

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

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

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION**

Attorney Marola provided an overview of the operations of Village Government, services provided by villages and the roles of the Mayor and Board of Trustees.

### **CHANGING PARK HOURS TO DAWN TO DUSK**

Chief Halbfinger provided the following information to the board:

Section 182-1 of the Village of Scotia Code grants the Board of Trustees the authority to establish and modify the hours of operation for Collins Park. Currently, the posted park hours are 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

In practice, these hours are not strictly enforced during early morning hours. Walkers, runners, dog owners, and individuals fishing commonly utilize the park from dawn until 9:00 a.m. However, the park remains open until 11:00 p.m., during which time we have observed recurring incidents of criminal mischief and drug-related activity, particularly after dusk.

To address these concerns and enhance public safety, I recommend that the Board of Trustees revise the posted park hours to Dawn to Dusk. This change will allow law enforcement officers to take action and request individuals to vacate the park after dark, helping to reduce unlawful activity. The new hours would still allow for flexibility by permitting individuals involved in permitted activities (such as scheduled sporting events) to remain in the park beyond dusk as appropriate.

This adjustment strikes a balance between community access and public safety, ensuring continued use by responsible patrons while limiting opportunities for misconduct.

For reference, the current statute is provided below.

#### *§ 182-1 Hours.*

*Collins Park shall be open daily to the public during the posted hours set by the Board of Trustees. No person other than park employees or law enforcement officers shall enter or remain in Collins Park except when it is open as above specified, unless such persons have been duly issued a permit pursuant to § 182-2 of this chapter for use of said premises at times other than those posted*

Board agreed with the proposal; will amend the park hours at the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **REVISION TO MUTUAL AID POLICY WITH GLENVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Halbfinger provided the board with an overview of First Amendment to Police Mutual Aid Agreement which will provide mutual aid assistance during the hours of 11p.m. and 7a.m. Board agreed this is beneficial to both parties; will approve at July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Traffic Safety Committee provided the following recommendations to the Board of Trustees

- **NO STOPPING ON MOHAWK AVENUE EAST OF SO TEN BROECK STREET**

Vehicles parked along the southerly side of Mohawk Avenue from So Ten Broeck Street easterly 200 feet block the turning radius of Fire Apparatus leaving and entering the Fire Department on Mohawk Avenue east of Ten Broeck Street. The blocking of the apparatus responding to an emergency is costing precious time to respond to the emergency. Currently, signs indicate No Standing at Any Time. Standing permits a vehicle to be stopped along the southerly side of Mohawk Avenue opposite the Fire Department. The current Village of Scotia traffic code prohibits the stopping of vehicles on the southerly side of Mohawk Avenue from So Ten Broeck Street easterly 120 feet. The new Fire Department building requires the no stopping of vehicles for 200 feet east of So Ten Broeck Street. The No Stopping any Time regulation on the southerly side of Mohawk Avenue opposite the Fire Department would assure the fire apparatus would not be blocked and able to proceed to an emergency. An existing NO STOPPING ANY TIME with a Right Arrow at must be moved to 200 feet east of So Ten Broeck Street.

Board will introduce a local law to adopt suggested amendments at the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- **VILLAGE OF SCOTIA SPEED LIMIT 25**

The Village of Scotia amending current Traffic Code for a Village Speed Limit 25 requires installation of 56 Village Speed Limit signs. The traffic code change requires repealing the existing Vehicle and Traffic Code §240-05, 30 miles per hour speed limit and adding a new village to Vehicle and Traffic Code §240-05, 25 miles per hour speed limit.



The new 25 mph speed limit requires the installation of 56 new Village Speed Limit 25 signs, code: NYR2-3, size: 24"x30", White Background, Black Letters & Border, Engineer Grade Sign Sheeting, drilled for mounting on a single sign post.

Board will introduce a local law to reduce the Village Speed Limit to 25 at July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **AMEND 104-6 OF THE VILLAGE CODE**

Chief Halbfinger provided the following information to the board:

Section 104-6 of the Village of Scotia Code currently authorizes the Board of Trustees to establish fees for the kenneling of dogs that have been seized. As it stands, the daily kenneling fee is set at \$5.00 per day, a rate that has not been amended since 1993.

To reflect the current cost of care and limit the Village's liability in future cases, it is recommended that Section 104-6 be amended to set the kenneling fee at a minimum of \$30.00 per day per dog, or at a rate to be determined and periodically adjusted by the Board of Trustees based on actual incurred costs.

For reference, the current statute is provided below.

*§ 104-6 Seizure and kennel fees.*

*[Amended 10-13-1993 by L.L. No. 4-1993]*

*The persons having custody of a seized dog, pursuant to the Agriculture and Markets Law, before releasing a seized dog shall collect the sum of \$5 as the cost of the kennel fees for the days the animal is kept by the Village. Kennel fees are to be computed on a per-day basis, beginning at 12:00 noon of one day and extending to 12:00 noon of the following day, and not on an hourly or partial-day basis. Kenneling fees shall be established periodically by the Village Board of Trustees*

Board will introduce a local law to amend the fees at the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **HOURS FOR VILLAGE OF SCOTIA GYM POLICY**

The Police Chief and Fire Chief have not been able to finalize the hours of operation for the Village of Scotia Gym located in the Firehouse. Meeting will be set up with the Chiefs and each of the Trustee Liaisons to those departments to resolve.

## **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH DHA**

**MOVED** by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Gray to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Department Head Association for the period of June 1, 2024 – May 31, 2027.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**MOVED** by Trustee Cook, seconded by Trustee Brown that Cassandra Valiquette be and she is hereby appointed as the Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics to fill the remaining two years of a four-year term to serve as such at a salary adjusted by the Board of Trustees.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

June 16, 2025

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED** by Trustee Brown, seconded by Gray to adjourn the meeting at 7:32p.m.

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

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Respectfully submitted,

Maria A. Schmitz

Clerk to the Village Board of Trustees