

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

ROLL CALL:	Present	Gary Dickson	Supervisor
		William Bauer	Councilman
		Joseph Cantafio	Councilman
		William P. Hanley, Jr.	Councilman
		Jeff Piekarec	Councilman
Absent	None		

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to enter into executive session to interview candidates for the position of General Crew Chief in Buildings and Grounds at 6:01 P.M.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

No official actions were taken.

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to adjourn the executive session at 6:47 P.M.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Bauer, to terminate Steven Hanavan as Buildings and Grounds Crew Chief and appoint him as a Buildings and Grounds General Crew Chief Group 7, Step 5, at a rate of \$34.57 per hour effective August 24, 2021, as per the Blue-Collar Contract and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

On the question, Councilman Cantafio thanked the candidates for their hard work and stated he supports Highway Superintendent Adams recommendation.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to approve Minutes #2021-16 of August 9, 2021.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON COMMUNICATIONS

- The following question was received regarding agenda item No. 1:
 - ✓ Is the \$25,000 being requested for the Burchfield Nature and Art Center intended to be an advance on the \$100,000 grant money that was sought and set aside in March 2020 – Supervisor Dickson stated the town cannot spend any money until the state notifies the town the grant has been approved
 - ✓ What is the status on the structure, the public was told in June 2021 that measures have been taken to maintain the structure until grant money is received – Councilman Bauer stated the deterioration is advancing, for example weeds and rodents in through the openings
 - ✓ Referred to statements from June when a structural engineer confirmed there was no additional deterioration and what had changed – Councilman Bauer stated it is a concern for the winter weather. The only items that would be purchased are ones with long lead times, for example custom windows, and wanting to have the items on hand when town labor is available. Highway Superintendent Adams stated after the summer months he has more flexibility when scheduling his employees.

Councilman Bauer requested Agenda Item No. 1 be removed and requested ARP funding be used for this expense.

Highway Superintendent Adams stated he agrees with the need for repairs for the building along with ordering the materials now due to the current lead time for delivery.

NEW BUSINESS

17-A ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Supervisor Dickson re American Rescue Plan proposal
 - ✓ Bike track
 - ✓ Sewers
 - ✓ Blue Collar and White Collar Unions have requested the extra \$5 per hour compensation the county is providing to their essential workers for a certain period of time
- Councilman Piekarec re American Recuse Plan proposal
 - ✓ Park shelter at Harlem Road Park, up to \$223,076.92
 - ✓ Double road paving 2022 budget, up to \$140,000
 - ✓ Bike Park/Dirkson multi use court, \$150,000
- Councilman Hanley re American Recuse Plan proposal
 - ✓ Heating and ventilation systems upgrades & replacing windows
 - ✓ Invest in parks
 - ✓ Revenue losses
 - ✓ Rebuild/replace Plant 6
 - ✓ Backup generators at two pumping stations
 - ✓ Covid related court back log
 - ✓ Premium pay for essential workers
 - ✓ Sewer system upgrades or improvements to water systems
 - ✓ Comfort station at Town Hall
- Councilman Cantafio re American Recuse Plan proposal
 - ✓ Agrees with the suggestions mentioned
 - ✓ Looking at improvements for Centennial Park and getting numbers

- Councilman Bauer re American Recuse Plan proposal
 - ✓ Fully supports infrastructure work
 - ✓ Investments at the Senior Center: a pickleball court (2021 costs - \$42,178.50) and a golf simulator (\$10,165.01)

Councilman Piekarec stated he is not in favor of raises for workers, many private sectors were laid off, had hours cut, took pay cuts; it sends the wrong message. Supervisor Dickson stated he agrees with Councilman Piekarec.

Supervisor Dickson stated there is not a rush to spend the money and the town has several years to spend the money. The need for sewer work is so great any amount not spent will probably be allocated to sewers.

- Traffic Safety Committee recommendation for on-street RV parking

Highway Sup't. Adams stated he met with Chief Baker and Code Enforcement Officer Schieber to discuss the issues and agree with the safety concerns as well as aesthetics. The group decided it is desirable to not allow overnight parking and to move forward with their recommendation to create a code and local law banning overnight parking of recreational vehicles and trailers.

Councilman Hanley asked if the committee considered a parking lot for out of town visitors. Highway Superintendent Adams stated this was considered but was determined some residents may take advantage of town parking lots. The committee decided it was better to anticipate some people will violate the ban in those instances and address them as needed.

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to direct the Town Attorney to compose a draft law to ban on street parking of recreational and other large vehicles.

On the question, Supervisor Dickson stated this will follow the required process of adopting a new law.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

17-B COMMUNICATIONS TO BE VOTED ON

1. Councilman Bauer re Budget transfer – Repair material for Burchfield Nature and Arts Center
Item withdrawn.

2. Town Attorney re Agreement with Chief of Police

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Cantafio, to authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement between the Town of West Seneca and the Chief of Police.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

3. Town Attorney re Municipal Cooperation Agreement, Addendum No. 2 – School Resource Officers

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to adopt the following resolution authorizing the Supervisor to execute the Municipal Cooperation Agreement School Resource Officers, Addendum No. 2 with the West Seneca Central School District:

WHEREAS, the Town of West Seneca School District wishes to have School Resource Officers in place for the protection of school children; and

WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law and Section 208-a of the General Municipal Law, the Town and the District are parties to a Municipal Cooperation Agreement, dated December 19, 2016, whereby the Town agreed to provide services of police officers employed by the Town and the District agreed to pay for said services during the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the pursuant to Article 5-G and Section 208-a of the General Municipal Law, the Town and the District extended the terms of the Agreement for services to be provided during the period January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the students are returning to full-time, in-person schooling in September of 2021, and pursuant to Article 5-G and Section 208-a of the General Municipal Law, the Town and the District seek to extend the terms of the Agreement for services to be provided during the period July 1, 2021 through June 20, 2024; and

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of West Seneca authorizes the Supervisor to execute the Municipal Cooperation Agreement School Resource Officers Between the Town of West Seneca and West Seneca School District extending the terms of the December 31, 2016 Agreement through the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.

On the question, Supervisor Dickson asked Chief Baker to comment on the program.

Chief Baker stated this was one of the pilot programs in New York State and the department currently has four officers in the schools full time for ten months with their salaries paid for by the school district.

Councilman Cantafio stated the positive impact is evident every day, the officers are not "security guards." The officers build relationships with the staff, students, and families.

Town Attorney Hawthorne stated the agreement is for five officers, one at each high school and middle school and one that is shared by the elementary schools; they are paid by the school district to the town according to the CBA contract noting the rates for 2024 will be determined. The agreement will be in place through June 30, 2024.

Supervisor Dickson noted the payments will be approximately: 2021 - \$286,000; 2022 - \$293,000; and 2023 - \$ 300,000.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

4. Town Attorney re Request for Proposals – Ice Rink

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Piekarec, to approve the request for proposals for the operation of the concession stand, pro shop, and skate rental at the ice rink noting, this is not a competitive bid, rather the town is renting out the space and providing an exclusive use and license. The Town Clerk will accept proposals until 12 P.M. on September 7, 2021, and the matter will then be placed on the September 20, 2021, Town Board agenda for review of proposals and award of contract.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

5. Highway Sup't. re Retirement of Dana Andrzejewski as Highway Crew Chief

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Bauer, to accept the retirement of Dana Andrzejewski as Highway Crew Chief effective August 13, 2021, and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

6. Highway Sup't. re Title change of Francis Malota to Highway Motor Equipment Operator

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Bauer, to terminate Francis Malota as a Highway Mechanic and appoint him as a Highway Motor Equipment Operator Group 2, Step 8 at a rate of \$29.86 per hour effective August 24, 2021, as per the Blue-Collar Contract and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

7. Highway Sup't. re Title change of Timothy John to Highway Motor Equipment Operator

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Bauer, to terminate Timothy John as a Highway Laborer and appoint him as a Highway Motor Equipment Operator Group 2, Step 5 at a rate of \$31.17 per hour effective August 24, 2021, as per the Blue-Collar Contract and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

8. Highway Sup't. re Appointment of Andrew Kocieniewski as seasonal part-time Sanitation Laborer

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Cantafio, to appoint Andrew Kocieniewski as a seasonal part-time Sanitation Laborer at a rate of \$13.75 per hour effective August 24, 2021, contingent upon completion of paperwork and passing of drug and alcohol testing and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

9. Highway Sup't. re Title change for Zachary Lembke to full time Buildings and Grounds Laborer

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Bauer, to terminate Zachary Lembke as a part-time seasonal Buildings and Grounds Laborer and appoint him as a full time Buildings and Grounds Laborer Group 1, Step 1 at a rate of \$22.58 per hour effective August 24, 2021, as per the Blue-Collar Contract and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

On the question, Councilman Piekarec stated the position should be eliminated and will be voting against it.

Ayes: (4) Supervisor Dickson Noes: (1) Councilman Piekarec Motion Carried
Councilman Bauer
Councilman Cantafio
Councilman Hanley

10. Code Enforcement Officer re Rezoning request – 1997 - 2003 Ridge Road

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to refer the rezoning request for the property at 1997 – 2003 Ridge Road from R-60A to C-2 to allow for the construction of a free-standing restaurant with drive thru to the West Seneca Planning Board for their recommendation.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

11. Director of Finance re Budget transfer – Finance Department computer software maintenance

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Piekarec, to approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$218.05 from Finance – Contractual Expenses 01.1310.0400 to Finance – Computer Software 01.1310.216 for annual software maintenance expenses.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

12. Director of Finance re Budget transfer – Finance Department overtime

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$1,000.00 from Finance – Continuing Education and Training 01.1310.0414 to Finance – Overtime 01.1310.199 for overtime related expenses.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

13. Director or Sr. Services re Status change of part-time Food Service Worker Carol Kennedy to seasonal

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to change the status of part-time Food Service Worker Carol Kennedy to seasonal effective September 1 – September 30, 2021, and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

14. Recreation Supervisor re Resignation of Susan Stone as part-time Clerk Typist

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to accept the resignation of Susan Stone as part-time Clerk Typist effective August 17, 2021, and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

15. Recreation Supervisor re Spectrum Health and Human Services – Int'l Overdose Awareness Day

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to authorize the Supervisor to execute the necessary documents to enter into an agreement with Spectrum Health and Human Services for an Overdose Awareness and Education event on August 30, 2021, noting there is no usage fee.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

16. Recreation Supervisor re WSCSD Facility Usage Agreement 2021 – 2022

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to authorize the Supervisor to execute the necessary documents to enter into an agreement with the West Seneca Central School District for the use of town facilities for the school year noting this agreement is also contingent upon West Seneca School Board approval.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

17. Recreation Supervisor re D'Youville College Facility Usage Agreement 2021

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to authorize the Supervisor to execute the necessary documents to enter into an agreement with D'Youville College for use of the town's baseball diamonds.

On the question, Supervisor Dickson asked Recreation Supervisor Masset to explain the priorities for allocating the baseball diamonds.

Ms. Masset stated the West Seneca School District, West Seneca Youth Baseball, and Recreation Department have priority until April 1 of each year; after this the diamonds are first come first serve to third parties. All schedules are prepared Wednesdays for the following week.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

17-C APPROVAL OF WARRANT

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to approve the vouchers submitted for audit, chargeable to the respective funds as follows: General Fund - \$154,812.91 and \$6,072.21; Highway Fund - \$27,080.71; Sewer District - \$3,869.39 and 567.99; Electric Lighting Districts - \$825.95 and 19.98; Capital Fund - \$13,547.77; (vouchers 19786 – 19883 and 19628 - 20109)

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

17-D REPORTS FOR FILING

- Jeffrey Schieber, Code Enforcement Officer, building & plumbing reports for July 2021 received and filed.

ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

- The following comments/questions were received:
 - ✓ Requested update on Buffalo Creek maintenance – Highway Superintendent Adams will check on the status of the permit from the NYSDEC
 - ✓ Baseball field at Veteran’s Park has several safety issues and requested assistance from the town – Highway Superintendent Adams thanked the Youth Baseball Association for their contributions to the parks, there are upgrades that are needed and he will continue to look at them
 - ✓ Can the town afford the replacement of police radio units - Chief Baker stated there are problems in certain areas of town that require additional equipment; there is a need for improved radio coverage for portable units. Chief Baker stated it is an ongoing issue and would like to investigate all options to improve service before purchasing new radios.

COMMUNICATIONS BY BOARD MEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

Recreation Supervisor Masset

- Part-time Clerk Typist position available and hiring for Fall and Winter programs

Highway Sup’t. Adams

- Town repaving projects this week: Eastwood Drive and Creekward Drive, and Mill Road Park parking lot

Town Attorney Hawthorne

- Two outstanding grievances from CSEA White Collar and Blue-Collar regarding health insurance premium contributions pursuant to the contract and requested an executive session to discuss a proposal for settlement

Councilman Piekarec

- Recognized the ten first responders from West Seneca Fire Companies that went downstate to respond to tropical storm Henri

Supervisor Dickson

- Meeting with potential developer for a prominent location

Councilman Cantafio

- Thanked Recreation Supervisor Masset and the summer camp kids for the notes left for the Town Board

Town Clerk Kobler

- Working with Erie County on the school tax bills
- M&T Bank will not be taking taxpayers
- New drop box to be installed
- Special tax collection hours amended this year and a day at the Senior Center to be announced

Chief Baker

- 7th annual Torch Run for the Special Olympics to be held Sunday, August 29, 2021

Director of Finance Strauss

- Met with all department heads regarding preliminary budgets
- Drafted first report for ARP funds

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to enter into executive session to discuss a possible settlement for a CSEA Union grievance.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

No official actions were taken.

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Bauer, to adjourn the executive session at 8:26 P.M.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Piekarec, to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 P.M.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried



AMY M. KOBLER, TOWN CLERK