconded by Dave DeLelys. No questions. Motion did not carry as the vote was 2 ayes, 3 nays; Supervisor Lazzaro, Councilmen Ferrara and Porretta with the dissenting vote.

Mr. Avery stated there has been a lot of talk about eliminating the full time positions of Town Attorney and IT Network Administrator. He recommended that a Committee be formed to look at the IT question and see if we are best served by full time, part-time, but still an employee or contractual. He added we have had this arrangement for a year, and he thinks now is the time to look at it.

Mr. Lazzaro stated in three years that he has been Supervisor, the Town has had two contractual which did not work because we didn't have a person inhouse. He thinks that person inhouse is valuable. He added in the first year of that, he thinks it has worked quite well, and he thinks those motions can be made in the future if the Board wants to look at it. Mr. Lazzaro said just because we have some people saying look at that and not others, he thinks we are coming at it from a lack of knowledge point of view vs. a constructive point of view.

Mr. Avery stated this position is unique because it has existed for only a year. He said the 2017 Budget had \$27,000 for contractual and 2018 Budget had \$48,000 for contractual; if \$40,000 was left in there, (his salary and benefits is \$66,800), there would be a savings of \$26,800, so it's a financial decision. He added if Mr. Lazzaro says it is good that he is here, let's look at it and see if the study bears that out. Mr. Lazzaro responded that we could make up committees to look at a lot. He thinks it's the wrong time to do it – to set up those committees.

A motion was made to defund the full time IT position and go to contractual services, leaving \$40,000 in that contractual line item by Doug Avery and seconded by Dave DeLelys.

Mr. Porretta said he would still like to have a committee look at it before we go to that point. He suggested a motion to have a committee look at it. Mr. Avery stated if we are not going to look at it, he will stick with the motion; if we are going to make concrete plans to examine this issue about that position because it is a new position, he will retract his motion. He wants to know if this one position in this size facility and this size of a program is worthy of full time employment – he is not talking about whether Marshall is worth it; he is talking about whether we should be spending that money.

Mr. Lazzaro said he would like to amend that motion to look at every department in this Town. Mr. Avery repeated that the circumstances surrounding this position are unique because it was just created.

Mr. Avery withdrew his motion to defund the full time IT position and go to contractual services, leaving \$40,000 in that contractual line item, and Mr. DeLelys withdrew his second to the motion.

A motion was made to form a committee to look at the current IT position we have here in the Town of Seneca Falls by Vic Porretta and seconded by Doug Avery. No questions. Motion carried 3 ayes, 2 nays; Supervisor Lazzaro and Councilman Ferrara with the dissenting vote.

Mr. Lazzaro stated he will appoint a committee after giving due diligence and thought.

Mr. Avery made a motion to defund the full time Town Attorney position. Mr. Lazzaro interrupted and moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss this issue. Mr. Avery told Mr. Lazzaro that this is a financial decision. He proceeded to quote from Town Law which states the reasons for Executive Session - "for the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or relating to appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline or removal" – that's the personnel part of it; the Board is making a financial decision. Mr. Avery said if \$60,000 was put in that budget line item for contractual, it would save almost \$31,000 in benefits and salary.

A motion was made to go into Executive Session to discuss this issue by Greg Lazzaro and seconded by Lou Ferrara. No questions. Motion did not carry as the vote was 2 ayes, 3 nays; Councilmen DeLelys, Avery and Porretta with the dissenting votes.

A motion was made to defund the full time Town Attorney position by Doug Avery.

Mr. Ferrara said his concern is if we go this way, there are a lot of irons in the fire; right now, we are walking through a vast number of minefields. His question is – what is plan B. Mr. Avery replied he would still be an employee until the end of December, and that gives the Board that amount of time to find an attorney or law firm - there are many out there who do this on a regular basis. We would go back to Attorney for the Town status rather than Town Attorney. Mr. Avery said the bigger issues have been farmed out to outside counsel.

After brief discussion, Mr. Lazzaro ruled this motion out of order – that’s the Chairman’s rule and he can do that. He is going to rule this motion out of order because he believes Mr. Avery discussed this with at least two other Board Members and that’s akin to having a quorum outside this Board Room. Mr. Avery stated he has never talked with two Board Members together. Mr. Lazzaro repeated that he is ruling this motion out of order because it is not germane to tonight’s discussion. Mr. Foster asked Mr. Avery if he had discussed this with two other Board Members at the same time; Mr. Avery replied no.

Mr. Lazzaro declared this motion out of order – he is making that ruling as a Chairperson.

Mr. Lazzaro stated this Budget increases taxes – keeps the taxes about the same, but if we don’t find out where we are going to get funding sources, we are lost for the future. He added with Members of this Board sitting on other boards who want to belittle businesses and economic development in this town, he doesn’t know where we are going to get the money. He made hard cuts and people put those cuts back in. We have many lawsuits that are going to cost us hundreds of thousands of dollars, and we turned down \$100,000,000. Mr. Lazzaro said he cannot vote for this Budget. He added the first role of the Board is financial responsibility of this Town – we are not acting for the best financial interest of this Town by enacting this Budget tonight.

Mr. Ferrara stated right now, there are two or three businesses suing the Town because of the tax increases they received. He cannot vote for the Budget either.

Mr. DeLelys stated there are other towns in the area that are not getting money from the Landfill and they are surviving by getting grants or bonding – we will have to do the same thing. He added our tax rate is still lower than other towns in the area. Further discussion followed.

The above motion made by Greg Lazzaro and seconded by Lou Ferrara to adopt the 2019 Preliminary Budget was carried 3 ayes, 2 nays; Supervisor Lazzaro and Councilman Ferrara with the dissenting votes.

Being there was no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the Meeting by Greg Lazzaro and seconded by Doug Avery. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

NICALETTA J. GREER
Town Clerk

The Seneca Falls Town Board held a regular monthly Meeting on Tuesday, December 4, 2018 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 130 Ovid Street.

Present were Supervisor Gregory Lazzaro; Councilmen Vittorio Porretta, Douglas Avery, David DeLelys and Louis Ferrara. Also present were David Foster, Town Attorney; Dean Zettlemoyer, Zoning Officer; James Spina, Commissioner of Parks & Recreation; Stephanie Holtz, Assessor; James Peterson, Highway Superintendent; Stuart Peenstra, Police Chief; Joseph Tullo, Chief WWTP Operator; Marshal Foster, IT Network Administrator; Peter Baker, Town Engineer and Members of the local media.

Supervisor Lazzaro called the regular monthly Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. A roll call of Board Members was taken and all were present; the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Petitioners:

Adriene Emmo – Women’s March: Adriene Emmo stated they have submitted an application regarding the Women’s March to be held on January 19, 2019. In preparation, they have had monthly and weekly meetings, and have met with Chief Peenstra and Members of his Department, Seneca County Sheriff’s Department, New York State Police and Homeland Security. A Jumbotron vehicle will be set up in front of 115 Fall Street so

