



## **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WATKINS GLEN HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2021**

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The public session of the meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Mayor Luke Leszyk. Present were Mayor Luke Leszyk, Deputy Mayor Louie Perazzini, Trustee Nan Woodworth, Trustee Laurie DeNardo, Trustee Bob Carson, Village Clerk Lonnie Childs, and Treasurer Rhonda Slater. Also present was Sergeant Ethan Mosher. The meeting was held via ZOOM online video conferencing in compliance with COVID Executive Order 202.96. There were five other persons in attendance.

### **VOTING ITEMS & PUBLIC INPUT**

#### **Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative Plan**

Mayor Luke Leszyk opened the meeting with a brief history on the Executive Order Number 203 that was signed into law by Governor Cuomo requiring all police departments develop and submit a Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan by April 1, 2021 and the steps that the Watkins Glen Police Department, with assistance from the Schuyler County District Attorney, has taken to comply with said order. Sergeant Mosher then spoke regarding the survey results and various areas of improvement that will be implemented in conjunction with this survey. The public was reminded that this plan would be a “living document”, ever evolving and improving in the months and years ahead. With no questions or concerns from the public, Deputy Mayor Louie Perazzini made the motion to approve the following resolution approving the Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan for the Watkins Glen Police Department. Trustee Bob Carson seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

WHEREAS, the Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative was directed by Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order Number 203 of June 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, all municipalities in New York State that have police forces are required to participate and submit a written plan by April 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, if communities fail to submit a written plan, their funding will be withheld by the NYS Department of Budget; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Watkins Glen understands that maintaining public safety is extremely important and is one of the essential roles of government. In order to achieve that goal, there must be mutual trust and respect between police and the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, this process was structured, according to the guidelines provided in the New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative, requiring community input and participation, along with an assessment of policing policies; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Watkins Glen has followed the guidelines of the Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative in the following ways:

- Reviewed the needs of the community served by the Village of Watkins Glen Police Department and evaluated the Department’s current policies and practices.
- Established and evaluated policies that allow police to safely perform their duties.

- Involved the entire community in the discussion by way of a public survey distributed on January 19, 2021 and hosted a community-wide conversation on March 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Watkins Glen Board of Trustees has read, reviewed, and agreed with the information presented in the Plan;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Watkins Glen Board of Trustees, accepts and adopts the Village of Watkins Glen Police Department Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative Plan and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Watkins Glen Board of Trustees, upon adoption of this resolution, will send the Village of Watkins Glen Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative Plan to the New York State Department of Budget by the established deadline for full compliance.

#### [Special Events Application – LaFayette Park](#)

Trustee Nan Woodworth made the motion to approve the special events application from Stacey Parrish, with Cabins to Castles, to use LaFayette Park from 10am to 12pm on Saturday, April 3, 2021 to host a “Pictures with the Easter Bunny” community event. Trustee Laurie DeNardo seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

#### [ADJOURN](#)

With no further business to come before the Board, Deputy Mayor Louie Perazzini made the motion to adjourn at 4:26 pm. Trustee Bob Carson seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,

Rhonda E Slater