

Mayor Gifford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Mayor Gifford called for a moment of silence in memory of Frank DeMasi and H. Richard Lewis.

Mayor Gifford presented David West and Jim Archibald with a proclamation and thanked them for their 20 years of service to the Village of Scotia.

The board took a short recess and light refreshments were served to celebrate the Village of Scotia's 115th Anniversary.

PRVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mayor Gifford opened the privilege of the floor at 7:16p.m.

No one wished to speak.

Mayor Gifford closed the privilege of the floor at 7:17p.m.

INTRODUCE LOCAL LAW 2019-A AUTHORIZEING A POSSIBLE PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW §3-C

Tabled.

INTRODUCE LOCAL LAW 2019-B TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SCOTIA RELATING TO NO STANDING CERTAIN HOURS.

Tabled. The Board suggested this issue be reviewed by the Traffic Safety Committee.

INTRODUCE LOCAL LAW 2019-C TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SCOTIA RELATING TO STOP INTERSECTIONS, NO STANDING AND PROHIBITED TURNS.

Tabled.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM AGREEMENT

MOVED by Trustee Tiberio, seconded by Trustee Rizzo that

Whereas, the Village of Scotia operates a Summer Recreation Program at Collins Park, and
Whereas, the Village is desirous of entering into an inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Glenville to offer the summer recreation program to Town outside Village residents along with Village residents,

Now Therefore, Be it Resolved that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Town of Glenville which provides the Village will offer the summer recreation program during the summer of 2019 to Town of Glenville residents and the Town will pay the Village \$1,000.00 for such service.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

**RESOLUTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE VILLAGE OF SCOTIA
DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE PURSUANT TO THE STATE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQRA) REGULATIONS 6NYCRR
PART 617**

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Gray that

Whereas, the Village of Scotia has determined that a need exists and it is necessary to replace the check valve on the concrete headwall at the Collins Lake outlet to Collins Creek; and

Whereas, the Village of Scotia is in the planning stages for said stormwater system improvement project; and,

Whereas, as part of the environmental review of the project, the Village of Scotia Village Board has accepted lead Agency status and has conducted a coordinated review of this Unlisted action in compliance with regulations required under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and,

Whereas, the public comment period has expired, the Village of Scotia Village Board as Lead Agency has completed a final detailed review of the Part 2 and Part 3 of the FEAF, and has reviewed the comments received, and has made a determination that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment;

Now Therefore, Be it Resolved that the Mayor of the Village of Scotia, acting as responsible officer of the Village of Scotia Village Board is hereby authorized to make a negative declaration and to complete and sign the Determination of Significance on the SEQR Full Environmental Assessment Form indicating that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

**RESOLUTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE VILLAGE OF SCOTIA DESIGNATING
AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE, AUTHORIZING THE LOCAL MATCH AND
COMPLETING THE SEQRA PROCESS FOR THE PUMP STATION FORCEMAIN
STUDY ENGINEERING PLANNING GRANT**

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Gray that

Whereas, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation recommended that the Village of Scotia perform a study of the condition of the 16" forcemain pipe that crosses the Mohawk River to the City of Schenectady as it is more than 40 years old; and

Whereas, the Village of Scotia has applied to the New York State Clean Water State Revolving Fund Engineering Planning Grant Program for financial assistance to implement the study of the forcemain pipe; and

Whereas, the Village of Scotia has been selected to receive up to \$30,000 for the Engineering Planning Grant through the New York Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program; and

Whereas, the Village of Scotia is required to appropriate a minimum of 20% local matching funds as per the Engineering Planning Grant Program for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Effluent Disinfection Project, which amounts to \$6,000 based upon a total estimated maximum project cost of \$36,000; and

Whereas, Title 6 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations (6NYCRR) Section 617.5 under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) provides that certain actions

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identified in subdivision (c) of that section are not subject to environmental review under the Environmental Conservation Law; and

Now Therefore Be it Resolved that the Village of Scotia hereby determines that the proposed Pump Station Forcemain Engineering Planning Study is a Type II action in accordance with 6 NYCRR Section 617.5(c)(27) which constitutes the conducting of concurrent environmental, engineering, economic, feasibility and other studies and preliminary planning and budgetary processes necessary to the formulation of a proposal for action, provided those activities do not commit the agency to commence, engage in or approve such action and is therefore not subject to review under 6 NYCRR Part 617; and be it

Resolved that the Mayor is authorized to execute a Grant Agreement with the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation and any and all other contracts, documents and instruments necessary to bring about the Project and to fulfill the Village of Scotia's obligations under the Grant Agreement; and be it

Resolved that the Village of Scotia authorizes and appropriates a minimum of 20% local match as required by the Engineering Planning Grant Program for the Pump Station Forcemain Study. Under the Engineering Planning Grant Program, this local match must be at least 20% of the EPG grant award of \$30,000. The source of the local match, and any amount in excess of the required match, shall be from the Village's sewer fund. The maximum local match shall not exceed \$6,000 based upon a total estimated maximum project cost of \$36,000. The Mayor may increase this local match through the use of in kind services without further approval from the Village of Scotia.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

AGREEMENT WITH PRIME ENGINEERING FOR NYSEFC WIIA GRANT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

MOVED by Trustee Tiberio, seconded by Trustee Rizzo that

Be it Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the agreement with Prime AE Group of NY for NYSEFC WIIA Grant Program Administration Services for the Wastewater Pump Station Improvement and authorizes the Mayor to sign the agreement in an amount not to exceed \$14,780.00.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SCOTIA PERMANENT FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Tiberio that

Whereas, the Village of Scotia is the recipient of a FEMA SAFER Grant which calls for two additional fireman to be hired, and

Whereas, such grant will impact the staffing schedules, and

Whereas, the parties have discussed the impact, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Mayor is authorized to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Scotia Permanent Firemen's Association and authorizes the Mayor to make changes to language regarding time off as needed.

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Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

VILLAGE OF SCOTIA HISTORIAN REPORT FOR 2018

The following report was submitted by Beverly Clark, Village Historian:

2018 was Scotia's 360th birthday—Alexander Lindsey Glen built his first house on the north side of the Mohawk River in 1658 (on a site that would now be in the river, actually). A few extra events were scheduled this year, and this milestone was mentioned throughout the year at every opportunity.

Flint House

This year I continued to have office hours at the Flint House approximately twice a month. Office hours are posted on the doors and on the village website.

There were two Open House events this year. Michelle Norris and Jeannine Deyette gave tours this year, and Barbara Bennett provided a craft activity for kids.

June 23 featured tours of the Flint House, a display from the SCCC Archaeology program about the digs they had done, and a small display of Scotia school memorabilia. Unfortunately the weather was cold and rainy; about 30 people attended.

On September 23 we had the Flint House Fall Festival, which drew about 200 people. It included:

- Broom exhibit panels and some pieces of broom-making equipment borrowed from the Schenectady County Historical Society (Mabee Farm)

- Tours of the Flint House

- Craft projects for kids

- The Scotia Fire Department with its antique pumper and information about emergency communication, both historic and modern

- Blacksmithing with John Ackner

- Demonstration of broom making and flax breaking

- Teachers and students from the SCCC Community Archaeology Program talking about and showing what was discovered at the two digs done this year at the Flint House

- Free Stewarts make-your-own ice cream sundaes

- Wolf Hollow Brewing with a special brew for Scotia's 360th anniversary; free tasting and beer for purchase

- The Musicians of Ma'alwyck took the stage under the tent for a concert of music celebrating each century of Scotia's history. With an ensemble of violin, flute, guitar, piano, and voice there were works from the 1600s up to the present, including "Chances Are" by local composer Robert Allen.

- A tent in case of bad weather—but the weather was perfect!

Also at the house:

Steve Jones continued examining the house cellar, looking for clues about how and when the house was built.

The Community Archaeology Program at Schenectady County Community College (now SUNY Schenectady) was given permission to hold two classes at the Flint House. In the spring, once a week, the Archaeological Field Work Program had class in the yard, doing several test pits and digs. In July Hands-On Archaeology for Kids met for a week as a day camp. Our goal for the

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project was to determine the width and length (the two corners of the foundation) of the original back extension to the house—and those two corners were found and excavated.

The Gardens

Two planters for annuals, plants provided by Parks.

This year I grew broomcorn and a little flax. We put in a hops pole, but the plants failed.

Activities (public)

In addition to the two Open House events, to celebrate the 360th anniversary, several new activities were scheduled:

On September 10 (rescheduled to rain date of September 11) there was a Canoe Trip on Collins Lake with Dr. Peter Tobiessen. This did not work out in the end, but we hope to try again sometime.

On October 14 Dr. Carl George gave a talk at the First Reformed Church of Scotia—originally it was going to be outside, but the forecast was tricky—with his Tales of Collins Lake, based on his many years of research there. It was very well-attended with about 75 people. Light refreshments were included.

On October 20, Peter G. Rose, a noted Dutch cooking historian, gave a talk at the First Reformed Church of Scotia. This was supported by the Village, the church, and Humanities New York which gave us a grant to cover the speaker fees. Her presentation, “A Taste of Change: Handwritten Cookbooks and the Stories They Tell Us,” examined early cookbooks from New Netherland. The talk was followed by a selection of Dutch cookies baked by members of the First Reformed Church. About 35 people attended.

I also worked with Mike Diana from the Schenectady County Historical Society to offer 2 walking tours of Scotia on July 7 and September 30. About 40 people participated.

Also, after working with Eric Hamilton of the Mohawk Towpath Byway over the last year, the sign was placed in Freedom Park near the Scotia dock, and the link to the audio tour is now live.

Activities (Historian)

Progress continues with sorting, cataloguing, and organizing, with the goal of being able to locate materials easily and quickly. Putting lists in a searchable database on a computer is an important part of this project.

There were a variety of queries via email and phone that were researched, as well as helping a few people who stopped by the Flint House to do research, and giving a couple of private tours.

I met with

- Ann Marie Schwartz to plan the Musicians of Ma’alwyck concert
- Steve Jones about various archeological topics related to the house
- Diana Carter and Louise Basa from the Schenectady County Community College Community Archaeology program
- Susanna Fout at the Schenectady County Historical Society to discuss borrowing the broom corn items
- Michael Diana at the Schenectady County Historical Society to plan the Scotia walking tours
- Claudia Garrison and Megan Hodgin of the First Reformed Church about activities there and our October event
- Peter Rose to plan our October program
- Mark Storti, at the Schenectady County Planning Department, about maps
- Chris Leonard, the new Schenectady City Historian
- Carl George about the October program
- Janny Venema, of the New Netherland Institute, about Sander Leendertse (Alexander Lindsey Glen)

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- The committee to plan the Fall Festival (Teresa Norton, Bonnie Belfance, Michelle Norris, Jim Marx, Hasna Kaddo, Tom Gifford)
- And with Mayor Kastberg and Jim Marx on various occasions

I continued as a member of the Town of Glenville committee that is preparing for the Glenville bicentennial in 2020—something that certainly will involve Scotia as well.

I spoke to the Glenville Rotary Club and the Scotia-Glenville middle and high school Social Studies teachers.

Spent two days' research time at the New York State Archives.

Applied for and received a Quick Grant from Humanities New York for the October Dutch Food program.

Social Media

I continued posting to my 3 social media platforms:

Instagram: @scotiahistorian

Facebook: Village of Scotia Historian

History Blog:

www.villageofscotia.org/category/historian

Professional Development:

Mold: Prevention, Detection, and Response, webinar, Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services for New York (DHPSNY), Feb. 5

Broom Making Workshop, while visiting Los Angeles in March

Museum Association of New York, annual conference, April 8-10, Rochester, NY

New Netherland Institute Annual Conference, Albany, September 22

APHNYS annual conference, Rochester, Oct. 1-3

Organization Memberships

Museum Association of New York

Association of Public Historians of New York State

MAYOR'S COMMENTS TO THE BOARD

Met last week with Baptist Retirement regarding a possible fire training facility at their property.

Met with Supervisor Koetzle regarding Fire District #4 Contract. Attended NYCOM Legislative meeting with Trustee Solotruck; attended several informative work sessions including a discussion on AIM funding.

Met with Mark Egan, CEO of the Chamber of Commerce; introduction meeting.

Met with Gary McCarthy, Mayor of Schenectady; reviewed their Zombie Property Program.

Meeting scheduled with Ray Gillen of Metroplex tomorrow regarding Corporations Park development.

CORRESPONDENCE, LIAISON AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Rizzo – No report.

Trustee Tiberio – Attended Zoning Board training meeting. Attending two BID meetings; there are several new business on Mohawk Avenue that attended meeting and are working on a village wide ribbon cutting ceremony in the spring. Nice to see the new loader purchase for Department of Public Works that was approved by the board put to use.

Trustee Solotruck – Met with Beverly Clark, Village Historian regarding upcoming events at the Flint House. Attended Traffic Safety Committee meeting; able to meet Tom Milander who is a great asset to the Village. Attended School Board meetings. Attended NYCOM Legislative

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Meeting; attended work session on emergency response planning. Attended School Board meeting. Continuing to work on communications project.

Trustee Gray – No report.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that the Departmental reports be accepted as presented with thanks.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Gray that be it resolved that all claims against the Village dated February 13, 2019 be allowed and ordered paid in full in the amount of \$493,484.50 charged to the following funds:

A-General Fund \$ 375,924.94

F-Water Fund \$ 60,249.62

G-Sewer Fund \$ 57,309.94

Further the Clerk/Treasurer is hereby authorized to draw checks in the claimants' favor and in the full amount listed and charge the same to the funds listed therein.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD JANUARY 9, 2019

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that the minutes of the January 9, 2019 Village of Scotia, Board of Trustees meeting are hereby approved.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD JANUARY 9, 2019

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Rizzo that the minutes of the January 9, 2019 Village of Scotia, Board of Trustees meeting are hereby approved.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 5, 2019

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Tiberio that the minutes of the February 5, 2019 Village of Scotia, Board of Trustees meeting are hereby approved.

Ayes: Trustee Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: Trustee Gray

NEW BUSINESS

**NEW YORK STATE AID AND INCENTIVES TO MUNICIPALITIES (AIM)
FUNDING RESTORATION**

MOVED by Trustee Tiberio, seconded by Trustee Rizzo that

Whereas, Governor Andrew Cuomo released his fiscal year 2019-2020 Executive Budget on January 15th; and

Whereas, in that \$176 billion spending plan, he called for the complete elimination of the unrestricted state aid known as Aid and Incentives to Municipalities (“AIM”) for most towns and villages; and

Whereas, the Executive Budget contains language to make permanent the cap on real property tax levy increases of two percent due to sunset in the year 2020; and

Whereas, such an elimination of AIM would hurt local governments and property taxpayers across the state of New York, threatening core services, making compliance with the tax cap more difficult, and leaving upstate New York in a worsened fiscal position; and

Whereas, this cut in aid would have enormous negative impacts on local communities in upstate New York leading to property tax increases or service reductions across towns and villages; and

Whereas, in Schenectady County alone, our towns and villages would collectively lose well over \$500,000 annually in state aid; and

Whereas, thirteen hundred towns and villages would be impacted across the state, yet the governor keeps all AIM to cities intact; and

Whereas, the Village of Scotia would lose \$70,000 in AIM funding each year, equivalent to an annual tax increase on all Village residents every year; and

Whereas, by comparison the city of Schenectady would keep all of its \$11,205,994 in AIM funding under this proposal, meaning the governor is essentially shifting a greater fiscal burden onto town and village property taxpayers while protecting city residents; and

Whereas, such elimination of aid would take \$59 million away from local governments across the state;

Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Village of Scotia Board of Trustees hereby calls on the governor to rescind his proposal to eliminate AIM funding for most towns and villages and encourages him to restore all funding with an upward adjustment for inflation and further asks that the Legislature codifies such indexed annual increases into law; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Village of Scotia Board of Trustees directs the Village Clerk to send certified copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator James N. Tedisco, and Assembly member Mary Beth Walsh.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

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2019 STOP-DWI AGREEMENT WITH SCHENECTADY COUNTY

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Solotruck to authorize the Mayor to execute the 2019 Stop-DWI Program Agreement with Schenectady County.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Solotruck to adjourn the meeting at 7:44p.m.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck, Tiberio and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Respectfully submitted,

Maria A. Schmitz

Clerk to the Village Board of Trustees