

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

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

Mayor Gifford called for a moment of silence in memory a Tony Walsh; former member of the Scotia Housing Authority and good friend to the Village.

PRVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mayor Gifford opened the privilege of the floor at 7:01pm

Trustee Solotruck read the following statement of behalf of Keith Brown of 132 Vley Road.

Greetings Mayor Gifford and Village Trustees,

I apologize for being unable to attend in person, please accept this letter as comments made during privilege of the floor. First, I understand that Village leadership has done its due diligence in vetting the proposed expansion of Stewartson Mohawk Ave within the laws and rules governing such efforts and I thank you for that. However, I speak on behalf of both myself and numerous village residents that I've conferred with in saying that I have profound concerns with the proposal.

Central to these concerns is the displacement of several small, local businesses resulting from the sale and demolition of buildings to make space for the Stewarts shop and associated parking. As we are all aware, the survival of small businesses is already in danger as a result of factors well outside of the Village's sphere of influence. However, it has been discussed in previous meetings that the finite nature of available space within the Village limits the amount of small businesses and associated tax revenue that we have capacity to add. It seems to me that the permanent elimination of several space options for small businesses is contrary to this.

We have also talked about creating a "walkable downtown" that serves as a destination for visitors and residents alike. To most people, that looks like a vibrant mix of small and larger shops, restaurants, etc., and not a series of large gas station/convenience stores. To wit, after this Stewarts expansion the entire block from North Ten Broeck to Center St will be made up entirely of two such locations separated by a dental office. As an employee-owned and regional business, Stewarts is certainly a much better option than some alternatives and I commend them for their work and presence in local communities. In fact, if they were the only large business of its kind in the Village there likely would be less of a concern about this expansion.

It may be that this expansion is already a foregone conclusion that we will have to live with. However, I implore Village leadership to take action immediately to put in place any policies, rules, and regulations within its power to preemptively prevent this from occurring again. At minimum, no future building should be permitted that results in the reduction or displacement of small businesses and/or without requiring assistance in relocation within Village boundaries should that be the desire of the business owner(s). Further, the Village should take any and all action within its power to assist property owners in engaging in practices that prevent long-term

January 12, 2021

vacant properties, to proactively recruit additional small businesses, and to work with anchor businesses to remain viable.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of these comments.

Mayor Gifford closed the privilege of the floor at 7:05pm

SPECIAL USE PERMIT REQUESTED BY WPD HOLDINGS, LLC C/O STEWART'S SHOPS CORP., 204-208 MOHAWK AVENUE TO CONSTRUCT A GASOLINE SERVICE STATION IN THE VILLAGE OF SCOTIA

a) Public Hearing

Mayor Gifford opened the public hearing at 7:05pm

No one wished to speak.

Mayor Gifford closed the public hearing at 7:06pm

b) SEQRA DETERMINATION

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Gray that

Whereas, a Special Use Permit Application was submitted to the Board of Trustees for 204-208 Mohawk Avenue (currently operated as a Stewart's) for a Gasoline Service Station, and an Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) has been completed and reviewed, and

Whereas, it is determined that the proposed special use permit application is an unlisted action, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that said special use permit application approval would not have a significant adverse impact on the environment.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

c) ACTION

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Cook that

Whereas, a Special Use Permit application was submitted for 204-208 Mohawk Avenue for a Gasoline Service Station (for the current Stewart's) under Section 250-25(B)7 of the Village Code, and

Whereas, the property has been operated as a Stewart's convenience store for many years and the new expanded site plan contains gas pumps as per the application; and

Whereas, the Planning Board has approved the Site Plan for the project and recommended that the special use permit be granted, and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees has considered the Village Code provisions in regard to the review of the special use permit application, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the Special Use Permit Application for 204-208 Mohawk Avenue for a Gasoline Service Station as submitted by Wpd Holdings, LLC c/o Stewart's Shops Corp.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

January 12, 2021

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Steve Lubbe provided the Board of Trustees with an overview of the Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ending May 31, 2021.

APPOINTMENT OF MARK CUSANO AS POLICE OFFICER

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Rizzo that

Whereas, the Village has an open position for the position of police officer, and

Whereas, interviews have been duly conducted, and

Whereas, it is recommended that Mark Cusano be appointed to the position of Police Officer, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees hereby appoints mark Cusano to the position of Police Officer effective January 24, 2022 contingent upon satisfactory results of Civil Service required examinations.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 2022-A

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Cook to Introduce Proposed Local Law 2022-A regarding Authorization for Property Tax Levy in Excess of the Limit Established in NYS General Municipal Law Section 3-c, and to set the public hearing for the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, February 9, 2022 at 7:00p.m.

Ayes: Trustee Cook, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford

Noes: Trustee Gray and Trustee Rizzo

Abstentions: None

INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 2022-B

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Gray to Introduce Proposed Local Law 2022-B regarding Portable Storage Units and to set the public hearing for the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, February 9, 2022 at 7:00p.m.

Ayes: Trustee Gray, Rizzo, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: Trustee Cook

BUDGET AMENDMENT

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Rizzo to Amend Fiscal Year 21-22 Budget as follows:

Increase G.8120.4550 by \$118,890.00; offset by a decrease to G Fund Balance for Emergency Sewer Main and Partial Road Repairs on Sacandaga Road.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

January 12, 2021

PAYMENT TO BELLAMY CONSTRUCTION FOR SEWER MAIN EMERGENCY WORK

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Rizzo that

Whereas, on December 22nd a sewer main collapse was discovered on Sacandaga Road between First Street and Second Street, and

Whereas, immediate repair was required and an emergency was declared by the Mayor and the Superintendent of Public Works, and

Whereas, Bellamy Construction was qualified and able to forthwith address the repair, and

Whereas, Bellamy Construction has requested payment #1 for work completed, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees authorizes payment #1 to Bellamy Construction in the amount of \$118,889.90 for sewer main and partial road repairs on Sacandaga Road between First Street and Second Street.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL BROAD STREET SIDEWALK AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF GLENVILLE

Tabled.

O'CONNELL ELECTRIC COMPANY PAYMENT #5

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Gray that

Whereas, the Village of Scotia has an agreement with O'Connell Electric Company, Inc for Wastewater Pump Station Project Contract #4 – Electrical Construction, and

Whereas, a request for payment #5 has been requested by O'Connell Electric Company, Inc. for additional work approved under the allowance, and

Whereas, the Prime AE has reviewed the request and approved it, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Payment #5 to O'Connell Electric Company, in the amount of \$39,419.30 for Waste Water Pump Station Project Contract #4-Electrical Construction.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

PRECISION INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE PAYMENT #7

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Rizzo that

Whereas, the Village of Scotia has an agreement with Precision Industrial Maintenance for Wastewater Pump Station Project Contract #1 – Waste Removal and Disposal, and

Whereas, a request for Payment #7 has been received for work that includes the demobilization and remaining work to decontaminate equipment, and

Whereas, the Prime AE has reviewed the request and approved it, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Payment #7 to Precision Industrial Maintenance, in the amount of \$16,150.00 for the Wastewater System Improvements Project Contract #1 – Waste Removal and Disposal.

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

Noes: None

January 12, 2021

Abstentions: None

PAYMENT #1 TO M.J. ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING, PC

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Gray that

Whereas, the Village of Scotia received a grant for the Washington Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Connection Project, and

Whereas, as part of the grant work the Village entered into a contract with M.J. Engineering and Land Surveying, PC for engineering services, and

Whereas, a request has been made for payment #1 in the amount of \$36,281.23 and

Whereas, the Superintendent of Public Works has reviewed the request and approved it, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Payment #1 to M.J. Engineering and Land Surveying, PC, in the amount of \$36,281.23 for the Washington Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Connection Project.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR WWTP CONTRACT #4 – ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Gray that

Whereas, Wastewater System Improvements Project Contract #4 is for Electrical Construction by O’Connell Electric Co., and

Whereas, a deduct change order has been submitted to remove unused allowance funds in the amount of \$8,506.00, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Mayor to sign change order #1 to Contract #4 Wastewater System Improvements Project – Electric Construction to deduct \$8,506.00 from the original contract amount of \$188,450.00 for a new contract sum of \$179,944.00.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR CONTRACT #3 – GENERAL CONSTRUCTION

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Rizzo that

Whereas, Wastewater System Improvements Project Contract #3 is for General Construction by CFI Contracting, Inc., and

Whereas, a deduct change order has been submitted to remove the amount of \$22,647.50 from the original contract sum, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Mayor to sign change order #1 to Contract #3 Wastewater System Improvements Project – General Construction to deduct \$22,647.50 from the original contract amount of \$1,113,000.00 for a new contract sum of \$1,090,352.50.

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

Noes: None

January 12, 2021

Abstentions: None

AGREEMENT WITH DELAGE LANDEN FINANCIAL SERVICES

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Gray to authorize the Mayor to sign a 5 year lease agreement with DeLage Landen Financial Service, Inc. for the Clerk's Office Copier.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

MAINTENANCE CONTRACT WITH REPEAT BUSINESS SYSTEMS

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Gray to authorize the Mayor to sign a maintenance agreement with Repeat Business Systems for the Clerk's Office Copier.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

AGREEMENT WITH CIT BANK N.A. FOR FIRE DEPT COPIER

MOVED by Trustee Gray, seconded by Trustee Rizzo to authorize the Mayor to sign a 3 year lease agreement with CIT Bank N.A. for the Fire Department Copier.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

MAINTENANCE CONTRACT WITH REPEAT BUSINESS SYSTEMS FOR FIRE DEPT COPIER

MOVED by Trustee Gray, seconded by Trustee Rizzo to authorize the Mayor to sign a maintenance agreement with Repeat Business Systems for Fire Department Copier.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

MAYOR'S COMMENTS TO THE BOARD

Police Officer hired at this meeting; Police Chief reached an agreement with the School District to pay the Village some money for an officer to be a School Resource Officer. Interviewed three candidates for position of firefighter; working on filling two positions to fill vacancies due to retirements. Chief Almy will be retiring in the middle of March; has been a great influence and will be greatly missed. DPW did a great job completing an emergency sewer repair along with Bellamy Construction and considerable help from the Town of Glenville. There is an issue with icy sidewalks in the village; has received numerous complaints. Stores in the area are out of ice melt materials; tomorrow DPW will be putting out a pile of sand mixed with salt for residents to use for sidewalks; Mayor will be sending out an email tonight to notify residents. Library is now open after inside renovations along with outside renovations have been completed; open each weekday. County has done a great job with the renovations and supporting the Village. Village Justice will be moving to Glenville which will make him ineligible to serve as Village Justice. At the same time, Associate Justice Boyle will be moving into the Village so he will be eligible. Transition will take place in approximately March where Lockwood will be Associate Justice

January 12, 2021

and Boyle will be Village Justice until the election. Mayor received call at Fire Department from a trucker at Corporations Park that had three pallets of lettuce left over from last run and needed them to be stored. Adirondack Beverage agreed to hold the pallets over the weekend; Monday morning DPW took 70 cases with 24 packages of Romaine lettuce in each case over to the Regional Food Bank.

CORRESPONDENCE, LIAISON AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Cook – Police: First report as police liaison; thanked Chief Harrigan as well as Sergeants and Officers for continuing to work hard each day especially during the pandemic which brings additional challenges. Scotia Police Department adopted three families during the holiday season. Training continues to be focus for the department; training is scheduled for breath analysis operator courses at Zone 5 Academy; village will have three officers attending. Chief finalized Cordico grant which provides a wellness app to officers; thanked Police Clerk and Clerk’s office for their support. Welcomed Office Cusano to the force; looking forward to identifying an officer as School Resource Officer. Thanked Superintendent Susan Swartz as well as the entire S-G School Board for seeing the value in having a Community Resource Officer in our schools as well as on the streets. COVID-19 Policy for department was updated; reinforced need for masking. Sergeant Bean attended recertification course for car seat training; available for any residents that need assistance with car seat installation. Sergeant Brady active at Lincoln School; helped judge Christmas light display. Chief Harrigan and officers gave extra attention and worked with the schools regarding a social media threat that turned out to be unfounded. BID – Attended meeting on Tuesday; Chief Harrigan was guest speaker discussing public safety issues in the business corridor; business owners loved the fact that police officers are now walking Mohawk Avenue. Cathy Gatta; Administrator of the BID and Trustee Cook are working with Scotia Cinema on putting together an outdoor movie night in the municipal parking lot. Look forward to the return of the Car Show and hopefully Memorial Day Parade. Zoning Board – No meeting held.

Trustee Gray – Town of Glenville: Welcomed Mike Godlewski as the new liaison to the Village; will be working together on several projects including development of farmers market and youth program to serve both Scotia and Glenville.

Fire Dept: First report as fire liaison; thanked Chief Almy for meeting to discuss several topics. Thanked Chief Almy for his service; will certainly be missed. Air ventilation system has been ordered for the Fire House; can be removed and placed in new Fire House once that project moves forward. Received grant money for hydrant markers that are fiberglass and striped with red; received enough to mark approximately half of the hydrants in Village; hopefully will receive the rest next year. Reminded residents to keep fire hydrant near their home clear. Fire Department had 170 non storm related calls in month of December; thanked entire department. Received new radio system from Schenectady County that is up and running. Welcomed Mark Cusano to the police department. Chief Harrigan introduced Mark Cusano to the Board of Trustees.

Traffic Safety Committee: No meeting held.

Police Reform Committee meeting will be held in March.

Thanked DPW for all their work in cleaning up after the storm. Appreciates work all departments do.

January 12, 2021

Trustee Rizzo – Special Events Committee: Winners announced for window displays. Village Paint won Best Dressed and Best Original given to Yesterday’s Antiques. Will be taking down decorations once weather cooperates.

Liaison to Clerk’s Office; all is going well.

Trustee Solotruck – Planning Board: Encouraging to see continual new activity. Planning Board provided an extensive review for the Stewart’s project; works very hard for the Village and Village residents as well. Regarding letter read at privilege of the floor, planning board members have had similar conversations regarding reviewing previous applications and see what can be done to better serve the Business District Guidelines that are currently in place. Received initial draft report from CDTC regarding Linkage Study; roadmaps and provides some financial structure of what is possible for the Village long term. Thanked the Planning and Zoning Board members for all the work they do for the village.

DPW: New liaison to DPW; met with Ryan Kedzior. Reviewed emergency sewer repair on Sacandaga Rd; next year the state has a plan to resurface Route 5 from Mohawk Avenue to Ridge Road. This provides the Village to look into the infrastructure of that area prior to paving being done; that area consists of old clay sewer pipes that are 15 feet deep. Superintendent Kedzior is looking into the possibility of lining the pipes with a composite material. Encouraged all residents to utilize the salt/sand mix available at DPW.

Facilities Committee: Meeting will be held tomorrow night.

Attending NYCOM Winter Legislative meeting in Albany in February; will be attending session regarding the Marihuana Regulation and Taxation Act.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

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

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Gray to approve the Budget Adjustments for the month of December.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Cook that be it resolved that all claims against the Village dated January 12, 2022 be allowed and ordered paid in full in the amount of \$360,634.11 charged to the following funds:

A-General Fund	\$ 139,123.86
CM-BID	\$ 24,625.00
F-Water Fund	\$ 13,875.49
G-Sewer Fund	\$ 183,009.76

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.

January 12, 2021

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

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD DECEMBER 6, 2021

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Gray that the minutes of the December 6, 2021 Village of Scotia, Board of Trustees meeting are hereby approved.

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

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD DECEMBER 8, 2021

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Gray that the minutes of the December 8, 2021 Village of Scotia, Board of Trustees meeting are hereby approved.

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

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD DECEMBER 20, 2021

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Cook that the minutes of the December 20, 2021 Village of Scotia, Board of Trustees meeting are hereby approved.

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

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD JANUARY 4, 2022

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Rizzo that the minutes of the January 4, 2022 Village of Scotia, Board of Trustees meeting are hereby approved.

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

NEW BUSINESS

No new business for discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Cook to adjourn the meeting at 8:00p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Maria A. Schmitz
Clerk to the Village Board of Trustees