

The Seneca Falls Town Board held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 130 Ovid Street, Seneca Falls, NY.

Present were Supervisor Michael Ferrara; Councilpersons Frank Sinicropi, Steven Churchill and Dawn Dyson. Also present were Patrick Morrell, Attorney for the Town, Peter Soscia, Town Manager, Timothy Snyder, Police Chief and Lesen Gleason, Town Engineer.

Supervisor Ferrara opened the Special Meeting at 6:00 P.M. A roll call of Board Members was taken and Councilwoman Laskoski was absent from the Meeting; the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Improvements of SF Water Treatment Plant & Distribution System (Town Law 202b):  
A motion was made to open the Public Hearing at 6:00 P.M. by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Ferrara stated the Town is applying for a WIIA Grant to help with improvements to the Water Treatment Plant and the distribution system. A preliminary engineering study was done and these are the recommendations.

Mr. Ferrara asked if anyone from the public wishes to comment on this. Since there were no comments from the public, a motion was made to close the Public Hearing at 6:05 P.M. by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Frank Sinicropi. No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays.

Public Hearing – Proposed Local Law #3 – 2023 – Amend Chapter 213 (Peddlers, Solicitors, Transient Business and Mobile Food Vending): A motion was made to open the Public Hearing at 6:05 P.M. by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Frank Sinicropi. No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Ferrara stated there is some confusion on this. He said there are some downtown Merchants who have reached out to the Board. He stated we are trying to protect our downtown businesses; at the present time, there is nothing stopping food trucks from parking downtown and doing business.

Mr. Ferrara asked if there were any comments from the public. Since there were no comments, a motion was made to close the Public Hearing at 6:10 P.M. by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson. No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays.

Public Hearing – Proposed Local Law #4 – 2023 – Add Chapter 215 to Code (Rental Property: Absentee Landlords and Criminal Activity): A motion was made to open the Public Hearing at 6:10 P.M. by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Frank Sinicropi. No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Ferrara stated we are trying to protect our neighborhoods, and trying to ensure that someone is in charge of the property for absentee landlords when things need to be taken care of.

Mr. Ferrara asked if there were any comments from the public. Since there were no comments, a motion was made to close the Public Hearing at 6:13 P.M. No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays.

New Business:

Proposed Improvements of SF Water Treatment Plant and Distribution System: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:  
WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls (Town) is proposing the Town of Seneca Falls Water System Improvements Project (Project) located in the Town of Seneca Falls and Fayette, Seneca County, New York; and  
WHEREAS, the Project has been classified as a "Type 1 Action" as defined by the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) in 6 NYCRR Part 617.4; and  
WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board sent a letter and Part 1 of a Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF) to other potentially "Interested Agencies" and "Involved Agencies" (as these terms are defined in the SEQRA Regulations found at 6 NYCRR Part 617.2), indicating the Town's desire to serve as the "Lead Agency" (as this term is defined in the SEQRA Regulations), and to complete a coordinated review of the Project (in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 617.6); and  
WHEREAS, responses from Interested and Involved Agencies were requested, and each of the potentially Interested and Involved Agencies has agreed to, or raised no objections to, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board serving as Lead Agency for the Project; and  
WHEREAS, pursuant to the SEQRA Regulations, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board has considered the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project by (a) using the criteria specified in Section 617.7 of the SEQRA Regulations, and (b) examining the FEAF of the Project, including the facts and conclusions in Parts 1, 2 and 3 of the FEAF, together with other available supporting information, to identify areas of environmental concern.  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that based upon the examination of the FEAF and other available supporting information, and considering both the magnitude and importance of each relevant area of environmental concern, and based further upon the Town's knowledge of the area surrounding the Project, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board makes the determination that the Project will not have a significant adverse environmental impact, and that the Project will not require the preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as a consequence of such findings and declaration, and in compliance with the requirements of SEQRA/SERP, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board, as Lead Agency, hereby directs the Town of Seneca Falls Supervisor to sign the FEAF Part 3 – Determination of Significance indicating that a Negative Declaration has been issued for the Project; this Resolution will take effect immediately and will be properly noticed.

Lesen Gleason stated the Board did Part 1 of SEQR at the May Meeting; this is Part 2 and 3 for SEQR. She explained that Part 2 identifies any potential impacts that may occur during or after construction of the Project, and Part 3 is supporting information that details any items that may have small or moderate impacts that were identified. Mrs. Gleason said the coordinated review period ended on July 7<sup>th</sup>, and the Agencies consented to the Board acting as Lead Agency. She said the Board can go through any questions or comments they may have.

Mr. Ferrara asked if the Board would like to go through Parts 2 and 3 of SEQR or are they comfortable with Mrs. Gleason's comments. Mr. Churchill stated his understanding is that it requires the Board to review every question; the Board should review every question. He will not support this Project and will vote against SEQR because we will be running a 12" main out to the Seneca Meadows Environmental Education Center which makes no sense to him. Mr. Churchill stated there are four roads that need water (Hyatt Road, Thorpe Road, Demont and George Road), and that is where we should be distributing water, not up to the Education Center. Mr. Ferrara stated Mrs. Gleason shared with the Board after the last Meeting more explanation and detail about why we are trying to score as many points in the Grant application as we possibly can. Discussion followed.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the above SEQR resolution relative to proposed improvements of the Water Treatment Plant and distribution system was carried 3 ayes, 1 nay; Councilman Churchill with the dissenting vote.

Bond Resolution Authorizing Construction of Improvements of SF Water Treatment Plant & Distribution System:  
A motion was made to adopt the attached Bond Resolution by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson.

Mr. Ferrara stated this is part of the Application process as the Board has to go on record saying that the Town will financially support the Project in addition to the WIIA grant.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the attached Bond Resolution did not carry as the vote was 3 ayes, 1 nay; Councilman Churchill with the dissenting vote. The motion was

defeated as 2/3 of the full Board was required.

Proposed Local Laws #3 and #4: Mr. Morrell stated the next two items are for SEQR review for the two proposed Local Laws which can be held over until the August Meeting. Mr. Ferrara requested that the Board review the SEQR resolutions for the Local Laws, and if there are any questions, that can be directed to Mr. Logue of MRB Group.

SFPD Resolution – Provisional Sergeant Appointment – Eric McLean: A motion was made by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Seneca Falls Police Department has a need to fill a vacant supervisory position with a current full time Police Officer; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Police Chief and Public Safety Committee to backfill these positions with qualified candidates; and

WHEREAS, Officer Eric McLean has been in an acting Sergeant role as Officer in Charge for the past seven months and has proven himself to be qualified to fill this vacancy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve promoting Officer Eric McLean to Provisional Police Sergeant.

No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays.

SFPD Resolution – Provisional Sergeant Appointment – Logan Burgdorf: A motion was made by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Seneca Falls Police Department has a need to fill a vacant supervisory position with a current full time Police Officer; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Police Chief and Public Safety Committee to backfill these positions with qualified candidates; and

WHEREAS, Officer Burgdorf has been in an acting Sergeant role as Officer in Charge for the past seven months and has proven himself to be qualified to fill this vacancy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve promoting Officer Logan Burgdorf to Provisional Police Sergeant.

No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays.

SFPD Resolution – Provisional Sergeant Appointment – Bethany Kidd: A motion was made by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Seneca Falls Police Department has a need to fill a vacant supervisory position with a full time Police Officer; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Police Chief and Public Safety Committee to backfill these positions with qualified candidates; and

WHEREAS, Officer Kidd has been in an acting Sergeant role as Officer in Charge for the past seven months and has proven herself to be qualified to fill this vacancy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve promoting Officer Bethany Kidd to Provisional Police Sergeant.

No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays.

SFPD Resolution – Appointment of Lieutenant – Sergeant Thomas Cleere: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Seneca Falls Police Department has a need to fill a vacant Lieutenant position with a current full time Police Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Police Chief and Public Safety Committee to backfill this position with a qualified candidate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Sgt. Thomas Cleere is currently on an active Seneca County Civil Service list for Police Lieutenant. Sergeant Cleere has been a Sergeant for two years and has proven himself to be qualified to fill this vacancy; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve promoting Sergeant Thomas Cleere to Police Lieutenant at the starting salary of \$92,677.00.

No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays.

Being there was no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the Meeting by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Frank Sinicropi. No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
NICALETTA J. GREER

Town Clerk