

DRAFT

Supervisor Gary Dickson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:	Present	Gary Dickson	Supervisor
		Robert J. Breidenstein	Councilmember
		Joseph Cantafio	Councilmember
		Susan K. Kims	Councilmember
		Jeff Piekarec	Councilmember
	Absent	None	

Supervisor Dickson read the Fire Prevention Code instructing the public where to exit in case of a fire or an emergency.

PRESENTATION

1. Supervisor Dickson re Presentation on Historical Preservation Draft law

Town Historian James Pace provided the following updates on establishing a Historic Preservation Code:

- ✓ Fifty buildings standing and in use that were built by the Ebenezer Society
- ✓ Proposal is based on the NYS Office of Historic Preservation recommends
- ✓ The purpose is stated in the draft and would provide for the creation of a historic preservation commission for the purpose of making recommendations to the Town Board
- ✓ West Seneca could then apply for Certified Local Government status which would make the town eligible for funding to maintain, preserve, and restore the appearance of structures
- ✓ A public hearing will be scheduled for July 18, 2022

Mr. Yots provided the following information:

- ✓ Assists property owners in preserving properties through historic preservation tax credits – both commercial and residential
- ✓ The commission will aid property owners in decision making
- ✓ Local government grants available

Councilmember Piekarec stated he believes the law was well written and pointed out the discrepancy in term lengths on pages 2 and 4. Councilmember Piekarec would like all five members to be approved by the Town Board with staggered terms similar to the Planning and Zoning Boards with an attendance policy.

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Kims, to approve Minutes #2022-11, May 23, 2022.

Ayes: (4) Supervisor Dickson	Noes: None	Motion Carried
Councilmember Cantafio		
Councilmember Kims		
Councilmember Piekarec		

Abstained: Councilmember Breidenstein

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

No comments were received.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Highway Sup't. re Amendment to the appointment of Steve Amoia, Sr. as part-time seasonal Buildings & Grounds Laborer

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Breidenstein, to amend the previous motion of May 9, 2022, appointing Steve Amoia, Sr. as a part-time seasonal Buildings & Grounds Laborer effective May 10, 2022, at the rate of \$13.20 per hour, noting contingencies on employment have been waived.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

TABLED ITEMS

1. Town Engineer re Bid awards for Plant 5 Flowmetering – General
2. Town Engineer re Bid awards for Plant 5 Flowmetering – Electrical

Town Attorney Trapp stated he and Town Engineer Tanner are talking to the NYSDEC but his inclination is that they will not waive the requirements.

The items remained on the table.

NEW BUSINESS

11-A ANNOUNCEMENTS & DISCUSSIONS

1. Town Attorney re Proposed Acceptable Use Policy for electronic equipment

Supervisor Dickson stated Mr. Trapp has submitted the policy for best practices for consideration by the Town Board members and no formal action is required at this time.

2. Recreation Supervisor re Discussion of the pool status and Summer Aquatics appointments

Recreation Supervisor Lauren Masset stated that she has received a limited number of applications for lifeguards which would impact the pool hours.

Councilmember Breidenstein stated staffing needs have been reviewed and resident participation relative to the costs of opening and operating the pool:

- \$47,280 annually plus electricity
- Personnel \$1,100 per day
- Upcoming costs of \$150,000 for resurface and \$250,000 - \$270,000 to replace the gutter system

Councilmember Piekarec questioned the number of applicants compared to last year. Ms. Masset stated there were 23 aquatic staff in 2021 and to date there are 18; 1 supervisory staff last year and 3 this year; the pool was open 4 days per week.

Supervisor Dickson questioned what alternatives people would have. Councilmember Breidenstein stated the school district is offering summer swim programs. Supervisor Dickson stated the YMCA has a pool. Councilmember Breidenstein stated LA Fitness and Eggert Road YMCA location have pools, and there is a swim club in Orchard Park.

Councilmember Piekarec questioned the time frame for the pool maintenance. Councilmember Breidenstein stated Buildings and Grounds indicated approximately 18 – 36 months for maintenance. Councilmember Piekarec stated the pool could be opened this summer as it is in the budget and then alternative options for the site could be examined or the necessary improvements could be spaced out over two years. Councilmember Breidenstein stated the pool would need to be made ADA compliant if any improvements are undertaken.

Councilmember Piekarec stated he is in favor of opening the pool this year and looking at alternative uses for the site.

Supervisor Dickson questioned Ms. Masset if she is aware of the school district's readiness to open their pools to the residents. Ms. Masset stated she spoke with the Continuing Education office as they are offering swim lessons and an adult exercise class; she is not aware of open swimming opportunities. Supervisor Dickson questioned the relative costs for the alternative sites. Ms. Masset stated she is not aware. Councilmember Breidenstein stated a YMCA membership is approximately \$72 per month.

Councilmember Cantafio questioned Ms. Masset for alternative uses for the pool's site. Ms. Masset stated she would like resident feedback, but a few ideas would be extending the splashpad or multisport courts with outdoor skating in the winter. Councilmember Breidenstein stated some ideas he has heard include beach volleyball, pickleball, a small dog park, and an outdoor ice rink.

Highway Superintendent Brian Adams stated they are currently cleaning the pool and patching the walls, and expect to fill this week. Mr. Adams agreed there are large upcoming expenses. At this point they will have the pool ready to open without any pump issues.

Councilmember Breidenstein stated he reluctantly recommends closing the pool and noted there are currently 5 fewer lifeguards than last year.

Supervisor Dickson stated his concern is for the residents that do not have any alternatives.

Councilmember Kims expressed concerns with keeping the pool open for 100 residents, not knowing total cost and is in favor of closing the pool.

Councilmember Piekarec stated he agrees with exploring alternatives but would like to open the pool this year as it was budgeted for, and the opening process has started.

Councilmember Cantafio stated he is also extremely reluctant to recommend closing the pool but the reality of low staffing, possibility of mechanical issues, and limited hours of operation must be seriously considered.

Highway Superintendent Adams reminded all the costs of changing over the site and noted the budgeted funds could be reallocated.

Councilmember Cantafio questioned the usage of the splash pad. Ms. Masset stated she cannot provide new numbers, but it is always very busy. Councilmember Cantafio agreed he has received positive feedback and meeting the residents needs as they currently stand can be done.

Supervisor Dickson stated he knows there will be disappointed seniors that utilize the pool.

Motion by Councilmember Breidenstein, seconded by Councilmember Cantafio, to close the pool at Veterans Park for community use.

Ayes: (4) Supervisor Dickson
Councilmember Breidenstein
Councilmember Cantafio
Councilmember Kims
Noes: (1) Councilmember Piekarec Motion Carried

Councilmember Breidenstein stated Ms. Masset will be contacting the individuals that had applied for the aquatic staff positions to offer them opportunities with the half day camp program or sanitation and building and grounds.

11-B COMMUNICATIONS TO BE VOTED ON

1. Supervisor Dickson re Snow Removal and Ice Control Agreement 2022 - 2025

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Breidenstein, to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Erie County 2022 – 2025 Intermunicipal Snow Removal and Ice Control Agreement.

Ayes: All
Noes: None
Motion Carried

2. Town Attorney re Local Law No. 8 – Revision to Chapter 28, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Kims, to schedule a public hearing on June 20, 2022, at 6 P.M. for the purposes of amending Section 28-2 of the Code of the Town of West Seneca with respect to the elimination of the reference to the Zoning Commission which is already codified under Chapter 120 and to further provide for minimum attendance requirements for Planning Board members.

Town Attorney Chris Trapp stated one aspect being addressed is “members of the Planning Board are members of the Zoning Commission” and noted the town does not have a Zoning Commission, instead there is a Zoning Board of Appeals and members cannot belong to both. The second aspect deals with absenteeism and provides that after three consecutive absences or in the event that a member misses over thirty percent of the in-person meetings in one calendar year, that individual be removed from the Planning Board after notice and a public hearing.

Councilmember Cantafio questioned Mr. Trapp on the wording “may be removed” and “be removed” and if this contradicts the attendance policy that was recently adopted by the Town Board. Mr. Trapp stated the actual revision does state may be removed.

Ayes: All
Noes: None
Motion Carried

3. Town Attorney re Planning Board

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Piekarec, to prefer removal charges against George Clifford, a member of the Planning Board, and to schedule a public hearing on such removal for June 20, 2022, at 6 P.M.

On the question, Councilmember Cantafio questioned the use of the term "charges." Town Attorney Trapp stated the use of this term means Mr. Clifford has been given notice of the allegations.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

4. Highway Sup't. re Attendance at Highway School

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Breidenstein, to authorize the Highway Superintendent and Deputy Highway Superintendent Kevin Smith to attend the 2022 Highway School held on June 6 – 8, 2022, at Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY, at a cost not to exceed \$1,200 with funds available in line 01501000.50414.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

5. Highway Sup't. re Appointment of Jackson McCarthy as part-time seasonal Buildings & Grounds Laborer

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Cantafio, to appoint Jackson McCarthy as a part-time seasonal Buildings & Grounds Laborer at a rate of \$13.20 per hour effective May 24, 2022, contingent upon completion of paperwork and passing of drug testing.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

6. Director of Finance re 2021 Budget transfer – Highway Fund

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Kims, to authorize the attached budget transfer for the year ended 2021 with respect to the Highway Fund.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried
APPENDICES

7. Recreation Supervisor re Appointment of Baylee DiCioccio as part-time seasonal Youth Activities Leader

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Breidenstein, to appoint Baylee DiCioccio as part-time seasonal Youth Activities Leader at a rate of \$19 Effective May 24 – September 1, 2022, contingent upon completion of paperwork and passing of drug testing, and noting she is eligible for a \$500 Summer Employee Bonus, paid from line 1.7140.0149.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

Residents referred to the town pool and made the following questions/comments:

- ✓ Have residents who use the pool been asked what alternatives are realistic for them – Councilmember Breidenstein stated he has been told by people they prefer the splash pad as it is always open.
- ✓ Providing safe and enjoyable outlets should be a priority, they are considered by potential residents – Councilmember Cantafio stated his vote was based on a realization that the town cannot staff the pool to make it worthwhile and the plan is to transition to activities that will meet community needs. Councilmember Breidenstein stated the data indicated the pool is not in demand based on usage. Supervisor Dickson reiterated the intention of serving the community's needs.
- ✓ How many residents use the Senior Center in relation to the resources and cost put into it – Supervisor Dickson stated it is packed every time he is there. Councilmember Piekarec stated he believes the membership is 935.
- ✓ Why can other towns operate a pool – Supervisor Dickson stated that is not necessarily true, Orchard Park has a lake, and some pools are not being opened this year.
- ✓ What hours will the restrooms be open at the pool and splash pad – Highway Superintendent Brian Adams stated restrooms are open daily from 7:00 A.M. – 7:30 A.M. and closed between 8:00 P.M.– 9:00 P.M. and this is the same for the restroom in Veterans Park. Supervisor Dickson stated there is remaining grant money for a comfort station closer to the baseball diamond.

COMMUNICATIONS BY BOARD MEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

Deputy Superintendent Greenan

- Farmers Market begins Thursday, 4:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. and runs weekly through September 15, 2022

Highway Superintendent Adams

- Block work at the BNAC is complete
- Sink hole at Elmsford Drive residence was addressed
- Tampa Drive paving completed

Councilmember Piekarec

- Grand re-opening of the Senior Fitness Center to showcase new equipment
- Groundbreaking of the Western New York Federal Credit Union expansion
- A ceremony to dedicate the Camp Kiwanis Amphitheater in Rome, NY to longtime West Seneca resident Ivan Tarnopoll

Councilmember Kims

- Requested list of streets for repaving and how to add one– Mr. Adams stated he did add this to the town website, and it will be updated as they complete projects; he can review a street and advise accordingly.

Councilmember Breidenstein

- Civic and Patriotic Commission needs volunteers for Community Days
- Resolved issues with the West Seneca Soccer Club
- Would like the Town Board to appoint a liaison to work with the school districts serving the residents

Supervisor Dickson

- A memorial butterfly garden is being installed at the Community Center by employees in honor of a former co-worker

Town Clerk Kobler

- Hiring for a full time Senior Clerk typist position

Chief Baker

- Annual Torch Run was a success, raised over \$5,200
- Walk and Talk Program began in neighborhoods, partnered with a pet rescue
- 90th anniversary of the West Seneca Police Department on June 29th

Director of Finance

- An updated overtime report was sent to the Town Board and an updated budget monitoring report will follow
- Annual audit report almost complete

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Breidenstein, to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 P.M.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

AMY M. KOBLER, TOWN CLERK

ORG CODE	OBJECT	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	INCREASE	DECREASE
HIGHWAY FUND				
02511000	50110	Salaries of Crew Chief		487
02511000	50115	Salaries of Working Crew Chief	10,726	
02511000	50144	Salaries of Laborers		10,239
02511000	50419	Contractual Expenses		316
02511000	50430	Pool Cars - Engineering	128	
02511000	50431	Pool Cars - Building & Plumb	188	
02513000	50200	Equipment	857	
02513000	50441	Equipment Rental		162
02513000	50445	Repair and Maintenance		87
02513000	50493	Parts		608
02906000	50807	Hospital & Medical Insurance		36,439
02908000	50804	Health & Welfare Insurance	1,792	
02908000	50809	Medicare Part B Reimbursements	34,647	
			48,338	48,338