

The Seneca Falls Town Board held a Virtual/Zoom Public Hearing and regular monthly Meeting on February 2, 2021 from the Town Hall Meeting Room, 130 Ovid Street.

Present were Supervisor Michael Ferrara; Councilmen David DeLelys, Steve Churchill and Douglas Avery; Councilwoman Dawn Dyson (by Zoom); Patrick Morrell, Attorney for the Town; and by Zoom - Commissioner of Parks & Recreation James Spina, Police Chief Stuart Peenstra, Assessor Deborah Von Wald and Town Engineer Peter Baker.

Public Hearing – Proposed Local Law #4 – 2021: Mr. Ferrara stated proposed Local Law #4-2021 would amend Section 280-18 of the Town Code relating to timed parking restrictions. The purpose of this Law is to help the businesses in the Sacket District with limited parking.

A motion was made to open the Public Hearing at 6:19 P.M. by Doug Avery and seconded by Dave DeLelys. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Ferrara asked if there were any comments from Board Members or the Zoom audience. The Town Clerk noted there were no written comments.

Since there were no comments, a motion was made to close the Public Hearing by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Supervisor Ferrara opened the regular monthly Meeting at 6:20 P.M. A roll call of Board Members was taken and all were present (Councilwoman Dyson by Zoom); the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Petitioners: There were no Petitioners.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Public Hearings, Reorganizational and regular monthly Meeting of January 5, 2021 by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Reports:

Dog Control Officer: No report.

Zoning Officer: A motion was made to accept the Zoning Office report by Steve Churchill and seconded by Michael Ferrara. No questions. Motion 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 Michael Ferrara.

Mr. Spina stated programs are starting to open up. Youth basketball will be starting February 13th, and they have had meetings for lacrosse. Mr. Spina said they are working on getting air filters so that they can open up the Fitness Room. He added they are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel for programs.

Mr. Ferrara referred to the air filters and said we have to go through County Codes to open the Fitness Room; one of the requirements is to have a filter because of the small room. Mr. Avery asked if they reached out to Trane; Mr. Spina replied we are not under contract with Trane, but they did contact Trane and they are helping us in trying to find filters – the problem is they are hard to find. Mr. Passalacqua is also looking into it. Hopefully, in a week or so, they will be able to get the filters.

The above motion made by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Michael Ferrara 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 Michael Ferrara.

Mr. Avery stated they had a lot of discussion at their meeting on preparedness for plowing. They have one truck down. They had a conversation about plowing sidewalks downtown and Balsley Road. They are trying to help out our business people and do something that is fair and equitable. Mr. Avery said part of the problem is when it snows like this, you just can't plow the sidewalks downtown – you have to have a place to put it, and we don't.

They don't have any answers yet, but they are working on it. Mr. DeLelys mentioned that property owners are responsible for cleaning sidewalks. He said if we start doing something like that and someone gets hurt, they will sue the Town. He thinks property owners should be doing their sidewalks, and if they don't, they should be fined. Mr. Avery asked if Mr. Ferrara sent letters out to property owners. Mr. Ferrara replied yes – they sent notices out to property owners on the north side and south side of Route 5 & 20, telling them they are responsible for plowing sidewalks; if they don't, they will be sent an invoice for snow removal - if they don't pay, it goes on their taxes. He said it's a problem, but there is no good answer. Mr. Churchill asked if the Code says the Town invoices them if they don't plow; Mr. Ferrara replied yes.

Mr. Churchill stated this has to be figured out somehow. Mr. Ferrara said the only way is to create a sidewalk district. Mr. Morrell stated you can create a sidewalk district and encompass the entire Town or you can do it for various streets or districts, such as Route 5 & 20, etc. Mr. Ferrara said we would have to encumber the cost of cleaning the sidewalks in that district. Mr. Morrell added if this is extra, you will tack it on to their taxes. Mr. Churchill said that is a solution and it's understandable; maybe it should be put out there. Mr. Avery asked if it will take a local law to create a district. Mr. Morrell replied it's a process of its own; it's more involved than just a local law. Further discussion followed.

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

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

Mr. Churchill said Mrs. Von Wald mentioned that he and Mrs. Dyson has to meet with her to discuss a reval. Mr. Ferrara said hopefully, they can meet in February so that they can get started on it and move forward.

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

Attorney for the Town: Mr. Morrell said he has nothing that is not already on the Agenda.

Water & Sewer: A motion was made to accept Mr. Tullo's report by Doug Avery and seconded by Dawn Dyson.

Mr. Avery stated they are getting closer to getting the generator installed at the Auburn Road Water Tower. They were out most of the day today for a watermain break on Miller Street. Mr. Ferrara mentioned that there is a boil water advisory on Miller Street; hopefully, it will be lifted tomorrow morning.

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

Town Justices: A motion was made to accept the reports of Judge Lafler and Judge Kelley by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Michael Ferrara.

Mr. Ferrara stated it's very quiet; they are limited to what they can be doing at the moment. He has them working on their records management to get things in order. There are a lot of Court records at the Oak Street Garage that need to be moved over to the Records Building. We have to make room for them, so the process is started to purge records. Mr. DeLelys asked about the building next to Town Offices. Mr. Ferrara replied that building is cleaned and gutted out; it doesn't have HVAC, needs a new door, new overhead door – the cost is probably \$20,000-\$30,000. Mr. DeLelys asked if there was any way that we could get a grant for that building; Mr. Ferrara replied he didn't know the answer to that, but he will look into it. He would like to put some heat in the building and an overhead door so that in the wintertime, they could work in there to repair benches, etc. Mr. Avery said he spoke with Judge Lafler who said Judge Kelley is doing a great job in what they are able to do.

The above motion made by Dave DeLelys and seconded by Michael Ferrara to accept the reports of Judge Lafler and Judge Kelley was carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

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

Chief Peenstra stated he is working on the Year-End Report which he will have at the next Board Meeting. He is working with Mr. Morrell on some parking violations that need to be added to the Town Code. He is also working with the Court on updating parking tickets. The Chief stated he is also working on completing the draft of Governor's Order 203, which is on the Agenda to discuss later.

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

Barton & Loguidice: A motion was made to accept Town Engineer Peter Baker's report by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys.

Mr. Baker referred to the Safe Routes to School TAP Grant for Frank Knight, and said the Town is reaching out to residents for easements; the expectation is the bidding process will start in February, with Springtime construction. Mr. Baker said they are waiting on a delivery date for the Auburn Road Tower generator; once they get that, they will work with Mr. Tullo and the contractor to coordinate some of the work that needs to be done. Mr. Ferrara asked if Colacino's work has been finalized. Mr. Baker replied he talked with Jim Colacino today and provided him with comments a few weeks ago, and he hasn't responded – he is out of town. Brief discussion followed.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to accept Town Engineer Peter Baker's report was carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

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

Emily Palumbos stated we did have the call with NYS Archives regarding the proper destruction of records, so the Town is moving forward with that. She said the Bridge New York Grant has come out, and the Town will take a look at that with Peter Baker who partnered with that. She noted there are resolutions coming up on the Clean Energy Grant; she and the Supervisor will be meeting with Bonadio to make sure everything is in place.

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.

SF Development Corporation: Mr. Avery stated they met by Zoom. He referred to the Farmers' Market which is run by the Corporation and said last year, they worked through Cornell Cooperative Extension to coordinate it; they don't want to extend that this season. There will still be things the Cooperative Extension does, but the SFDC is going back to finding their own person to coordinate it.

Mr. Avery stated the Corporation has to submit a Paris disclosure to the State with the financial audit which has been done. They are spending time on the Ripples of Change statute and the site preparation – they are moving forward with that. He said it doesn't look like the State is doing the Kayak Program (Staycations) this year, so if that's going to be done, it's going to be done locally.

Communications:

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

1. Minutes of the Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting of December 22, 2020.
2. Minutes of the Town Planning Board Meeting of December 15, 2020.
3. Network News from Cayuga Lake Watershed Network.
4. Letter from State of New York, Department of State, stating they have received and filed Local Law #5-2020.
5. Notice of Public Statement Hearings relative to the application of Trelina Solar Energy Center, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to construct and operate a major electric generating facility from Sam Laniado, Read & Laniado, LLP.

Old Business:

Sale of Surplus Property: Mr. Morrell stated 60 State Street is on hold, waiting the State's DRI. He referred to 115 Fall Street and said he has been going back and forth with the prospective buyer. That property is held as a condo, and some of the things should be addressed with the owner of the building. Mr. Morrell said he would like to address this with the Board in Executive Session that is allowed by Statute as it could affect the value of real property.

Town Demands Related to SMI License to Operate Landfill: Mr. Morrell stated he has not had any contact with them other than what we see in the newspaper regarding their permit with DEC. He noted some of the demands made to them are similar things in the initial response of the application from DEC. Mr. Ferrara said his

understanding is their Attorney has prepared a response to the Town's demands with the permit. Mr. Morrell said he hasn't seen anything yet.

Bayard Street Culvert Legal Update: Mr. Ferrara said they had a meeting with David Hou on January 18th, and he reiterated some of the things he said earlier. He is going to look into it some more. Mr. Avery said it doesn't mean we can't get help paying for repairs. Mr. Ferrara said there is a part of the Bridge New York Grant that is for culverts. Ms. Palumbos said it's best when applying for this Grant that you have some kind of a design, but it isn't necessarily needed. Mr. Ferrara asked if she needed direction if the Board wants to move forward with this. Ms. Palumbos replied yes. She mentioned that Mr. Baker has emailed her with potential projects, such as the Rumsey Street Bridge. She added Bridge New York has both a bridge portion and a culvert portion; the Town can apply for one of each if they want. Mr. Ferrara asked if Ms. Palumbos needed a decision tonight. Ms. Palumbos replied she didn't think it was necessary to have it tonight. She would like to speak with Mr. Baker as he has knowledge of the projects. The Grant is not due for a few months, and it only comes out every two years. Mr. Ferrara mentioned that the Veterans Bridge needs some work, and the Bayard Street culvert. Mr. Baker said given the scope and cost, he thinks Bridge New York is a 50% grant. He added it's a pretty competitive grant, and he thinks the Bayard Street culvert is pretty solid – there is a strong support for the Bayard Street project. Mr. Baker stated the other potential is the CDBG. He recommends Bridge New York – the timing looks good. After further discussion, Mr. Churchill said he thinks the Town should definitely move forward to apply for the Grant; Board Members agreed with Mr. Churchill.

Town Manager Feasibility Committee: Mr. Ferrara stated the Board met with the Committee on January 12th., and it was decided that there will be another special public meeting February 17th. There will be a Zoom Guest who will look at government efficiency in Seneca Falls and make recommendations.

Kingdom Road Sewer Main Update: Mr. Ferrara said the Board decided what direction they are going; now the Board has to decide how it's going to happen. Under New Business, a Town Engineer will be appointed. The Board needs input from a Town Engineer as to how it's going to happen. He added there are some grants that are applicable to this as well.

New Business:

Approval of Special Events: There were none this month.

Adopt Roberts Rules of Order for Board Meetings: A motion was made to adopt Roberts Rules of Order for Town Board Meetings by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Resoluion of Geneva City Council – Re: SMI: Mr. Ferrara stated the purpose of the resolution is to announce its support for Seneca Falls Town Board Local Law #3 which forbids the expansion of the Seneca Meadows, Landfill. He proceeded to read portions of the resolution which requests that the NYS DEC reaffirm and present in its anticipated new Solid Waste Management plan a strategy to support local strategies and projects that will gradually eliminate the need for mega landfills in New York State including the SMI operation.

Local Law #4 – 2021: Mr. Ferrara stated a Public Hearing was held earlier this Evening, and there was no public comment. A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held on February 2, 2021 at the Seneca Falls Town Offices and Virtually via Zoom and all parties in attendance were permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf of or in opposition to said proposed Local Law, or any part thereof; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) it has been determined by the Town Board that adoption of said proposed Local Law would be Type II action under 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(22) & (33); and

WHEREAS, after due deliberation and consideration of the comments submitted by the Town residents and other interested parties, the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls finds it in the best interest of the Town to adopt said Local Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls hereby adopts said Local Law No. 4 entitled A Local Law to Amend Section 280-18 of the Seneca Falls Town Code relating to Time-Limit Parking, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to enter said Local Law in the minutes of this Meeting and in the Local Laws of the Town of Seneca Falls, and to give due notice of the adoption of said Local Law to the Secretary of State of New York

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

RFPs – Engineering Services: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Doug Avery to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town conducted a Request for Proposal for Engineering Services due to the Town Clerk's Office by December 21, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the RFPs were opened at the Special Board Meeting conducted December 30, 2020 at 12:00 PM; and

WHEREAS, after review of the RFPs by the Town Supervisor and other Members of the Town Board.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board appoints the MRB Engineering, Architecture & Surveying, D.P.C. Group as the Town Engineers for 2021.

Mr. Avery stated he is not sure we are ready to move ahead. There are price differences – the way the two proposals are written, it's not possible to get the same information. B&L's proposal is very specific about staff members and what the hourly rate is. MRB's proposal said something to the effect only that the typical rate is. Mr. Avery recommended that the Board get a chance to sit down and talk to them before it moves forward. He would like to see what we are getting other than we think this Firm is going to be a little cheaper than what we have now.

Mr. Churchill agreed with Mr. Avery. He said B&L has done a good job. He commented that whenever we have these groups, it's a lot of money. He likes the fact that B&L has staff that deals with environmental issues regarding landfills specifically; that's something we certainly need – he didn't see that in MRB's proposal. When it comes to what the charges are in MRB's proposal, they have three lines – typical billing rates, where B&L has a complete breakdown of all of their billing rates for each of their engineers. Mr. Churchill said there is nothing compelling in one or the other that makes him want to change. He thinks the Board should stay with B&L – he is not going to support changing to MRB.

Mr. Ferrara stated if they read the proposals which they had since December 30th, and if they wanted to have interviews – he doesn't know why they didn't say that. He took the initiative and did a compare and contrast and nothing – no comment. He thinks B&L is a very capable Firm, and the Town Engineer dedicated to most of our projects is a very capable professional. He thinks MRB and Hunt Associates are very reputable firms, but if we are talking about saving money, MRB's proposal is less expensive – the average rate for lead engineer for MRB is \$160, and the average rate for lead engineer for B&L is \$190. Mr. Avery stated the Board doesn't know that from this document. Mr. Churchill asked where Mr. Ferrara got that – it's not here; in here it says Senior Civil Engineer is \$165, Planning Associates \$140 and Civil Engineer \$120. B&L has a breakdown right down the line. After lengthy discussion, Mr. Ferrara asked if the Board could come to a consensus that action can be taken next month; the Board agreed this can be done next month.

A motion was made to table action on this Resolution until the Board has more information by Steve Churchill and seconded by Doug Avery. No questions. Motion carried 3 ayes, 2 nays; Supervisor Ferrara and Councilwoman Dyson with the dissenting votes.

Discussion followed as to whether to meet with just MRB or with both MRB and B&L. Mr. DeLelys suggested meeting with both, and the Board Members were in agreement. Mr. Morrell stated this is something where they would be contracting with the Town, so it can be done in Executive Session. There has to be a Notice of the Meeting, and immediately after opening the Meeting the Board can go into Executive Session. The date of February 8th at 6:00 P.M. was set for a Zoom Meeting.

RFPs – Labor Counsel Services: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Doug Avery to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town conducted a Request for Proposal for Labor Counsel Service due to the Town Clerk's Office by December 21, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the RFPs were opened at a Special Board Meeting conducted December 30, 2020 at 12:00 PM; and

WHEREAS, after review of the RFPs by the Town Supervisor and other Members of the Town Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board appoints Bond Schoeneck and King Attorneys of Syracuse, NY as the Town's Labor Counsel for 2021.

Mr. Churchill asked if the Board was in negotiations this year with the Police Union; Mr. Ferrara replied we are. Mr. Avery said Jim Roemer was not interested in going to hourly rates; Mr. Ferrara said right. Mr. Avery said it was nice to have him as a resource at any time, but we were paying a lot of money. Mr. Churchill stated the Town is paying Roemer \$22,800 a year retainer. In switching to an hourly rate with Bond Schoeneck and King, he doesn't know what that hourly rate is going to add up to with negotiations. Mr. Ferrara said when it gets to negotiations with the Police Union, the Town would have some idea of where we would want to go in the contract. We submit ours to them, and they submit theirs to us and then we sit down and negotiate which is handled internally. Mr. Churchill stated Roemer has done a good job; he has been with Seneca County for ten

years, and the Police Chief said he is very happy with their response. He added \$22,800 is not a lot of money especially when you are going into negotiation services. He feels Bond Schoeneck and King will exceed \$22,800 in the year with negotiations.

Mr. DeLelys stated he was here for the last negotiations with the Police. The Lawyers and Representatives from the Union do a lot of work outside, and when you come in to negotiate, it involves quite a few hours – in the four or five meetings they had, they were 2-3 hours long. Mr. Ferrara said you can drag out negotiations as long as you want – he doesn't think it's necessary to drag out negotiations. There are not a whole lot of things that will drag it out. Mr. Churchill said he is not going to support Bond Schoeneck and King this year because of negotiations. Mr. Ferrara said for the record, Roemer is a very established Law Firm and so is Bond Schoeneck and King.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Doug Avery to adopt the above resolution appointing Bond Schoeneck and King as the Town's Labor Counsel was carried 3 ayes, 2 naves; Councilmen DeLelys and Churchill with the dissenting votes.

SFPD – Declare Listed Items Surplus: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to declare the following items surplus for the Seneca Falls Police Department:

1. 2017 Ford Utility – 107,678 miles.
2. "Inland" M1 Carbine Serial #421676/

Item 1 will be sold at auction and item 2 will be sold to a certified Federal firearms dealer. Monies received from these items will go into the Police Department's surplus vehicle and equipment fund.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Presentation for Police Departments – Police Reform and Reinvention Plan: Chief Peenstra stated everyone knows of the Governor's Executive Order for Police Reform that came out. They have been working on this for months, and they are working on the conclusion of this Police Reform to present to the State. The Chief said he would like to present this to the entire Board and Public; after that presentation, we will have a resolution to potentially pass and submit it to the State. Chief Peenstra said he is working on the guidelines presented by the Governor which he will share with the Board in draft form in the next few weeks so that the Board can review and take time to understand and ask questions they may have. He added it will be about a 45-minute presentation. Chief Peenstra said he would like to do this before the March 2nd Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.

Mr. Ferrara said along with that, he would like to make a decision about the March Meeting to not Zoom it or Live Stream it; the numbers are going down, and there has never been more than 50 people at a meeting. He would like to do that for March. Mr. Avery agreed and said to plan on that; if anything happens, we can change. Chief Peenstra asked if it can be live streamed or taped; Mr. Ferrara said that Mrs. Lankford can get him a tape.

Resolution – Year-End Budget Transfers: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, any budget is a "best guess" for the annual expenditures of the Town; and

WHEREAS, there are lines in the 2020 Budget which exceeded the budgeted allotment; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the State Comptroller will not accept an Annual Update Document submitted by the Town with line items out of balance with its budget.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the attached Budget Modifications to the 2020 Town Budget to balance all line items of the Budget.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Resolution – Year-End Encumbrances: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, there are incomplete projects and certain purchases still yet to be made for water and sewer; and

WHEREAS, for the purposes of the Water and Sewer Departments it is important to carry these line item amounts into the 2021 Budget.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Seneca Falls Town Board approves encumbering the attached item amounts into the 2021 Budget.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Resolution – Green Innovation Grant Program – Water Efficiency: Mr. Ferrara read portions of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Town of Seneca Falls, Seneca County, supports the submission of a 2020 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) on behalf of the Town for Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP) to improve water quality and mitigate effects of climate change through the implementation of a water efficiency project; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) provides a competitive statewide reimbursement grant program through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) to purchase and install upgraded water meters; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls meets the GIGP eligibility and is considered a funding priority for upgrades to their water meter infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, if funding is received, it will allow the Town of Seneca Falls to upgrade water meters for their residents and deliver better services with less water and protect water sources for the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board, on behalf of the Town, identifies the Town Supervisor as the authorized representative for the project who is able to execute necessary documents relative to and as required for this application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize and obligates local matching funds of the minimum 25% of the total of any grant funding awarded in the form of in-kind services or cash contribution hereby appropriated from the general fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls recognizes and fully supports the submission of the 2020 CFA for an GIGP Water Efficiency Project.

A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the above resolution in support of the Green Innovation Grant Program application.

Ms. Palumbos stated the Town qualifies for this Green Innovation Grant Program. They have a new category this year which is water efficiency which covers water meter replacement. She said it does require a draft engineering report.

Mr. Churchill referred to the SEQR resolution and asked why the SEQR was prepared by MRB Group and referred to as Town Engineer when they are not. He also asked if the Board shouldn't review the SEQR. Mr. Ferrara said the SEQR resolution is not actually doing the SEQR. Ms. Palumbos stated because it is the installation of water meters, it's considered a Type II action, and the Town doesn't have to take further action for SEQR. Mr. Ferrara referred to the first paragraph of the resolution which says prepared by MRB Group referred to as Town Engineer, and said that cannot be in there because the Board has not appointed the Engineer. Ms. Palumbos said she would be happy to change it as long as the resolution is passed as amended. Further discussion followed relative to the SEQR resolution. Mr. Ferrara requested that Ms. Palumbos re-write the SEQR resolution and send it to Mr. Morrell for his review, and the Board can act on it in March.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the above resolution in support of the Green Innovation Grant Program application was carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

A motion was made to table action on the SEQR Resolution relative to the Water Meter Replacement Project by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Contribution Request – It's a Wonderful Life Museum: A motion was made to approve the budgeted contribution request of \$7, 000 from It's a Wonderful Life Museum as it is a benefit to the Town by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Highway – Reclassify Two Motor Equipment Operators: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a Heavy Motor Equipment Operator must be able to operate, under general supervision, in this class of employment and perform recurring manual duties in connection with the operation of complex heavy motor equipment; and

WHEREAS, for the purposes of the Highway Department, this would include vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating in excess of 26,000 pounds; any vehicles hauling trailers in excess of 10,000 pounds; and vehicles of any size that transport hazardous vehicles; and

WHEREAS, a Heavy MEO Mechanic must have the ability to operate and repair said pieces of equipment; and

WHEREAS, examples of this equipment would be: heavy duty roller, power backhoe, front end loader, bulldozer, road grader and other types of heavy duty equipment to perform such operations as grading, laying asphalt, setting pipe, etc.; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls has one MEO qualified to run heavy duty equipment with a second MEO qualified to run and repair this equipment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Seneca Falls Town Board approves submitting Form MS 220 to Seneca County Personnel for the purposes of reclassification of two MEO positions; one MEO position to become Heavy MEO and one MEO position to become Heavy MEO/Mechanic.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon approval of the reclassification of these two positions by Seneca County Personnel that Timothy Pagano will be appointed to the Heavy MEO position and James Duffy

will be appointed to the Heavy MEO/Mechanic position, with the wage adjustment to be approved by the Seneca Falls Town Board at the Town Board Meeting immediately following receipt of the approval to reclassify by Seneca County Personnel.

Mr. Avery stated this has been a conversation for a long time as to how to better organize people as to who is capable of doing the work according to the description sent to the County for approval. This is to better organize and delegate the abilities and responsibilities for the Highway Department. Mr. Churchill asked if there will be monies involved; Mr. Avery replied yes, there will. Mrs. Dyson said didn't they just get raises to bring them up to where they were supposed to be. Mr. Ferrara replied they were not given a raise – they were given backpay because there was confusion about their classification. He asked why it wasn't done when the Board went through the Matrix. Mr. Avery replied it couldn't be done because they were in union negotiations. He added this is part of reclassifying the positions – right now, they are not sufficient.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the above resolution to reclassify two Motor Equipment Operators was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

W/S – Approve Purchase of New Digging Box: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Doug Avery to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Water Department is in need of a new digging box; and

WHEREAS, the Water/Wastewater Department received two bids; JC Smith, Inc. of Ithaca was the lowest bidder for \$5,265.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board does hereby authorize the purchase of this box from JC Smith, Inc. of Ithaca for \$5,265.00.

Mr. Ferrara said they have a digging box, but it's too big for most of the jobs Water/Sewer does. Mr. Churchill asked if the Highway Department has one; Mr. Ferrara replied he doubts it – they don't do that kind of digging. Mr. Avery stated the one they have is room size; sometimes the decision is made not to use it because it's too big and it's a safety issue. Mr. Churchill asked if it was budgeted; Mr. Avery replied yes.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Doug Avery to adopt the above resolution authorizing the purchase of a digging box was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

W/S -Declare Surplus Outdated Equipment and Truck: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Water/Wastewater Departments is in need of putting various pumps, materials and outdated parts including a 2010 Chevy Colorado pickup out for surplus.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board does hereby authorize the surplus of these outdated pumps, truck, materials and parts, placing them on Auctions International and proceeds from the sale will be put into F2665 – Sale of Equipment and G8130.200 from sale of the pickup.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

W/S – Interior/Exterior Sodium Hydroxide Spill Containment System: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health requested the Town of Seneca Falls activate its sodium hydroxide system to raise the pit; and

WHEREAS, the Town conducted a Request for Proposal for the engineering services for the design and construction of the oversight of the sodium hydroxide feed system (pumps, day tanks; piping, electrical wiring, pump controls, spill containment vessels, etc.); and

WHEREAS, after review of the RFPs by the Town Supervisor and the Superintendent of the Water/Sewer Department; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls approves the Engineering Services provided by Barton & Loguidice for the project at the cost of \$37,000.

Mr. Churchill asked if it was budgeted; Mr. Ferrara replied it's part of the PH project. He hopes we can continue this process when projects come up – it doesn't go to the Town Engineer; it should go out for bid to the three Engineering Firms (Hunt, MRB & B&L). Mr. Churchill asked why the Town needs an Engineer. Mr. Ferrara responded the Water & Sewer Departments and the Highway Department needs them for technical questions and for directions; they are paid by the hour – if you don't need them you don't pay them.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the above resolution approving the Engineering Services of Barton & Loguidice for the Interior/Exterior sodium hydroxide spill containment system project was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Code Red Services: Mr. Ferrara stated this is a program called Code Red which would basically provide the Town the ability to inform our residents of different situations, especially emergency situations. There will be designated people who will have access to push out the information. He mentioned that School Districts use a similar system to reach out to parents, etc. The cost is about \$2,000 for a year's service, and it comes with about 3,000 phone numbers. Mr. DeLelys suggest going with a bigger plan for \$1,000 more. Mr. Churchill said you can always add more – start with the one plan.

Mr. Avery asked how would we get people into this. Mr. Ferrara replied public meetings, the Town's website, an article/news release in the Finger Lakes Times and possibly a mailing. Mr. Avery mentioned maybe people can sign up through an app. He thinks it's worth doing. Mr. Churchill asked if we should talk to the County – this is something the County could use. Mr. Ferrara said he doesn't know if the County would be interested in a Countwide program. Mr. Churchill said you would have to have someone to manage it, and it could become overwhelming. His concern is management of this system. He added the County is experienced with something like this. It might be worthwhile to talk to the Emergency Management Services Director. Mr. Churchill said we definitely need a system like this in the Town and the County. Mr. Ferrara said he would reach out to the Director and the County Manager and report back to the Board. Further discussion followed.

Water/Sewer Credits: A motion was made to approve the Water/Sewer credits totaling \$1,733.04 as per Memo dated February 2, 2021 by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dawn Dyson to approve and order paid the following bills:

General Fund - \$221,786.71 (Abstract #2)	Recreation Fund - \$4,215.39 (Abstract #2)
Miscellaneous Fund - \$36,205.44 Abstract #2)	Vince's Park Fund - \$1,298.91 (Abstract #2)
Highway Fund - \$39,452.20 (Abstract #2)	Sewer Fund - \$28,368.15 (Abstract #2)
Water Fund - \$67,108.85 Abstract #2)	

Mr. Ferrara referred to one of the bills from MRB for \$1,658.44, and said he contacted Jane Nicholson and Matt Horn of MRB to provide assistance to a company going in on Route 414. He explained they are looking to purchase property which has to be subdivided first, and they are looking to sell gas products all over the Country. It's a very complicated project, and we have no person in zoning who has the expertise to handle this type of things. Mr. Ferrara stated one of the by-products of this work is there was a Planning and Zoning Board Meeting Thursday night, and Jane Nicholson provided a schedule to the Company.

Mr. Churchill asked if there was any information about the project itself. Mr. Morrell replied they made a presentation to the Planning and Zoning Board and gave a brief overview of the project. They contract with dairy farms, and the dairy farms have a digester on their own site to purify the gas that comes from the waste; then it will be trucked from there to the project location and then piped into the pipeline. Discussion followed.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dawn Dyson to approve and order paid the above bills was carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

At 8:40 P.M., a motion was made by Steve Churchill and seconded by Doug Avery to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters under Section 105.1.f of Public Officers Law, and to discuss a matter involving the transfer of real property that could impact the value of real property under Section 105.1.h of Public Officers Law. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Steve Churchill to reconvene the regular Meeting at 9:10 P.M. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

NICALETTA J. GREER
Town Clerk

