At the regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees
held October 12, 2022

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

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

PRVIILEGE OF THE FLOOR
Mayor Gifford opened the privilege of the floor at 7:02pm

Lynn Trudell Moore of 221 Glen Avenue; submitted following statement to be entered into minutes:
I wanted to address a concern I have about village meetings. On 9.16.22 I sent an email to the mayor and all the trustees about this concern, but only heard back from one.
I will read this email so that it is recorded into the minutes of the meeting and will be on record.

Mayor and Trustees,

I wanted to express my concern about recent village board meetings. I personally witnessed the rudeness of residents during the budget and municipal meetings last Spring. I thought the harsh comments were due to the subject matter of the meetings.

I was wrong. At the meeting this past Wednesday I was subjected to the same behavior from residents.

Trustee meetings are meant for residents to learn about upcoming projects, hear debate between the mayor and the board, decisions, new codes, etc., and for residents to voice their own concerns. Understanding that many residents can be emotional and heated in their comments to the board about specific matters that are important to them, I believe it is up to the mayor and the board to take and maintain control of the meeting. The meeting is not meant to be a free-for-all of insults. While privilege of the floor remarks can be heated and emotional and with raised voices, they should not be discourteous to fellow attendees or board members. I shouldn't hear "shithead", "asshole", "condescending prick", or "stupid liar" at a village meeting. We are all adults, right?

You are all aware of these rude and profane remarks made by some of the same people during the municipal bond meetings. Especially those made to **our guests**. Your silence on the matter is letting that continue.

Someone needs to take control. Remind residents BEFORE privilege of the floor about the rules. It is not a question and answer time. Board responses will be provided at another time and residents can put their concerns in writing and submit to the board for answers. That may cut down on the residents yelling repeatedly "answer me!" at the board, and being loudly encouraged by those in the back of the room.

When anyone shouts out a rude or unnecessary comment, the mayor should address it, **immediately**. Remind those attending that the meeting is an official village meeting and rude,

DRAFT

unruly or insulting behavior towards other attendees or the board will not be tolerated. It is not the time nor the place for that type of behavior.

I do not attend these meetings to hear rude, insulting remarks yelled from the back of the room; "liars", "lining their own pockets", "never do anything to help", "will never address us", "stupid".

I attend to find out what is going on in the village, how the mayor and board are handling issues/problems and to learn about upcoming events and department updates. In the current situation the mayor and board have no control of the meeting.

Please do better.
Sincerely,
Lynn Trudell Moore

So, I attended a recent Town of Glenville meeting. When signing in for privilege for the floor, people have available the rules of the meeting. Section 2-c *"The Town Board reserves the right to rule a person out of order for making vulgar, obscene or distasteful comments, for making personal attacks, or for loud threatening or violent behavior."* Their Participation in Town Meetings notice states *"It is the hope of the board members that such participation is orderly and constructive"*. They have a 5-minute time limit.
I checked with the Town of Rotterdam and found that privilege of the floor rules are written in their agenda each month. They have a 4-minutes time limit.
These rules are available on their websites so that people know ahead of time.
Ours are not.
Reminder, I am NOT speaking about those who usually stand at privilege of the floor with concerns. I am speaking of audience members.
Those standing often demand answers, not understanding the process. This merely makes the speaker angrier and more frustrated and it incites the audience to shout out rude remarks to the board.
If the rules of the process were clearer, those comments may not be made OR the board would at least have a basis for delivering consequences for bad behavior.
These ideas could be useful in our meetings. It does nothing productive to watch the board and mayor sit silently at these times. It makes the mayor and trustees look uncaring about the rest of us who have to listen to this nonsense. And it makes you look like you are willing to be run over by those who are the loudest, and often rudest, voices during a public meeting.
While it is your duty to hear concerns from citizens, it is also your duty to control the meeting
Mayor Gifford closed the privilege of the floor at 7:09pm

Mayor Gifford asked for a moment of silence in memory of Emerson Tudell; ran bowling alley for years, Jane Lansing; proprietor of Lansing Dairy at corner of Vley and Ten Broeck, Vern Foster; faithful Village barber who had just retired and Melissa Kinnally; former employee of the Mayor's and faithful friend of the Village.

Mayor Gifford re-opened the privilege of the floor at 7:10pm
Amanda Gonzalez-Barone of 6 No. Holmes St asked to speak; Meetings need to be professional; leaders need to set example.
Mayor Gifford closed the privilege of the floor at 7:11pm

FLINT HOUSE GRANT APPLICATION
Beverly Clark, Village Historian; would like to apply for a Preservation League of NYS Technical Assistance Grant to fund a Building Condition Survey; the consultant would be Walter Wheeler, who is an expert on historic buildings. The grant project cannot exceed $5,000, of which the village would pay 20%, making it a maximum financial commitment of $1,000.
MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Gray that
Whereas, the Village Historian recommends the Flint House have a Building Condition Survey done, and
Whereas, grants are available from the Preservation League of NYS Technical Assistance for such work, now therefore
Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Village Historian to apply for a Preservation League of NYS Technical Assistance Grant as outlined in a memo from the Village Historian dated October 7, 2022.
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

AMENDMENT #2 TO H2M ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS
MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Cook that
Whereas, the Village entered into an agreement with H2M architects + engineers on June 20, 2022 for Municipal Facilities (Fire Station/Village Hall Renovation) Project, and
Whereas, H2M will engage a Structural Engineer to assess the existing Municipal Facility, now therefore,
Be it Resolved that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Mayor to sign Amendment #2 to provide for Structural Engineering Services in the amount of $17,500.00
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

H2M ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES
MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Gray that
Whereas, the Municipal Facilities (Fire Station/Village Hall Renovation) Project is moving forward, and
Whereas, and Environmental Hazardous Materials survey of the current municipal buildings must be done prior to renovation, and
Whereas, the Village has received a proposal dated September 28, 2022 from H2M architects + engineers for such service, now therefore
Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Mayor to sign an agreement with H2M architects + engineers for architectural services as laid out in a proposal dated September 28, 2022 in an amount not to exceed $27,745.50.
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford

Noes: None
Abstentions: None

AWARD CONTRACT TO WILLIAM J. KELLER & SONS
MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that
Whereas, the Village of Scotia received a grant for the Washington Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Connection Project, and
Whereas, request for sealed bids were noticed as required by law and opened on September 28, 2022, and
Whereas, the lowest responsible bidder was William J. Keller & Sons in the amount of $611,381.12, and
Whereas, the village engineer recommends in a memo dated September 28, 2022 that the bid be accepted and awarded, now therefore
Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees awards the contract for the Washington Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Connection Project to William J. Keller & Sons in the amount of $611,381.12 and authorizes the Mayor to sign a contract for the same with the approval of the Village Attorney.
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

MS4 AGREEMENT WITH PRIME AE
MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that
Whereas, the Village of Scotia is required to comply with the mandated MS4 Program, and
Whereas, the Village is in need of professional engineering assistance to do so, and
Whereas, the Prime AE and its predecessor have successfully provided such services to the Village in the past, now therefore
Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the proposal from Prime AE dated September 13, 2022 for professional engineering services associated with the MS4 Program Coordination for the current fiscal year in an amount not to exceed $7,200.00.
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

APPROVAL OF USE OF ARPA FUNDS
MOVED by Trustee Gray, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that
Whereas, American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, guaranteeing direct relief to cities, towns and villages in the United States (Sec. 9901:Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds), and
Whereas, the Village of Scotia is the recipient of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds as a Non-Entitlement Unit of Local Government, and
Whereas, a wide variety uses of ARPA funds by local governments are allowed, now therefore
Be it Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves use of ARPA funds in the amount of $50,000 for Well #2 Repairs.
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None

Abstentions: None

APPROVAL OF USE OF ARPA FUNDS
MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Solotruck that
Whereas, American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, guaranteeing direct relief to cities, towns and villages in the United States (Sec. 9901:Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds), and
Whereas, the Village of Scotia is the recipient of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds as a Non-Entitlement Unit of Local Government, and
Whereas, a wide variety uses of ARPA funds by local governments are allowed, now therefore
Be it Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves use of ARPA funds in the amount of $50,000 for Small Business Grants.
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

APPROVAL OF USE OF ARPA FUNDS
MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Gray that
Whereas, American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, guaranteeing direct relief to cities, towns and villages in the United States (Sec. 9901:Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds), and
Whereas, the Village of Scotia is the recipient of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds as a Non-Entitlement Unit of Local Government, and
Whereas, a wide variety uses of ARPA funds by local governments are allowed, now therefore
Be it Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves use of ARPA funds in the amount of $396,500 for matching funds of Collins Park Grants, Washington Avenue Bike and Pedestrian Connection Grant and the Sunnyside Road Bridge Grant.
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

BUDGET AMENDMENT
MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Gray to amend fiscal year 2022-2023 as follows: Decrease A.5112.2000 by $8,963.30; offset by A.3501 to correct CHIPS allocation.
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

MAYOR'S COMMENTS TO THE BOARD
Attended Zone 5 police academy graduation today; Aaron Laube graduated top of the class.
Mayor read the following Municipal Facilities Project Update from Heuber-Breuer:
The building committee continues to meet on a bi-weekly schedule to further develop the overall floor plans for the fire station and municipal building. We have received the required survey work and have started the site design process. We have engaged a well-respected grant writer to assist in finding all possible state and federal funding. We are reviewing multiple exterior facades to prepare for a public comment meeting on November 19th from 11:00am-2:00pm.

The overall project schedule has not changed since the September 10, 2022 update.
Lastly, due to concerns regarding the election, Joe Talbot has removed himself from the committee.
Please direct any questions you may have via email to Sean Foran at sforan@hb1872.build.

Paving is complete on James St, Catherine St and Collins St. Fire Department received new pickup truck; old one has been sold.

CORRESPONDENCE, LIAISON AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Cook – No Zoning Board meeting held. Attended BID meeting; discussed snow removal as well as sidewalk conditions and removal of trees along Mohawk Avenue. Discussed snow removal from Rt.50 to bridge; would like to continue discussion with the Village for removal to keep sidewalks walkable and safe. Village helped with watering the BID flowers along the avenue; baskets will be removed in preparation of Holiday on the Ave; BID looking forward to participating in the window decoration contest. Thanked members of the board for their support in the approval of the $50,000 allocation for Small Business Grants. Police Dept: Detective Peckham attended back to school night at Lincoln and Sacandaga as Community Resource Officer; continues to spend approximately 10 hours a week in the schools. Village continues to maintain mission of community policing. Police Reform Committee met to discuss the implementation of the Cordico App. Police met with Traffic Safety Committee to discuss radar signs.

Trustee Gray – Attended Police Reform Committee meeting; discussed the grant as well as the progress of the School Resource Officer; Officer Peckham is a benefit to both schools and residents. Met with Chief Wood; sold pick-up truck at auction for $11,500. Schenectady County distributed $53,000 to volunteer fire departments; Scotia received $11,070, thanked Schenectady County for their support. Fire Department calls are up over 270 calls from this time last year; has been a trend over the years. Ocktoberfest was a beautiful day with lots of activities. Traffic Safety Committee received an email regarding speeding on Riverside Avenue; reached out to resident to follow up with Chief Harrigan. Thanked all Village employees as a Trustee and a resident. Thanked Lynn Trudell-Moore for her comments. Not only at privilege of the floor but at municipal facilities public forums as well; embarrassing to see others ridicule others; residents should be able to express concern without vulgar language or disrespect. Too many people are misinformed and disrespectful; not representative of the community. Should consider time limit for privilege of the floor.

Trustee Solotruck – Challenging times with a lot of misinformed people. Thanked Lynn and Amanda for their comments. Facilities project moving forward; cost cannot exceed the amount approved by referendum, will provide a proper safe workplace. November 19th – public comment meeting; stop in and voice opinion. Thanked Mayor for working with Beverly to find funding to help prioritize repairs at the Flint House. ARPA Funded Small Business Grants; have developed structure to the application process with an independent review of application.

Mayor Gifford stated that Halloween will be celebrated on Monday, October 31st from 4pm-8pm; Fire Department will be out with cider and donuts.
Holiday on the Avenue will be held Sunday, December 4th. Fire and Police Departments will have a chili cook-off and the restaurants will have a chowder cook-off.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS
MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Gray that the September Departmental reports be accepted as presented with thanks.
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, 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 September.
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

AUDIT OF CLAIMS
MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Gray that be it resolved that all claims against the Village dated October 12, 2022 be allowed and ordered paid in full in the amount of $71,439.40 charged to the following funds:

A-General Fund	$ 58,482.44
F-Water Fund	$ 8,279.75
G-Sewer Fund	$ 4,677.21

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 Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

NEW BUSINESS
None.

ADJOURNMENT
MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Solotruck to adjourn the meeting at 7:45p.m.
Ayes: Trustee Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Gifford
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

Respectfully submitted,

Maria A. Schmitz
Clerk to the Village Board of Trustees