

The Seneca Falls Town Board held a Reorganizational and regular monthly Meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 130 Ovid Street

Present were Supervisor Michael Ferrara; Councilpersons Dawn Dyson, Kaitlyn Laskoski, Frank Sinicropi and Steven Churchill. Also present were Patrick Morrell, Attorney for the Town; Peter Soscia, Town Manager; Peter Porcelli, Zoning Officer; Deborah VonWald, Assessor; Timothy Snyder, Interim Police Chief; Jeremy Wendt, Interim Highway Superintendent; Joseph Tullo, Chief WWTP Operator and Lesen Gleason, Town Engineer.

Supervisor Ferrara called the Reorganizational and 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.

Reorganizational Meeting:

2023 Appointments:

A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to appoint the following:

Attorney for the Town: Patrick J. Morrell

Special Counsel Attorney: Boylan Code

Labor Relations Attorney: Bond, Schoeneck & King (Colin Leonard)

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint Barton & Loguidice as the Town Engineering Firm, and MRB Group as Drainage Engineers, by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint Bernard P. Donegan as Financial Consultant by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint MRB Group for Grant Writing Services by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint Kathleen Lankford and Linda Wolcott as Deputy Town Clerk, and Linda Marzan as Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Receiver, by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint Ashley VanDoren and Courtney Adams as Court Clerks by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Supervisor Ferrara appointed Kaitlyn Laskoski Deputy Supervisor. He noted he is trying to move it to each of the Board Members every year.

A motion was made appoint Brian Jensen as Deputy Highway Superintendent by Frank Sinicropi and Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint Brian Devay as Deputy Wastewater Treatment Operator and Fred Peterman as Deputy Wastewater System Operator by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint Nicaletta Greer as Assistant Zoning Officer; Linda Wolcott as Secretary to HPC, Planning and Zoning Boards; Nicaletta Greer as Registrar of Vital Statistics ; Kathleen Lankford as Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics; and Nicaletta Greer as Records Management Officer by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint Dallyn Jenkins as Dog Control Officer by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint David Baker as a Member of the Recreation Commission; Shannon Kelley, Victoria Clark and Christina Abbe as Alternate Members of the Recreation Commission; and Interim Police Chief Timothy Snyder as Ex-Officio Member of the Commission, by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Frank Sinicropi. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint Marie Scoles as a Member of the Planning Board, and Matt Blair as an Alternate Member of the Board by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint Daniel Emmo as a Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, and Gerald Drake and Christopher Knapp as Alternate Members of the Board by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Frank Sinicropi. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to appoint Sean Painter as a Member of the Heritage Preservation Commission, and Daniel Babbitt and Clare Ludovico as Alternate Members of the Commission by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Sinicropi asked if we advertise when there is a vacancy; Mr. Ferrara replied we do that. He also reaches out to the Republican Party to see if anyone is interested, since the Republicans are in control.

A motion was made to appoint Duane Moore as a Member of the Cemetery Commission, and Fran Barbieri as Town Historian by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Churchill asked if Mr. Moore lived here – he thought he lives in Sodus. The Clerk said he does, but he still has a business in Town (Funeral Home). Mr. Morrell stated he does have a business here – it's not like you're a Board Member where you would have to be able to vote. Brief discussion followed.

Town Auditors will be appointed at the February Meeting as RFPs are due January 6<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following:

Meeting Date: First Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M.

Official Banks: Community Bank, Five Star Bank, M&T Bank, First Niagara Bank, Lyons National Bank

Official Town Newspaper: Finger Lakes Times

Mileage/Per Diem Rate: Current IRS Mileage rate of .65 per mile and Per Diem Rate.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to adopt the Procurement Policy by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Ferrara said the Policy was updated about two years ago and has the approval from the Auditors.

A motion was made to adopt Roberts Rules of Order for Meetings by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

2023 Committee Assignments are as follows:

Assessment – Frank Sinicropi, Chair and Dawn Dyson

SF Development Corporation – Michael Ferrara, Chair and Kaitlyn Laskoski

Recreation – Dawn Dyson, Chair and Frank Sinicropi

Highway/Public Works – Frank Sinicropi, Chair and Steve Churchill

Waste Management – Frank Sinicropi, Chair and Steve Churchill

Personnel – Michael Ferrara, Chair and Kaitlyn Laskoski

Website – Melissa Howell

Public Safety – Kaitlyn Laskoski, Chair and Michael Ferrara

Court – Dawn Dyson, Chair and Kaitlyn Laskoski

Water/Sewer – Michael Ferrara, Chair and Dawn Dyson

SMI Committee – Michael Ferrara, Kaitlyn Laskoski and Patrick Morrell

Town Board Liaison to Visitors Center – Steve Churchill

Contract Review Committee – Kaitlyn Laskoski, Chair and Frank Sinicropi

Mr. Ferrara stated the Contract Review Committee is a new Committee recommended by the Auditors. Any contract has to be reviewed by the Committee after the Town Attorney has done his review, and it has to be noted that it was reviewed.

Supervisor Ferrara opened the regular monthly Meeting.

Petitioners:

Toni Marie Meeks – Senior Pictures: Toni Marie Weeks stated that she and Jennifer Wick are representing the Mynderse Academy Class of 2023, and would like to talk about the banners that were downtown during the last three years that was started during COVID. They would like to see it continue and be an ongoing thing for the Town. Mrs. Meeks said she spoke with Mr. Ferrara and Mr. Wendt in the past and didn't get a lot of support

from them. She understands that there are some issues with the poles, and she has done some research. She spoke to some people and some engineers, and explained to the Board what needs to be done. Mrs. Wick said they want to purchase new brackets to replace what was originally done. The purchase would be from a company that has done these throughout the State of New York. Mrs. Meeks added they use them for several different things, not just for senior portraits.

Mr. Ferrara stated this Board, last year, and the previous Board two years ago supported 100% the posters going up. The second year they went up, the same brackets they are referring to were used. We had a pole go down this summer, and Mr. Wendt went through and checked all the poles and did some repair work on some of the poles. Mr. Ferrara stated it is under the advice of the Town's Insurance Agent that we strongly consider not putting things on the poles. If we do that and something happens, the Town will be liable, not the Insurance Company.

After further discussion, Mr. Ferrara stated he will reach out to the Insurance Company between now and the February Meeting, and Mr. Sinicropi will work with the Highway Department. Mr. Ferrara asked what their deadline is; Mrs. Meeks replied they need to know no later than the end of February or March so they can place an order. Mr. Ferrara said they will have an answer in February.

#### Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the regular monthly Meeting of December 6, 2022 by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Year-End Meeting of December 27, 2022 by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Ferrara noted there will be a Special Meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Noon. There will be a Public Hearing for the Restore New York Grant that the Town is working on in conjunction with the Women's Hall of Fame. On January 17<sup>th</sup>, bids for the Equalization Tank will be in; we would also like to get that approved so work can start.

Communications: Mr. Ferrara noted the Board has Communications in their packets.

#### Old Business:

Sale of Town Property: Mr. Ferrara said there are no updates on either accepted offer the Board has for both properties (10 Fall Street and Courtland Avenue).

#### New Business:

Approval of special Events: No Special Events this month.

Authorize Town Supervisor to Invest Town Monies: A motion was made authorizing the Town Supervisor to invest Town monies by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

SFPD – Resignation of Police Sergeant Eric Davids: A motion was made to accept the resignation of Police Sergeant Eric Davids with regret, effective January 2, 2023, by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

SMI License to Operate Landfill: A motion was made to renew SMI's License to Construct and Operate a Landfill under Chapter 58 of the Town Code by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 1 nay; Councilman Churchill with the dissenting vote.

Mr. Churchill stated the reason he opposed it is because they continue to violate the Agreement to prevent odors from entering peoples' property, and they refuse to help the Town set up an independent odor monitoring complaint process.

W/S Resolution – Declare 2003 International Dump Truck Surplus: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Board authorized purchasing a F650 Dump Truck at the December 2022 Meeting; and WHEREAS, said Dump Truck has been delivered to the Town; and WHEREAS, the Department would like to declare the 2003 International Dump Truck surplus and place it on Auctions International for bid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board declares the Water Department's 2003 International Dump Truck surplus and authorizes putting the truck on Auctions International for bid.

Change in Salary for Interim Police Chief: A motion was made by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls has a contract that defines the per annum pay scale for Police Command Staff; and

WHEREAS, the Interim Chief has been appointed with a salary of \$94,000; and

WHEREAS, the contract currently in place until December 31, 2023 specifies a minimum salary of \$97,613.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the position of Interim Police Chief will receive a salary of \$97,613.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Resolution – Salary Modification for Town Justice: A motion was made by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Honorable Judge Charles Lafler has announced his intent to retire effective January 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Honorable Judge Steven Kelley will assume the additional responsibilities of administration performed by Judge Lafler; and

WHEREAS, the Board Committee overseeing the Town Court has recommended that Judge Kelley's salary be increased to that of Judge Lafler's to compensate him for the performance of extra administrative duties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, subject to a Public Hearing, Judge Kelley's salary will now be \$30,843 per annum effective January 1, 2023.

Mr. Ferrara asked if this requires a Public Hearing. The Town Clerk asked if this requires a local law since it is an elected position. Mr. Morrell stated no Public Hearing is required. He added the Justice position is not included on the list of those salaries required to be on the public notice for the Preliminary Budget – this can be done by resolution.

A motion was made to strike out "subject to a Public Hearing" in the Resolved clause by Steve Churchill and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to adopt the above resolution as amended. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Highway Resolution – Appoint MEO Light: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Steve Churchill to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls Highway Department has a vacancy as a result of a retirement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Seneca Falls will hire Cole Marr as an MEO Light with an hourly salary of \$21.00 per hour. He can start immediately.

Mrs. Laskoski asked where does this fall in the current matrix that we have. Mr. Ferrara replied he doesn't know without having that in front of him, but he thinks it is the starting rate.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Steve Churchill to adopt the above resolution appointing Cole Marr to the position of MEO Light was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

SFPD Resolution – New Hire Lateral Transfer Salary Scale: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Seneca Falls Town Board passed a resolution which will encourage Police Officers to make lateral transfers to the Seneca Falls Police Department; and

WHEREAS, there needs to be a clear path to where the new Officer would be placed on the salary step plan for consistency and fairness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the language below be adopted in the MOU passed on December 6, 2022 and sent to the Seneca Falls Police Benevolent Association for approval:

If an Officer makes a lateral transfer to the Seneca Falls Police Department having;

1 to 2 years of permanent competitive service will begin at year one in the contract.

2 to 4 years of permanent competitive service will begin at year two in the contract.

4 to 6 years of permanent competitive service will begin at year three in the contract.

6 to 8 years of permanent competitive service will begin at year four in the contract.

9 years of permanent competitive service will begin at year 5 in the contract providing the Town Board votes unanimously to have this happen; all other times in this language a simple majority will suffice.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Resolution – Correct Employee Handbook to Update Vacation Policy Section 802: A motion was made by Frank

Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Seneca Falls has passed a resolution to update the Town of Seneca Falls Employee Handbook to modify the employee vacation leave policy 802; and

WHEREAS, the current policy has an incorrect date of January 2023 in the “pro rata” section; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board would like new employees to be granted vacation leave time during the year they are hired in a pro rata basis.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby accepts the proposal to amend the resolution to make pro rata vacation effective January 2022 as described below:

New employees hired after January 1, 2022 will be granted a pro rata vacation benefit to be taken in the calendar year beginning January 1 following their date of hire in accordance with the following schedule:

Employees hired in:	37.5 hours per week	40.00 hours per week
January	82.5 hours	88.00 hours
February	74.00 hours	79.50 hours
March	66.00 hours	70.00 hours
April	57.50 hours	61.50 hours
May	57.50 hours	61.50 hours
June	50.00 hours	53.00 hours
July	41.00 hours	44.00 hours
August	37.50 hours	40.00 hours
September	37.50 hours	40.00 hours
October	37.50 hours	40.00 hours
November	37.50 hours	40.00 hours
December	37.50 hours	40.00 hours

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Resolution – Contract with Integrated Systems for Information Technology Services: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls solicited a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Information Technology Services; and

WHEREAS, one (1) prospective vendor submitted a proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Town Supervisor and Town Manager reviewed the proposal and interviewed the prospective vendor; and

WHEREAS, Integrated Systems has a wide range of experience working with municipalities and is located in Victor, NY.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Seneca Falls approves to have the Town Supervisor enter into an agreement with Integrated Systems to purchase initially 200 hours of time at the price of \$85.00 per hour to provide Information Technology Services to the Town. In addition, if more hours of time are required, the Town Supervisor will be authorized to purchase additional 50-hour blocks of time.

Mr. Churchill said only one vendor; Mr. Ferrara replied yes. Mr. Churchill said was this just advertised in the Finger Lakes Times and the Website. Mr. Ferrara replied Finger Lakes Times, Website and NY Contract Reporter. He said we were working with the County, but they are short-staffed. He thinks this will cost a lot less than what we were paying the County. Brief discussion followed.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the above resolution to contract with Integrated Systems for Information Technology Services was carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Recognition of Former Police Chief Stuart Peenstra: Mr. Ferrara recognized Police Chief Peenstra who retired in December, and said on behalf of the Town Board, we can’t thank you enough for your 25 years of service, your dedication and what you meant to this Community. He established high standards for the Department, which he hopes will continue, and the Department became accredited under his leadership. He is one of the most respected people in our Community. Mr. Ferrara stated at the December 27<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, the Board approved to provide you with your service weapon as a small token of our appreciation. A brief recess followed.

Resolution – Municipal Support for Bridge Street Bridge Rehabilitation: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board (hereinafter referred to as Town Board) supports the submission of a 2022 New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT) Bridge NY Grant Program to rehabilitate the Bridge Street Bridge; and

WHEREAS, the NYS DOT Bridge NY Grant Program provides assistance for local governments to rehabilitate and replace bridges with particular emphasis on projects that address poor structural conditions, mitigate weight restrictions or detours, facilitate economic development and improve resiliency and reduce flooding risk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board, on behalf of the Town, identifies the Town Supervisor as the authorized representative for the project, 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 5% of the total of any grant funding awarded in the form of in-kind services or cash contribution hereby appropriated from the Town of Seneca Falls Reserve Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls recognizes and fully supports the submission of the 2022 NYS DOT Bridge NY Grant application.

Mr. Ferrara stated when the DOT did an inspection of the Bridge, it cited the Town for multiple things. He said in this Grant, we are also looking at restoring the Bridge as far as painting it. He noted that no work will be done unless the Grant is approved.

Mr. Churchill asked if the Town is obligated to do the project if we get the Grant. Mr. Horn replied the Town doesn't have to accept the Grant. Mr. Churchill asked about the cost. Mr. Ferrara replied he thinks we are applying for \$2 million. Mr. Churchill asked if the Town would get the \$2 million. Mr. Horn replied the Town would get the \$2 million and would match the funds with in-kind services (5%). Mrs. Dyson asked when the application has to be in; Mr. Horn replied the end of this month.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the above resolution in support of the NYS DOT Bridge NY Grant application was carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

SEQR Resolution – Bridge Street Bridge Project: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Seneca Falls Town Board (hereinafter referred to as Town Board) is considering rehabilitation of Bridge Street Bridge in the Town of Seneca Falls (hereinafter referred to as Action).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby classify the above referenced Action to be a Type II Action under Section 617.5 © (2) of the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Regulations which states “rehabilitation, replacement or reconstruction of a structure or a facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building, energy or fire codes unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in Section 617.4 of this Part”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Type II Actions are not subject to further review under Part 617 of the SEQR Regulations; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Town Board, in making this classification, has satisfied the procedural requirements under SEQR and directs this Resolution to be placed in the file on this Action.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Resolution – Municipal Support for Bayard Street Culvert Replacement: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board (hereinafter referred to as Town Board) supports the submission of a 2022 New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT) Bridge NY Grant Program to replace the Bayard Street Culvert; and

WHEREAS, the NYS DOT Bridge NY Culvert Program provides assistance for local governments to rehabilitate and replace bridges and culverts with particular emphasis on projects that address poor structural conditions, mitigate weight restrictions or detours, facilitate economic development and improve resiliency and reduce flooding risk; and

WHEREAS, there is no match required for the Bridge NY Culvert Program and if funding is received, it will allow the Town of Seneca Falls to design and reconstruct the culvert and roadway using 100% NYS DOT Bridge NY Culvert funding.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls recognizes and fully supports the submission of the 2022 NYS DOT Bridge NY grant application.

Mr. Churchill stated this came up a couple of years ago, and he asked if we receive the grant, are we required to do the project, and the answer was yes. Mr. Horn stated you are not required to do anything until you contract with the State; if you elect not to sign the contract, you don't have to do anything. He strongly discouraged the Board from applying for grant funds if you are not intending to use. Mr. Churchill said this pays for the entire project if we get the grant; Mr. Horn replied yes – it pays for the entire project up to the amount that is requested. After discussion, Mr. Churchill stated if the Town can get it paid for with a grant and in its entirety, he certainly will support this.

After further discussion, the above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the above resolution in support of the submission of the 2022 NYS DOT Bridge NY grant application was carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

SEQR Resolution – Bayard Street Culvert Project: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board (hereinafter referred to as Town Board) is considering improvements and/or replacement to the Bayard Street Culvert in the Town of Seneca Falls (hereinafter referred to as Action).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby classify the above referenced Action as a Type II Action under Section 617.5 © (2) of the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Regulations which states “replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building, energy or fire codes unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in Section 617.4 of this Part”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Type II Actions are not subject to further review under Part 617 of the SEQR Regulations; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Town Board in making this classification has satisfied the procedural requirements under SEQR and directs this Resolution to be placed in the file on this Action.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Resolution – Set Public Hearing for ESD Restore NY Round 7 Grant Application: A motion was made by Steve Churchill and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following application:

WHEREAS, Town of Seneca Falls is eligible to apply for funding for economic development and revitalization purposes through Empire State Development Corporation’s Restore NY Program; and

WHEREAS, the Women’s Hall of Fame requested to partner with the Town to submit the Restore NY Round 7 Grant application as is outlined in the current ESD Grant guidance; and

WHEREAS, Seneca Falls has prioritized economic development. Downtown revitalization and would like to support the full restoration of the Seneca Knitting Mill building which will result in a direct and positive impact for the Town’s residents and visitors.

RESOLVED, Program requirements include the provision to hold a public hearing, and the Seneca Falls Town Board hereby approves scheduling of a Public Hearing for January 20, 2023 at 12 P.M. at the Town Hall Building located at 130 Ovid Street; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, this Public Hearing will review any comments for or against the Town applying for Restore NY funding in partnership with the Women’s Hall of Fame to complete their proposed project scope; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Clerk of the Town of Seneca Falls is hereby directed to post legal notices of said Public Hearing to be published according to local law and the Restore NY grant requirements.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Mr. Ferrara noted that this is in collaboration with the Women’s Hall of Fame. There are no funds or taxpayers’ money involved. The project is to restore the third and fourth floors.

Release of Budgeted Funds – Heritage Area Visitors Center: A motion was made to release the budgeted funds of \$124,215.00 to the Seneca Museum of Waterways and Industry as it is a benefit to the Community by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Steve Churchill. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Resolution – Proposed Local Law – Highway Superintendent Position: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls believes that it would be advantageous to the Town for the position of Highway Superintendent to be appointed rather than elected.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that proposed Local Law No. \_\_\_\_ of the Year 2023 entitled “A Local Law Providing for the Position of Highway Superintendent to be Appointed rather than an Elected Position” be and the same is hereby introduced before the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls, New York; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law be laid upon the desks of each Member of the Town Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that aforesaid proposed local law be referred to the Seneca County Personnel Department for review and recommendation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on said proposed local law at 6:00 PM on February 7, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk publish or cause to be published a notice of said Public Hearing in the official newspaper of the Town at least ten (10) days prior thereto.

Mr. Churchill stated he hasn’t heard from no one in the public who we represent who has come forward

advocating for this. He is a firm believer of “if it’s not broke, don’t fix it”; he doesn’t think it’s broke, so we shouldn’t fix it. Mr. Churchill said he is not supporting this. Mrs. Dyson agreed with Mr. Churchill, and said she thinks it should be an elected position.

Mr. Ferrara stated he did share with Board Members that some communities have gone this way and some rationales. He went on to explain that an elected Highway Superintendent doesn’t have to have any experience, and the only control the Board has is over the financing that runs the Department. Mr. Ferrara said this is his justification. For the record, this has been brought up twice and voted down twice. Further discussion followed.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the above resolution providing for the Highway Superintendent position to be appointed rather than elected did not carry as the vote was 2 ayes, 3 nays; Councilpersons Churchill, Dyson and Laskoski with the dissenting votes.

Resolution – Authorize B&L to Develop Collection Operations and Maintenance Plan: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently completed an inspection of the Town’s sewer systems and is requiring the Town of Seneca Falls to complete a Collection System Operation and Maintenance Plan; and

WHEREAS, B&L will review EPA requirements and examples of acceptable Collection O&M Plans: B&L will work with the Town Sewer Department to prepare a Preliminary Table of Contents for their Collection O&M Plan; and

WHEREAS, B&L will work with the Town to gather any remaining collection system information necessary to complete an asset update and analysis of the Town’s current system; and

WHEREAS, based on the above tasks, B&L will prepare a draft Collection O&M Plan, specific to the Town’s Wastewater assets, and understanding their best management practices; and

WHEREAS, B&L will incorporate comments received from the Town during the project workshop to finalize the Collection O&M Plan. B&L will prepare five (5) hard copies and one (1) electronic copy of the Collection O&M Plan that can be used for submission to the EPA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Seneca Falls approves the Scope and Services on a Time and Expense (T&E) fee of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to develop the Collection Operations and Maintenance Plan.

Mr. Ferrara explained the EPA came through and sited the Town for the problems it has when we have rain events. The sewer system can’t keep up with the amount of water that the sewer plant has to treat, which is because the sewer system is antiquated. Mr. Ferrara noted that this is a requirement that has to be done by August; money will be transferred over from the Contingency Fund.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the above resolution authorizing B&L to develop a Collection Operations and Maintenance Plan was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

W/S Resolution – Create Line Item & Transfer Funds to New Line Item (WTP Study): A motion was made by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls completed a comprehensive study of the Water Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the cost of these upgrades will cost over twenty-four million dollars (\$24,000,000); and

WHEREAS, the Bernard Donegan Group has prepared potential bonding options related to the comprehensive study; and

WHEREAS, a new Budget line item F8330.210 will be used to pay for the related costs; and

WHEREAS, a transfer of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) will be required from F1990.400 (Water Contingency Budget Line Item) to F8330.210.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Seneca Falls approves the creation of Budget line item F8330.210 and approves the transfer of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) from the Water Contingency Budget to the new line item.

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Resolution – Salary Modification – Interim Town Justice Kathleen Jans-Duffy: A motion was made by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Honorable Judge Charles Lafler has announced his intent to retire effective January 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Honorable Judge Jans-Duffy has been appointed by the State of New York as an Interim Town Justice.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Judge Jans-Duffy’s salary will now be \$27,500 per annum effective January 1, 2023.



Mr. Ferrara stated the Court has appointed Judge Jans-Duffy starting today, and she is here through the end of April. He said the Board has to appoint a Judge for the remainder of 2023 which will start the end of April as soon as that person completes schooling in Albany. There will be an Election in November, and the people will decide who the next Town Justice will be.

The above motion made by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to adopt the above resolution modifying the salary of Interim Town Justice Jans-Duffy to \$27,500 was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Ferrara stated he did not make a resolution to appoint a Judge tonight. If the Board wants to make a motion and appoint a Judge tonight, he has no problem with that – he was going to wait until February.

A motion was made to appoint T.J. Cassamassima as Interim Judge by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson.

Mr. Ferrara stated if this passes, Mr. Cassamassima will be sent to training, and he will finish out the remainder of the year and then there will be an Election.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to appoint T.J. Cassamassima as Interim Judge was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Resolution – Proposed Local Law – Alternate Members of Planning, ZBA and HPC: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls believes that it would be advantageous to the Town to amend the Town Code as it relates to the appointment of Alternate Members of the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and Heritage Preservation Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that proposed Local Law No. 1 of the year 2023 entitled “A Local Law to Provide for the Appointment of Alternate Members of the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and Heritage Preservation Commission” be and the same is hereby introduced before the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls, New York; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law be laid upon the desks of each member of the Town Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the aforesaid proposed local law be referred to the Seneca County and Seneca Falls Planning Boards for review and recommendation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on said proposed Local Law at 6:00 P.M. on February 7, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk publish or cause to be published a notice of said Public Hearing in the official newspaper of the Town at least ten (10) days prior thereto.

Mr. Morrell explained that currently, the Town Code does provide for Alternate Members to be appointed. They are only asked to sit for the Board to take action on a particular application if the Board does not have a quorum present. The Planning Committee is recommending that we expand the circumstances under which they can be appointed to act on a particular application. Mr. Morrell said it will keep more people interested and acting on those Boards, and also provides them an opportunity to get experience on the Boards. He also noted that the Planning Committee also recommended that these Alternate Board Members be required to do the same training as regular Board Members. Brief discussion followed.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the above resolution scheduling a Public Hearing for proposed Local Law #1 was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

#### Water/Sewer/Pool Credits:

A motion was made to approve the Water/Sewer/Pool credits as listed on the Memo dated January 3, 2023 by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Steve Churchill.

Mr. Churchill asked if there was any detail of these credits as they are pretty big numbers. Mr. Soccia said the two big ones are apparently leaks, and they have provided documentation of the repairs – they have validated that it’s not leaking anymore. Mrs. Laskoski stated in the future, can the Board have it like before, in terms of documentation; Mr. Soccia replied yes. Further discussion followed.

#### Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to approve and order paid the following

bills:

General Fund - \$170,124.90 (Abstract #001)

Recreation Fund \$13,755.98 (Abstract #001)

Highway Fund - \$15,257.59 (Abstract #001)

Sewer Fund \$58,515.98 (Abstract #001)

Water Fund - \$43,871.99 (Abstract #001)

No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

At 7:49 P.M., a motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to Public Officers Law Section 105(f). No questions. Motion carried

5 ayes, 0 nays.

A motion was made to reconvene the regular Meeting at 8:22 P.M. by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

NICALETTA J. GRER  
Town Clerk

A Bid opening for the W/S Equalization Tank was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 2:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 130 Ovid Street, Seneca Falls. Present were Frank Sinicropi, Town Councilman, Joseph Tullo, Chief WWTP Operator and Engineer Erin Ryan of Barton & Loguidice.

Erin Ryan of Barton & Loguidice proceeded to open the sealed bids which are as follows:

Preload, LLC, Louisville, Ky. – Base bid \$6,011,000.00.

DN Tanks of New York, LLC, Wakefield, Ma. – Base bid \$6,450,200.00.

Electrical Contract

Concord Electric Corp., Rochester, NY - \$186,400.00.

Upstate Companies, LLC, Mount Upton, NY - \$167,777.00.

Colacino Industries, Inc., Newark, NY - \$192,360.00.

Bids will be reviewed by Barton & Loguidice Engineers, and recommendations will be made to the Town Board.

Bid opening concluded at 2:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

NICALETTA J. GREER  
Town Clerk