

Mayor Bucciferro called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

PRESENT: Trustee Brown, Trustee Cook, Trustee Gray, Trustee Solotruck & Mayor Bucciferro

BROWNFIELD OPPORTUNITY AREA (BOA) GRANT

Norabelle Greenberger of LaBella Associates provided the board with an overview of the BOA grant. The Village received a \$200,000 BOA Grant that is administered through the Department of State and provides for an opportunity for investment by both the municipalities and private investors for areas that are underutilized; the grant requires a \$20,000 match which will be mostly covered through in-kind services. The next step in the process will be to form a BOA Advisory Committee that will meet every two months for the next 1 – 1 ½ years; Norabelle provided a guideline for committee membership.

MEETING PROCEDURE DISCUSSION INCLUDING NEW CALENDAR

Mayor Bucciferro stated that the board will continue to have a work session on the first Tuesday of the month and the regular meeting on the second Wednesday; work sessions will be held on the third Monday as needed. Mayor Bucciferro stated that a Village Hall meeting will be held each quarter to allow for residents to ask questions and have discussions with the board; the Mayor will provide the board with an updated calendar for 2023.

WATER REPORT UPDATE

Ryan Kedzior, Superintendent of Public Works, provided the board with an update regarding the water testing. Superintendent Kedzior stated that there were 30 houses tested in the usual sampling that is required and 4 homes exceeded the lead allowance. Due to this exceedance the Department of Health required that a mailing with additional information be sent to all water customers and the Village will have to test 60 homes every 6 months as long as there continues to be an exceedance; there is a form online to complete if residents would like their home included. New York State is also providing free testing; a link to that website will be posted on the Village website. Doug Cole of PRIME AE will be attending the December 14th meeting to provide information on new lead and copper requirements and to address the Washington Avenue water concerns.

ARPA FUNDS

Bob Murray provided a proposal to review the Village ARPA Grant Program Applications for Small Businesses; Mayor Bucciferro stated that the Finance Committee will review the application when received and then forward onto Mr. Murray for comments and or recommendations as appropriate.

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Brown that

Whereas, the Board of Trustees previously approved the use of \$50,000 of ARPA funds for Village small business grants, and

Whereas, Robert Murray of LaBella Associates has been working with the Village assisting the Village with the ARPA Grant Program, and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees authorized the distribution and submission of ARPA Small Business Grant applications upon finalized by Robert Murray substantially in the form distributed to the Trustees 11/21/22 providing for grants up to \$5,000. Applications shall be

reviewed and awarded on a rolling basis with a submission deadline of February 28, 2023 and a deadline for the use of funds by December 1, 2023, and

Whereas, Robert Murray of LaBella submitted a proposal dated December 6, 2022 for the implementation services of the Village ARPA Grant Program, now therefore

Be it Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the proposal of LaBella dated December 6, 2022 for the Village ARPA Grant Program for implementation services and the distribution of the applications with the final revisions recommended by Robert Murray on November 22, 2022.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Gray, Solotruck & Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

MARIHUANA REGULATION AND TAXATION ACT (MRTA)

Trustee Solotruck stated that the Village of Scotia did not opt out of allowing retail dispensaries and/or on-site consumption of marihuana. If there is a dispensary within the Village, a 3% tax is provided to the local municipality. The Village needs to develop an agreement with the Town of Glenville regarding the distribution between each municipality; without an agreement the split is 50/50. Trustee Solotruck stated that a representative of the NYS Office of Cannabis Management will be attending the next work session for further discussion and information.

DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGIC PLAN

The Board of Trustees agreed that a multi-year (ex. 5 year/10 year) strategic plan must be developed for the Village of Scotia; engagement of the Department Heads and the community is essential to the planning process; board will continue discussions on this issue.

REVIEW OF VILLAGE TECHNOLOGY

- **Meeting Audiovisual** – Mayor Bucciferro asked Trustee Cook and Trustee Solotruck to provide specs for what is needed to stream meetings through You Tube instead of using the Zoom application.
- **Website Modernization** – Board discussed updates needed to website layout; RFQ would need to be prepared to received quotes from various companies to provide the upgrade.
- **Social Media** – Board discussed improving communications and the clarity of the communications from Village Hall to improve the misinformation distributed on social media. Mayor Bucciferro stated that he will reach out to the Daily Gazette to cover the Village’s meetings.

QUALITY OF LIFE RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Additional Social Events in the Village** – Board discussed ideas to increase volunteerism and additional ways to support the Special Events Committee; including possible grant funds.
- **Skateboard Park-** Board discussed the addition of a skateboard park to Collins Park; board agreed this would need to be a community led initiative. Mayor Bucciferro asked Trustee Cook and Trustee Brown to come up with a conceptual plan.

CREATION OF SCOTIA FLAG – Board discussed potential designs for a Scotia Flag; discussed having the schools within the Village participating. Trustee Gray will provide the board with pricing.

DISCUSSION OF ONGOING UPDATES – Mayor will provide the board with updates of ongoing projects within the village at the regular Village Board Meetings.

LONG-TERM PROJECTS

- **Village to City** – Trustee Solotruck provided the board with information from New York State Conference of Mayors (NYCOM) titled From Village to City: A Guide to New City Incorporation. Board will review and discuss at a future meeting.

CITY VIEW CHURCH LEASE AGREEMENT

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Brown to authorize the Mayor to sign Lease Agreement with City View Church Inc., relating to the parking lot.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Gray, Solotruck & Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

AUDIT OF CLAIMS

MOVED by Trustee Solotruck, seconded by Trustee Cook that be it resolved that all claims against the Village dated December 6, 2022 be allowed and ordered paid in full in the amount of \$870,435.00 charged to the following funds:

A-General Fund	\$ 822,410.00
F-Water Fund	\$ 32,340.00
G-Sewer Fund	\$ 15,685.00

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 Brown, Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions:

GUIDELINES FOR PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mayor Bucciferro stated that minor changes were made to the Guidelines for Privilege of the Floor with the most significant being a 5-minute time allocation for speakers.

MOVED by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Gray that

Whereas, the Village Board of Trustees has had long standing Guidelines for Privilege of the Floor, and

Whereas, upon review the Mayor has suggested minor modifications, now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees adopts a revised version of Guidelines of Privilege of the Floor dated December 6, 2022.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions:

December 6, 2022

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Gray to enter into executive session to discuss contract negotiations.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Gray, Solotruck and Mayor Bucciferro

Noes: None

Abstentions:

Mayor Bucciferro reconvened the board at 7:45p.m. with no action.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Solotruck to adjourn the meeting at 7:45p.m.

Ayes: Trustee Brown, Cook, Gray, Solotruck & Mayor Gifford

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Respectfully submitted,

Maria A. Schmitz

Clerk to the Village Board of Trustees