

VILLAGE OF GENESO
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 20, 2024
Regular Meeting

Board Present:

Chris Ivers, Mayor
Keith Walters, Deputy Mayor
Marlene Hamann-Whitmore, Trustee
Eddie Lee, Trustee
Alex Livingston, Trustee

Other Village Representatives Present:

Aprile S. Mack, Clerk/Treasurer
Ericka Elliott, Village Attorney Underberg & Kessler
Dan Quinlan, Superintendent of Public Works

Others Present:

Ryan Gross, Valley Rising Festival
Jeremy Grace, Valley Rising Festival
Chuck Salvaggio, Valley Rising Festival
Jason Molino, Executive Director, Livingston County Water & Sewer Authority
Margret Lee, Livingston County News
Kyle Scoville, Village Resident

1. Meeting Opened:

Mayor Ivers opened the meeting at 5:02pm. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Valley Rising Festival of Music and Art:

Ryan Gross, Jeremy Grace and Chuck Salvaggio appeared before the Board regarding the Valley Rising Festival of Music and Art. The event is planned for September 7th. They are requesting relocation of the event from Center Street to the Log Cabin Park. They have been in contact with Police Chief Osganian and Fire Chief Chanler.

Deputy Mayor Walters moved to approve the change in venue from Center Street to the Log Cabin Park on Saturday, September 7th. Trustee Hamann-Whitmore seconded the motion. There was some discussion about the possibility of Park Street being closed during the event, but they did not believe that would be needed but that if it were required, they would come back to the Board to request it. Hearing no further discussion, the motion passed with ayes from all.

3. Livingston County Water & Sewer Authority:

Leicester/York Regional Water Supply Expansion Project:

Jason Molino, Executive Director of the Livingston County Water and Sewer Authority appeared before the Board to discuss the proposed Leicester/York Regional Water Supply Expansion Project and how it is proposed to impact the Village of Geneseo. The water supply project was proposed to benefit the communities impacted by the AkzoNobel salt mine collapse. The entire project as proposed will benefit those communities but also benefit the County (including the Nursing Home and other buildings on Murray Hill) and neighboring Towns, Villages and Letchworth State Park.

The Village will remain as the sole provider of water to the Town of York along with parts of the Town of Geneseo but will gain the Town of Leicester. Improvements are planned

for the Water Filtration Plant on Blue Heron Drive (off West Lake Road) and at the Water Tank on Reservoir Road.

Currently, Village Attorney Ericka Elliott at Underberg & Kessler is reviewing the proposed contracts between the Authority and the Village. There is more than one contract as both the Village and Authority will act as purchaser and supplier to one another. When the project is substantially complete is when the Village and Authority will look at what the actual water rates will be. Timeline for completion is 2026/2027.

4. Action Items:

The Board reviewed the **May 6, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes**. Trustee Livingston moved to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Hamann-Whitmore seconded the motion and the motion passed with ayes from all.

Trustee Lee asked if **LaBella** has submitted any follow up documents since meeting with the Board on the 6th. They have not, as they are scheduled to come before the Board again on June 17th.

The annual **DePaul (Skybird Landing Apartments) Community Benefits Agreement payment** was received in the amount of \$10,612.08. Clerk/Treasurer Mack is asking how the payment should be split as outlined in the agreement, *“the benefits payment will be used to support the purchase of additional fire suppression equipment and funding emergency services (i.e., fire and police) for the Village as determined by the Village Board.”* Trustee Livingston moved to split the amount equally between the Police Department Reserve Equipment Account and the Fire Department Reserve Equipment Account. Trustee Hamann-Whitmore seconded the motion and the motion passed with ayes from all.

Trustee Livingston moved to authorize the expenditure of up to \$462,000 from the **General Fund Fire Equipment Reserve Fund** towards the purchase of a new fire truck, including hose and outfitting of the new truck. Trustee Hamann-Whitmore seconded the motion and the motion passed with ayes from all.

A **Local Law for a property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers** was introduced. Trustee Lee asked Attorney Elliott the reason for capping the exemption at \$3000 since he does not see a cap reflected in the enabling NYS legislation or subsequent administrative guidance. Attorney Elliot said she would follow up. Trustee Livingston moved to schedule a public hearing on the proposed local law for Monday, July 15th at 5:05pm. Trustee Hamann-Whitmore seconded the motion and the motion passed with ayes from all.

Trustee Livingston moved to accept the **intent of Police Officer Ray Goulet to retire effective June 28th**. He will work his last shift on June 27th. Trustee Hamann-Whitmore seconded the motion and the motion passed with ayes from all.

Abstract #012 for May 2024 of the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year: Following review by Trustee Hamann-Whitmore, the Board reviewed Abstract #012 of the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year. Trustee Hamann-Whitmore moved to approve payment for these vouchers with second from Deputy Mayor Walters in the following amounts:

	Beginning Voucher #	Ending Voucher #	Total Claims
General Fund	940	1046	\$176,341.42
Water Fund	940	1032	\$124,959.56

Sewer Fund	940	1033	\$141,164.91
		Grand Total	\$442,465.89

There were no big concerns or questions regarding the payments being made. Therefore, the motion passed with ayes from all.

5. Mayor Items:

Mayor Ivers was asked by the **Geneseo Central School** to write a letter in support of the School applying for a **COPS SVVP (Community Oriented Policing Services School Violence Prevention Program) Grant**. The Geneseo Police Department is in support of the school's plan for the funds if granted.

The **NY Forward Grant** awardees have been announced. Mayor Ivers does not have all the details yet, but that will be forthcoming.

6. Discussion Items:

Traffic & Safety Pedestrian Committee: A meeting is scheduled for next week.

Historian: The Village is in receipt of the bequest from David W. Parish. Trustee Hamann-Whitmore will set up interviews with the candidates interested in becoming the new Town/Village Historian. Trustee Lee and Gary Mix of the Town Board will be invited to conduct the interviews.

Village Tree Inventory: Trustee Hamann-Whitmore hopes to complete the tree survey in June.

Letchworth Gateway Villages: Trustee Hamann-Whitmore stated that there was nothing new to report.

Parks & Trails New York: Trustee Hamann-Whitmore stated that there was nothing new to report.

New Website Update: Trustee Hamann-Whitmore stated that the new website is progressing.

7. Board Updates/Information:

Fire Department: Trustee Livingston had nothing new to report from Chief Chanler.

Police Department: Trustee Hamann-Whitmore had nothing new to report from Chief Osganian and that all Board Members should be in receipt of the Chief's Weekly Activity Report.

Court: Trustee Lee reported that the surveillance cameras obtained by the Justice Court Administration Program (JCAP) Grant have been installed and are operational. The cameras are being monitored in the Police Department. The key fob system has also been installed but not yet put into operation. Fobs will be distributed and training on the system will take place in the next few weeks.

Geneseo Community Main Street: Trustee Lee reported that the company tasked with recruiting vendors and artisans to Main Street for the Summer Festival has withdrawn due to a scheduling conflict. Therefore, previous plans to close Center and Chestnut Streets on July 12 and 13 are no longer required. The Rotary portion of the festival will continue as planned in Village Park. They are planning a Scarecrow Festival in October.

Department of Public Works: The Department is working on multiple road projects within the Village.

8. Executive Session:

Deputy Mayor Walters moved to enter executive session at 6:53pm to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation and proposed, pending or current litigation. Mayor Ivers asked that all public in attendance leave the meeting including Clerk/Treasurer Mack, but that Attorney Elliott could remain. Trustee Livingston seconded the motion, and the Board entered into an executive session.

Mayor Ivers reported the following: At 7:42pm, Trustee Livingston moved to come out of executive session. Deputy Mayor Walters seconded the motion and the motion passed with ayes from all. It was noted that no action was taken during the executive session.

However, after the executive session, a unanimous vote was made to issue a letter requesting the resignation of a Village employee which was moved by Trustee Livingston and seconded by Deputy Mayor Walters.

9. Adjourn:

Per Mayor Ivers, Trustee Livingston moved to close the meeting at 7:45pm. Deputy Mayor Walters seconded the motion and the motion passed with ayes from all.

Aprile S. Mack, Clerk/Treasurer