



REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WATKINS GLEN HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The public session of the meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Laurie DeNardo.

Present were Mayor Laurie DeNardo, Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cherock, Trustee Nan Woodworth, Trustee Bob Carson, Trustee Margaret Schimizzi, Superintendent of Public Works Terry Wilcox, Clerk Fred Warrick, and Sergeant Ethan Mosher. Also present were Superintendent of Parks & Recreation Craig Bond and Motor Equipment Operator Scott Taylor. Absent were Code Enforcement Officer Scot Cole and Treasurer Angela Ventra. There was approximately four other people in attendance.

PUBLIC BE HEARD

Tony Vickio, lead organizer for the corvette festival, reviewed the success of the event and asked the Board if they would be billing to do the same for next year while they finalize the process of forming as a nonprofit.

Jeremy Cramer, Program Director for the Community Dispute Resolution Center (CDRC) went over their services available to the community and a planned Hike-A-Thon fundraiser to be held in mid-September.

Barbara Cook urged the Board to support the resolution opposing the increase of the permitted landfill height and extended life of Seneca Meadows, Inc.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for the Regular Meeting held on May 30, 2023

Trustee Bob Carson made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular Board meeting held on May 30, 2023. Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cherock seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Trustee Nan Woodworth made the motion to approve all Department Head reports. Trustee Margaret Schimizzi seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

VOTING ITEMS

Hires

Trustee Margaret Schimizzi motioned to approve the hire of Ava Cowan as a Summer Student Aide at \$15/hr starting June 26th. Trustee Bob Carson seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Trustee Margaret Schimizzi motioned to approve the hire of Sarah Stolpinski as a Lifeguard at \$17/hr starting June 19th. Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cherock seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Trustee Nan Woodworth made the motion to approve the reinstatement of Christopher Daloia as a full time Police Officer at \$29.50/hr starting June 21st. Trustee Bob Carson seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Trustee Bob Carson made the motion to approve the status changes from part time to provisional full-time for Officer Wesley Hines at \$29.50/hr and Officer Anthony Agosto at \$25.02/hr. effective June 21st. Trustee Nan Woodworth seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Training

Trustee Nan Woodworth made the motion to approve Village Justice Steven Decker to attend the 2023 Continuing Judicial Education Core A and Core B Training Program, to be held in-person at Schenectady County Community College on June 27th & June 28th at no cost, but lodging at a total of \$246.38. Trustee Margaret Schimizzi seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Event/Park Applications

Trustee Nan Woodworth made the motion to approve the special event application for the Italian-American Festival to be held on 8/11 – 8/13. Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cherock seconded the motion. In further discussion, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Craig Bond stated that the festival setup will actually begin Tuesday 8/8. The Board requested that our process be clear that a vendor, as defined in our vendor laws, who is participating in a special event organized pursuant to a contract between the Village and another entity is exempt from permit fees and applications required under Village Law, for that specific event. Regardless, all vendors are required to have proper liability insurance naming the Village as additionally insured. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Trustee Margaret Schimizzi made the motion to approve the Schuyler Italian-American Festival's request to return the parking duties and income for the weekend of the festival. Trustee Nan Woodworth seconded the motion. In further discussion, the Board determined that the number of in-kind services already provided was already a significant expense to the Village. The Board then voted on the motion and all opposed. Motion denied.

Trustee Bob Carson made the motion to approve the special event application for the Finger Lakes Open Water Swim Festival to be held on 7/15. Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cherock seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Trustee Bob Carson made the motion to approve the application for a LaFayette Park rental, including a fee waiver by the Watkins Glen Public Library. Trustee Margaret Schimizzi seconded the motion. In further discussion, the Board referred to its previous decision that the fee for all nonprofits is \$35, with no charge for use of electric. The Board then voted on the motion. The application is approved but the request to waive the fee was opposed by all. Fee waiver denied.

Trustee Bob Carson motioned to approve an application for use of the community center by the Watkins Glen Public Library on 8/5 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m, with a request to waive the kitchen use fee of \$150. Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cherock seconded the motion. In further discussion, the Board agreed to a reduced fee of \$75.00. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Safety Inspections for non-profits

The request to decrease the safety inspection fee for local churches from \$60 to \$35 was tabled because the Code Enforcement Officer was not present to discuss.

Fire Dept. Equipment

Trustee Bob Carson motioned to approve a request to purchase a camera with wiring and a heavy-duty spring kit for the Fire Dept's. side-by-side in the amount of \$1,774.48. Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cherock seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Resolution

Trustee Bob Carson motioned to approve the resolution opposing the increase of the permitted landfill height and extended life of Seneca Meadows, Inc. landfill.

WHEREAS, Seneca Meadows, Inc. (SMI) is seeking to increase the life of its existing landfill ("Landfill") located at 1786 Salcman Road in the Towns of Seneca Falls and Waterloo, Seneca County, New York, and

WHEREAS, the project would add approximately 47 million cubic yards of air space used for the disposal of non-hazardous residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial wastes in the proposed SMI Valley Infill Area (Valley Infill"), and

WHEREAS, The Valley Infill will involve the construction of approximately 47 acres of newly lined landfill area, as well as overfilling above approximately 191 acres of currently permitted landfill area, and

WHEREAS, an increase in the existing maximum permitted Landfill height by about 70 feet, and

WHEREAS, the type of waste being received at the facility (Municipal Solid Waste) and the approved design capacity of the Landfill, which is 6,000 tons per day (TPD), would not change, however, Landfill operation would be extended approximately 15 years, depending on the waste volume received in a given year; and

WHEREAS, this extension and expansion would impact the quality of life in Watkins Glen and the Finger Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Watkins Glen and the Towns and Villages of the Finger Lakes region are greatly impacted by garbage trucks traveling through our communities; and

WHEREAS, the project sponsor must obtain the following project approvals from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“NYSDEC”): modification of its existing Solid SMI Facility permit under NYCRR Parts 360 and 363 (“the Part 360/363 permit”); a Change-of-use approval for the Tantalio Landfill Class 4 Superfund Site; and coverage under the SPDES MultiSector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Industrial Activities (GP-0-17-004). SMI must also obtain approval from the Town Boards of Seneca Falls and Waterloo (“Town Boards”) for the Site Plan for the Valley Infill project Landfill. In addition, the Site will require Site Plan Approval from each Town’s Planning Board, and the Project will also require Special Use Permit approvals from Seneca Falls Zoning Board of Appeals and the Town of Waterloo. In addition, the project sponsor must also undergo an obstruction review by the Federal Aviation Authority (“FAA”); and

WHEREAS, traffic to and from the existing Landfill site impacts the Finger Lakes community beyond the Towns of Seneca Falls and Waterloo, presents visual blight upon entering the Finger Lakes area from the Thruway, thereby being incompatible with the community character of the region, together with unmitigated odors emanating therefrom, already negatively impacts regional roads, and air quality and environmental conditions in the immediate area causing these neighborhoods adjacent thereto to be designated disadvantaged communities by the NYSDEC; and

WHEREAS, The Village of Watkins Glen is not currently named as an interested party, however the residents of the Village will be directly affected by the award of approval or by failure for SMI to receive approval; and

WHEREAS, the impact of a landfill decreases the value of properties, increases greenhouse gases, violates New York’s climate law and guidelines as proposed by the Climate Action Council, and provides the potential for additional toxins to impact the region;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Village of Watkins Glen does hereby oppose any increase in the existing maximum permitted Landfill height by about 70 feet, as well as the extension of the life of the landfill by approximately 15 years, without due consideration of its impact on adjacent communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Village of Watkins Glen seeks to be named an interested party due to the impacts on our community and therefore requests an enhanced public participation process for this proposed expansion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village of Watkins Glen directs the Village Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to the NYSDEC, the Town Boards of Seneca Falls and Waterloo and the Seneca Falls Zoning Board of Appeals and the Town of Waterloo, and the Seneca County Board of Supervisors.

Trustee Nan Woodworth seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Non-Union Increases

Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cherock motioned to approve the non-union annual pay increases. Trustee Nan Woodworth seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

AUDITS

Online Audit

Trustee Margaret Schimizzi made the motion to approve the online audit dated June 12, 2023 in the amount of \$15,810.64
Trustee Nan Woodworth seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

General Audit

Trustee Nan Woodworth made the motion to approve the general audit dated June 16, 2023 in the following amounts:

General	\$92,368.76	Sewer	\$109,162.11
Electric	\$144,824.51	Water	\$9,932.55
Joint Activity (CVWRF)	\$23,648.72	Water Project	\$1,133.40
Project Seneca	\$562.40	DRI	\$18,692.50

Trustee Margaret Schimizzi seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

BOARD CONCERNS

Finger Lakes Railway

Just a public notice that Finger Lakes Railway will be performing a track rehab project starting in July.

Uniform Justice Court Act

Notice to the Board that the Village Court records are available for audit.

Campground Party

The seasonal campground party is June 24th and the Board is invited to attend at the Lakeside tent at 4:00 p.m.

Leaf Bags

A discussion on the misuse of leaf bags and the cost to the Village. Bring to the Board with a resolution to vote on.

Pavilion Rental

The pavilion is available for rental. Currently rented for 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19.

Dredging Canal

Canal Corp. is moving equipment in. May be some delay in boats going up and down the canal as they work.

Village Recycling

Expense to the Village has increased \$9,600 for the year. The two receiving bids, bid the same amount. The Board would like to seek the opinion of Village residents. A survey will be sent in the upcoming utility bill.

4th of July

Fireworks are on Sunday, July 2nd after dark. Clute Park is the main location for viewing.

Streaming Board Meetings

A meeting with Grannicus is scheduled to review a demo of the service they offer.

Reschedule Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees meeting scheduled for July 4th is rescheduled for July 11th at 6:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE

Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cheroch made the motion to move to an executive session for personnel. Trustee Margaret Schimizzi seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Trustee Nan Woodworth made the motion to exit the executive session and re-enter the regular meeting. Deputy Mayor Peter G. Cherock 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, Trustee Bob Carson made the motion to adjourn at 8:06 p.m. Trustee Nan Woodworth seconded the motion. The Board then voted on the motion and all were in favor. Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,

Fred Warrick
Village Clerk