The Seneca Falls Town Board held a Public Hearing and Meeting on Tuesday, October 3, 2023 in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 130 Ovid Street, Seneca Falls.

Present were Supervisor Michael Ferrara; Councilpersons Dawn Dyson, Kaitlyn Laskoski, Frank Sinicropi and Steve Churchill. Also present were Patrick Morrell, Attorney for the Town; Peter Soscia, Town Manager; Peter Porcelli, Zoning Officer; James Varricchio, Water & Sewer; Jeremy Wendt, Interim Highway Superintendent; Timothy Snyder, Police Chief and Lesen Gleason, Town Engineer.

Public Hearing – Proposed Town of Seneca Falls Comprehensive Plan: A motion was made to open the Public Hearing at 6:00 P.M. by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

John Garee: John Garee stated he has lived in Seneca Falls since 1979 and raised his family here. Since the dump came into the area, he has noticed a decrease in dead birds. If birds are dying, it means there is something toxic in the air. His taxes are going up, and the population is becoming old; the young people are decreasing 7 to 14% yearly. Mr. Garee said if the population is aging because there are no young people, people will have to drive further for medical care and other services. Mr. Garee said Seneca Meadows for another 10-15 years doesn't make sense. He says no to the Host Agreement.

Mr. Ferrara stated this is a Public Hearing for the proposed Comprehensive Plan, not the MOU.

Matt Venuti: Matt Venutti of Waterloo said he came back after a few years, and he sees what is going on with the landfill. He referred to an article in the New York Times which said even supporters of the Landfill admit that all the ills aren't there. 15 years from now, the landfill is going to get bigger and more unmanageable; after that, it will go on for another 15 years - where does it end. Mr. Ferrara said he would be happy to talk to Mr. Venuti anytime about the Landfill and the operation. He said this is a Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan which addresses different things like aging population, jobs, etc. – it is not about the Landfill.

Carly Jones: Carly Jones, from Gayogoho Council of Chiefs, stated she grew up here and can remember when garbage mountain was just a hill. She said Mr. Ferrara stated that the Comprehensive Plan does not include the topic of the landfill – can he address that. Mr. Ferrara replied the Steering Committee is not a governing board and does not have the authority to say what should happen, just as they don't have the authority to pass laws. He said the landfill is part of the Comprehensive Plan as far as how it fits into our community. Ms. Jones pointed out that BJ Radford is on the Steering Committee which is Clint Halftown's right-hand white collar people and a menace to their culture. She added working with her, in terms of the Cayuga Nation, is probably the most hypocritical and prejudice thing she has seen from this town so far. She is not theirs, she does not represent them, and neither does Clint Halftown. Ms. Jones noted part of this Plan is to try and create a committee to work with his falsified council that the BIA recognizes. She hopes that they will continue to recognize their Council because it will keep them from violating the Treaty.

Mr. Ferrara asked if there were any comments from the Public. Since there were no further comments, a motion was made to close the Public Hearing by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

Mr. Ferrara called the regular Meeting to order at 6:15 P.M. A roll call of Board Member was taken and all were present; the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Proclamation – Italian American Heritage Month: Mr. Ferrara proceeded to read a Proclamation which proclaims the month of October 2023 as Italian American Heritage Month in the Town of Seneca Falls. He presented the Proclamation to Carlo Lorenzetti, President of the SMS. Mr. Lorenzetti thanked the Board on behalf of the Members of the SMS and SMS Auxiliary, and all Members of the Community.

Proclamation – 175th Anniversary of Goulds Pumps: Mr. Ferrara proceeded to read a Proclamation celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the founding of Goulds Pumps , and which recognized its contributions to the rich history and diverse cultural heritage of the community.

Proclamation – National Chiropractic Health Month: Mr. Ferrara proceeded to read a Proclamation which joins with the National Chiropractic Association in proclaiming the month of October 2023 as National Chiropractic Health Month.

Petitioners:

Paul Kelsey – SMI: Paul Kelsey stated he worked 47 years at Goulds Pumps as a Machinist, and he hopes it's still

here because they want to get down to 100 employees by January, and they are reducing their footprint. He said the reason they want to get down to 100 is because they want to leave – the landfill might be the only thing we will have. Mr. Kelsey said when he opens his door in the morning, all he smells is money. We should not be paying taxes at all. He said we should be getting more money as it is going to be here a long time; Goulds is not going to be here. The Landfill has the money and they have jobs.

Mr. Kelsey stated he drove through the parking lot and he saw police cars running – they don't want to get into a cold car – who cares about the taxpayers of Seneca Falls? Chief Snyder told Mr. Kelsey to stop in and he will explain why they are running.

Barbara Reese: Bartbara Reese stated she spoke at last month's Meeting and presented a resolution to the Board relative to cancer patterns in the area of the Landfill that was approved unanimously. She is assuming that the resolution was sent to the DEC in the last month. Mrs. Reese wants to know if it was sent or not because tonight the Board is bringing the MOU up again. She said if we are concerned about the health of the people in this Town, it seems to her that the Board should hold off on any agreement. Mrs. Reese urged the Board to hold off on the MOU because they need to get the attention of the DEC that we are concerned. Mr. Ferrara apologized for the resolution not being sent, and said he will make sure that it is sent out tomorrow.

Carly Jones: Carly Jones stated we are talking about how important the decision will affect the next generations. She mentioned that a Gentleman during the last Meeting brought a great solution to the table, and she is wondering why no one is exploring the alternative of shutting the landfill down. Ms. Jones said shut it down – just shut it down.

Mr. Ferrara gave the following updates:

- There is a system in place called Code Red which will send out an emergency message. He urged everyone to sign up for Code Red.
- Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Wendt and Mrs. Jones are looking at clearing some areas in the back of Kids Territory to extend parking. Most of the work can be done inhouse, but it is just the matter of materials. It will cost about $20,000-$25,000 in stone to go down to the proper levels.
- Swap Cycle 2 will be on October 13, 14 and 15. Usable things can be put out on Friday, and the Highway Department will pick up what is not taken on Monday.
- The three Town DRI Projects are continuing. It went out to bid at the Community Center, and close to going out to bid at the Visitors Center.
- Mr. Ferrara referred to the water meters replacement and said the antenna that will be provide all the readings on the meters went up today. We have supplies inhouse, and mailers will be sent out by the contractor doing the installs. The process of changing over will hopefully start by December 1st.
- Mr. Ferrara sent out information to the Board about pro-housing communities. It's an opportunity that the State is offering, and he wants to know if the Board wants to move in that direction. Matt Horn gave a brief presentation on this:

Mr. Horn stated the Governor is encouraging municipalities to prioritize housing. The first step is to determine if you have increased your housing stock by 1% in the last three years. If you haven't reached 1% for the last three years, the Board passes a resolution stating it is prioritizing housing development in Seneca Falls and have taken initiatives to make that happen; file the resolution, and it will receive the designation. Mr. Horn said this puts the Town in a priority category for any grants that deal with housing. Mr. Horn stated if the Board is interested in pursuing this, they will work with Mr. Porcelli to determine whether or not housing has increased, and if not, they can prepare a resolution. Mrs. Laskoski asked – as far as affordable housing, what programs are we looking at. Mr. Horn said there is no types of specifications as to the types of housing to be developed; that would be at the Town's discretion. Brief discussion followed.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the regular monthly Meeting of September 5, 2023 by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 11, 2023 by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Steve Churchill. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

Communications:
Mr. Ferrara stated Communications are in the Board's packets.

Old Business:
Sale of Town Property: Nothing to report.

Authorize Supervisor to Sign Memorandum of Understanding with SMI: A motion was made to take the Memorandum of Understanding off the table only by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Michael Ferrara. No questions. Motion carried 3 ayes, 2 nayes; Councilpersons Laskoski and Churchill with the dissenting votes.

A motion was made authorizing the Town Supervisor to sign the MOU with SMI by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Michael Ferrara.

Mrs. Laskoski said she sent emails to Mr. Morrell with no response. He replied to her emails on September 14th and referred to Town Law Section 125. He also referred to the Procurement Policy as it relates to Bond Schoeneck & King. She said in 2021, Bond Schoeneck & King was appointed as Labor Attorney; in 2022, there was no appointment. Mr. Ferrara said it was in February. Mrs. Laskoski asked – if they are Labor Attorney, how are they able to represent the Board during negotiations. She sent another email to Mr. Morrell l on September 26th as she wanted an explanation and he replied at 4:30 today. Mr. Morrell said he tried to explain it to her in the first email and referenced Town Law Section 125 which it comes under. Mrs. Laskoski said she shouldn't have to look up Town Law when Mr. Morrell should explain it to her. Mr. Morrell explained the Supervisor presents all checks that are going out and being paid. It goes to the Town Clerk who presents abstracts of all checks that are being written for the month, and those checks are approved by the Town Board. He added that's how things get paid – after approval of the Town Board.

Mrs. Laskoski referred to the Procurement Policy and said doesn't the Board appoint or decide not to appoint. She is not opposed, but just wants to ensure that these processes are in place. Mr. Morrell stated the Town Board adopts these policies; the Town Board should be following these policies. Mr. Churchill stated the Board has to authorize expenditures of public funds before it's spent. In this case, there was no authorization from the Board to contract with Bond Schoeneck & King to negotiate a new Host Agreement. He mentioned that it should have gone out for bid. Further lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. Churchill stated the MOU should be tabled; there is no rush. The only benefit of the MOU is that it sends a green light to the DEC that the Board supports the Valley Infill project. He added there should be a meeting to talk about the pros and cons.

A motion was made by Steve Churchill to table action on the MOU until we can sit as a Board and discuss where we fall on this Valley Infill project, seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski. No questions. Motion was defeated as the vote was 2 ayes, 3 nayes; Supervisor Ferrara and Councilpersons Dyson and Sinicropi with the dissenting votes.

Mr. Ferrara reiterated that the MOU is a non-binding contract. It simply means that the two side came to an agreement. He added if the new Board in 2024 wants to tear up the MOU, they can do that.

Mrs. Laskoski stated what doesn't make sense to her is the ethics. She said why was Bond Schoeneck & King appointed in the first place. When Mr. Ferrara came on the Board, they should have never been appointed – his brother should never have been involved with personnel matters, let alone negotiations. She has questions about the process; she is not putting her name on something that is not clear because there doesn't seem to be transparency for the process. Mr. Ferrara said there needs to be transparency on all issues.

Mr. Ferrara stated when negotiations started, there was a team. They went around the table introducing everyone, and Mrs. Laskoski sat there at all the meetings and never said anything. He added if she had a problem, she should have said something at the first meeting. Mr. Churchill asked why the Board wasn't made aware that Mr. Ferrara's brother was part of the negotiations. Mr. Ferrara replied Mr. Churchill objected to negotiations in general; when you hire someone, you hire the law firm. Discussion followed.

Mr. Churchill asked Mrs. Dyson what has changed since it was tabled a month ago – what has changed to now supporting this. Mrs. Dyson replied she looked into it, researched it and read it. She talked to people, and wants to move forward. Further discussion followed.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Michael Ferrara authorizing the Supervisor to sign the MOU with SMI was carried 3 ayes, 2 nayes; Councilpersons Laskoski and Churchill with the dissenting votes.

New Business:

Approval of Special Events: A motion was made by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to approve the Pumpkins after Dark Event at Academy Square on October 13, 2023, as it is a benefit to the Community. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

Mr. Ferrara mentioned that the Board received reports from Department Heads. He asked if there were any questions. Mr. Churchill referred to the water meter project and said it looks like there were some things to be decided by this Board; there was an issue with the Company. Mr. Ferrara said it's been resolved. Mr. Churchill stated from what he read, per Town Manager, there were some questions for the Board. Mr. Ferrara said the only question is what is going to happen if people refuse to let us put a new water meter in their house – that's the biggest question that has to be resolved at some point. Discussion followed.

Comprehensive Plan: Mr. Ferrara said the Public Hearing was held, and the next step is to review the Environmental Assessment Form Part 2 and 3. Mr. Horn stated the Board completed Part 1 a month or two ago; completed Lead Agency designation and determined it is a Type 1 action which requires a more significant review. Mr. Horn said the Board will consider the environmental impacts that were evaluated, and then pass a resolution that determines there is no significant impact of adopting the Plan.

Mr. Horn said the first thing is to look at the Full Environmental Assessment Form, Part 2, Identification of Potential Project Impacts. MRB evaluated the adoption of the Plan for its impact on land resources, and found that there was no impact on land resources. They also found there were no impacts on geological features; surface water; ground water; flooding; air; plants and animals; agricultural resources; aesthetic resources; historic and archeological resources; open space and recreation; critical environmental area; transportation; energy; noise, odor and light and human health.

Mr. Horn referred to Consistency with Community Plans and said in addition to their review, they asked the Seneca County Planning Board to conduct their review, and they found no environmental impacts. He added in Consistency with Community Character, they found no environmental impacts.

Mr. Churchill said if the Plan doesn't speak specifically to a lot of these points, what is the purpose of this – the Plan doesn't speak to what is any impacts. Mr. Horn replied the State is asking us to go through the same standard that, for instance, the landfill itself would have to go through. After discussion, Mr. Churchill said he thinks the Board should go through every point and discuss it. He added the Comprehensive Plan is a wonderful plan and is a great start, but the Board is rushing it. Further lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. Ferrara asked the Board if they want to go through a full review of Parts 2 and 3 of the SEQR; the Board responded no. Mr. Horn said the next action would be for the Town Board to approve Parts 2 and 3; Part 3 is determining that there is no environmental impact in adopting the Plan.

A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board (hereinafter referred to as Town Board) has determined the above referenced Action to be a Type 1 Action pursuant to Part 617 of the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Regulations; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed and accepted the completed Full Environmental Assessment Form Parts 1, 2 and 3 on the Action prepared by MRB Group; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board has completed the coordinated review and public comment period provided for under the SEQR Regulations; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board has designated itself as lead agency under the SEQR Regulations for making the determination of significance upon said Action; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board has given consideration to the criteria for determining significance as set forth in Section 617.7© of the SEQR Regulations and the information contained in Full Environmental Assessment Form Parts 1, 2 and 3.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that said Action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts based on the review of the Full Environmental Assessment Form; and
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby make a Determination of Non-Significance on said Action, and the Town Supervisor is hereby directed to issue the Negative Declaration as evidence of the Town Board's determination of environmental non-significance.

After discussion regarding the use of Landfill money to lower taxes, decreasing population and land use maps, the above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the above SEQR Resolution, Determination of Non-Significance, was carried 4 ayes, 1 nay; Councilman Churchill with the dissenting vote.

Adopt Comprehensive Plan: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board (hereinafter referred to as Town Board) has received and reviewed the document entitled "Advance Seneca Falls 2040 Comprehensive Plan" (hereinafter referred to as Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is responsible for the preparation and adoption of the Comprehensive Plan pursuant to New York State Town Law; and
WHEREAS, the Town's desire to have a vision and plan for the community to support in future decision-making surrounding development and other operational matters facing Town leadership; and
WHEREAS, the Town desires to be proactive in dealing with regional and inter-municipal issues, protecting its resources, and planning for community and/or service needs; and
WHEREAS, a community-based steering committee has been empaneled to support plan development with the assistance of MRB Group, a local government services firm with expertise in local and regional planning; and
WHEREAS, the Steering Committee listened to experts and citizens, collected studies, and reviewed data. Members inventoried and analyzed existing conditions, conducted public engagement sessions and interviewed citizens, evaluated future trends, mapped and studied community resources and ultimately made the recommendations included in this plan; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board referred the proposed Comprehensive Plan to the Seneca County Planning Board for review and recommendation as required under New York State Law; and
WHEREAS, opportunities for public input and comment were provided to the citizens of Seneca Falls and included subcommittee engagement process, community workshop, public forum, and Steering Committee Meetings. A Public Hearing on Plan adoption and for SEQRA was held on October 3, 2023. Community Members contributed thoughtful comments and suggestions, providing feedback to support an initial draft and then several re-drafts of the Comprehensive Plan; and
WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan is a vision document which identifies the important positive tributes and components which defines the Town and provides a blueprint for the future; and
WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan will provide guidance to decision-makers, residents, property owners, businesses, and organizations through its Vision Statements, Goals, Objectives and Strategies relative to the subject matter of creating diverse housing and home ownership opportunities, improving Town services, expanding and supporting businesses and enhancing Park and Town amenities; and
WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan was finalized by the Town of Seneca Falls Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee after widely distributing drafts of the Plan and revising the document in response to issues and comments based by the agencies and the public; and
WHEREAS, the Members of the Town Board have carefully and thoroughly reviewed the Comprehensive Plan as revised and is satisfied that it meets the needs of the Town and requirements of applicable laws.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby adopts the Comprehensive Plan as an important planning tool which identifies a wide range of issues, initiatives, studies, projects and programs which can be undertaken by various entities in the short-term and long-term.

Mr. Churchill stated given the fact that the public has not really had a chance to review and comment, he opposes it also because they failed to live up to what they said they were going to do – going before the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. He is not opposed to the Plan, but the Board should not rush it.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the Comprehensive Plan was carried 4 ayes, 1 nay; Councilman Churchill with the dissenting vote.

Reappoint Doug Avery as a Member of the Board of Assessment Review: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to reappoint Doug Avery as a Member of the Board of Assessment Review, said term expiring September 30, 2028. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

2024 Tentative Budget – Set Public Hearing Date: A motion was made to hold a Public Hearing relative to the 2024 Tentative Budget at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, November 8, 2023 by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Frank Sinicropi. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

2024 Tentative Budget Workshops: The Board set the dates of October 11th and October 19th at 6:00 P.M. for Budget Workshops.

Additional Parking – Kids Territory: A motion was made authorizing the Town Highway Department to create additional parking at Kids Territory with the cost not to exceed $25,000 by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Frank Sinicropi.

Mr. Ferrara stated parking is a problem – they are parking all over. Mrs. Laskoski asked if we would be using old millings. Mr. Ferrara replied it will be mainly stone. Mrs. Laskoski asked why old millings can't be used. Mr. Wendt replied in that case, we would be better off waiting until next year and use all the millings. He added the millings are usually sold back to the Stone Quarry as a rebate towards paving. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Laskoski asked where the money is coming from; Mr. Ferrara replied out of the Contingency budget. Mrs.

Laskoski asked how much is in Contingency budget; Mr. Soscia replied about $100,000 – he doesn't know exactly.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Frank Sinicropi authorizing the Highway Department to create additional parking with the cost not to exceed $25,000 was carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

Proposed Local Law – Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers: A motion was made by Steve Churchill and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS, Section 466-a of the New York State Real Property Tax Law provides for a limited exemption from Real Property Taxes for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers; and
WHEREAS, Section 466-a requires that a local law be adopted by each municipality that wishes to authorize the exemption; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls would like to provide this exemption as allowed by New York State Law to its residents that are qualifying Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that proposed Local Law No. 5 of the year 2023 entitled "A local law to amend Chapter 266 of the Code of the Town of Seneca Falls to Authorize a Real Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 466-a" be and the same is hereby introduced before the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls, New York; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law be laid upon the desks of each Member of the Town Board; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on said proposed local law at the Seneca Falls Town Offices, 130 Ovid Street, Seneca Falls, New York at 6:00 P.M. on November 8, 2023; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk publish or cause to be published a notice of said Public Hearing in the official newspaper of the Town at least five (5) days prior thereto.

Mr. Ferrara stated this is something that is going through the State; the County passed this about six months ago. He said it will go into effect for Town taxes – he doesn't know if the School District is doing this. He said it's a way to give back to our volunteers. Brief discussion followed.

The above motion made by Steve Churchill and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the above resolution regarding proposed local law for tax exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers was carried 4 ayes, 0 nayes and 1 abstention; Councilman Sinicropi abstained from voting.

W/S Resoluton – Purchase Commercial Driver Training: A motion was made by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls owns equipment that requires a Class A CDL to drive; and
WHEREAS, in 2022, New York State Law changed requiring all commercial drivers to attend a State approved driving education course before being eligible for a license; and
WHEREAS, quotes were sourced from two local schools, both coming back at the same amount.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Seneca Falls Town Board authorizes sending employee Cole Marr to the Canandaigua Driving School at a cost of $6,995.

Mr. Sinicropi asked how many weeks; Mr. Varricchio said he thinks it's four. If you don't pass the test in four, they will keep you until you pass the test.

The above motion made by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the above resolution authorizing Mr. Marr to attend the Commercial Driver Training was carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

W/S Resolution – Purchase H2S Monitoring Equipment: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS, Town of Seneca Falls has previously rented H2S monitoring equipment for its SMI Pump Station; and
WHEREAS, renting said equipment would cost the Town $6,825 a year; and
WHEREAS, said equipment will aid the Town in identifying and tracking potential issues with H2S in its sewer system.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Seneca Falls Town Board purchase a H2S monitoring system from Martech for $4557 to be installed at the SMI Pump Station; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Martech currently sells, services and calibrates all Town-owned gas detection equipment at its Water and Wastewater treatment facilities.

Mr. Ferrara stated this is to ensure that everything is running properly. Mr. Churchill said why doesn't the Town require (under the current HCA) that Seneca Meadows pay for this equipment and/or the DEC. He doesn't think it's on the Town to by this equipment. Brief discussion followed.
The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the above resolution

authorizing the purchase of H2S monitoring equipment was carried 4 ayes, 1 nay; Councilman Churchill with the dissenting vote.

W/S Resolution – Solicit Bids for WTP Intake Cleaning: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS, the Department of Water and Sewer is responsible for providing maintenance and repairs to the municipal water system; and
WHEREAS, the Department of Water and Sewer has anticipated this maintenance.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board authorizes the advertisement for bids for the Town of Seneca Falls Intake Cleaning.

Mr. Ferrara said this is part of the ongoing improvements in the Water Treatment Plant. Mrs. Gleason stated we are hoping to do this in the summer, but it depends on the DEC and the permit. Mr. Ferrara said this is the pipe in the Lake that the Plant takes water from the Lake before treatment. Mr. Sinicropi asked if this is the second time it's been cleaned. Mr. Varricchio replied he doesn't know if it's ever been cleaned. Mr. Sinicropi asked how much is it plugged; Mr. Varricchio replied about 40%. He added the money is budgeted to do it.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to authorize soliciting bids for the WTP Intake Cleaning was carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

Approve Fair Housing Policy: A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls is required to have a policy that deals with Fair Housing for the community of Seneca Falls as part of its Community Development block Grant Program (CDBG); and
WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls is committed to prohibiting discrimination upon the basis of race, color, religion, sex or origin in the sale, lease or rental of housing; and
WHEREAS, in order for enforcement of fair housing provisions and to ensure that residents are aware of fair housing provisions under Federal and State Law, and of the processes and assistance available to obtain compliance with existing statues, the Town of Seneca Falls will place in the official Town newspaper and the Town's website, informing people to contact the Fair Housing Director; and
WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls established a procedure of notifying persons who may have been discriminated against, and a procedure for handling complaints.
RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Seneca Falls approves the Fair Housing Policy.

Mr. Ferrara stated this is part of the CDBG, and it is a requirement that we have this policy. He added the Board will be appointing the Director which comes with no additional pay. Mr. Churchill said the Town has had the CDBG for a while – is this a new requirement. Mr. Ferrara replied no. Mr. Churchill asked where is the policy – this says the Board is going to adopt it, but he doesn't see a policy. Mr. Ferrara replied everything in the resolution is basically the policy -it's a simple policy. Mr. Churchill stated WHERASES are not policy -they are the reasons for adopting. Mr. Ferrara said he can make up a policy – the Board needs to act on this as it is a timely issue; they won't release the funds without this. Mr. Ferrara said he will write up a policy. Mrs. Laskoski asked if the Board has to vote every year on the Director; Mr. Ferrara replied he doesn't have an answer to that.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the above resolution approving the Fair Housing Policy was carried 4 ayes, 1 nay; Councilman Churchill with the dissenting vote.

Approve Peter Soscia as Fair Housing Director: A motion was made by Dawn Dyson and seconded by Kaitlyn Laskoski to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls is required to have a Fair Housing Director to review housing regulations and mandates from the Federal Government; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board of Seneca Falls approved a Policy Statement at the October 3, 2023 Board Meeting.
RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Seneca Falls approves the appointment of Peter Soscia as the Fair Housing Director.
No questions. Motion carried 4 ayes, 1 nay; Councilman Churchill with the dissenting vote.

Authorize Execution of Legal Services Agreement related to PFAS Litigation Services: A motion was made by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS, Town of Seneca Falls (the Town) is committed to delivering clean drinking water to its customers; and
WHEREAS, the Town is also committed to identifying parties and taking reasonable steps to avoid passing on the costs to its consumers for the treatment and remediation of contamination; and
WHEREAS, Law Office of Robert King, PLLC and Stagliuzza. LLC have assembled a team of uniquely qualified and experienced attorneys (the Firm) who have joined together to assist public entities facing the challenges posed

by contamination with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS); and
WHEREAS, the Firms are comprised of experienced Attorneys in both the PfAS litigation and in the representation of public entities and water suppliers in cases involving groundwater contamination; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined it to be in the Town's best interest to enter into the Agreement with the Firms and pursue any claims it may have related to PFAS; and
WHEREAS, the agreement is established under a contingency basis, ensuring that no costs will be incurred by the Town; and
WHEREAS, the Town desires to authorize the execution of the Retainer Agreement with the Firms.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Supervisor and the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls, County of Seneca, State of New York, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute the Legal Services Agreement with the previously mentioned Firms.

Mr. Ferrara stated this is a class action lawsuit which Mrs. Laskoski brought to his attention. If this is approved by the Board, there is an agreement he will sign (Mr. Morrell has reviewed the agreement). Mr. Morrell stated there is an option in the agreement of whether the Board authorizes payment of the award that is part of a class action lawsuit. The other option is a contingency of 1/3 of any settlement unless that settlement is less than any amount of class action lawsuit Attorney fees. Mr. Morrell recommended that the Board go with Option 1 which seems to make more sense. Discussion followed.

The above motion made by Kaitlyn Laskoski and seconded by Frank Sinicropi to adopt the above resolution authorizing execution of Legal Services Agreement related to PFAS Litigation was carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

Replace Sign at Statute "When Anthony Met Stanton": A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS, the current signage at the Statute "When Anthony Met Stanton" is in disarray and needs to be replaced; and
WHEREAS, the Town has received a quote through the Seneca Falls Development Corporation from the Pannier Company for $1,450.00; and
WHEREAS, the new signage will be the same style and form as the "Ripples of Change" statute; and
WHEREAS, the $1,450.00 will be funded from the budget line item A1990.400.
RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Seneca Falls approves the funding for new signage at the "When Anthony Met Stanton" statute for $1,450.00 payable to the Pannier Company.

Mr. Churchill asked if this was budgeted; Mr. Ferrara replied no. Mr. Churchill asked if the Town owned the statute; Mr. Ferrara replied yes. Mr. Churchill said there should be a budget for maintenance of such things whether we use it or not; that way, it doesn't come out of Contingency.

The above motion made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to adopt the above resolution to replace the sign at the "When Anthony Met Stanton" statute was carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes

Water/Sewer Credits: None.
Payment of Bills:
A motion was made by Frank Sinicropi and seconded by Dawn Dyson to approve and order paid the following bills:

General Fund - $308,100.98 (Abstract #9)
Miscellaneous Fund - $37,373.32 (Abstract #9)
Highway Fund - $285,787.00 (Abstract #9)
Water Fund - $40,523.12 (Abstract #9
Recreation Fund - $22,214.12 (Abstract #9)
Vince's Park Fund – 15,344.52 (Abstract #9)
Sewer Fund - $381,086.50 (Abstract #9)

Motion carried 4 ayes, 1 nay; Councilman Churchill with the dissenting vote.

At 8:35 P.M., a motion was made to enter into Executive Session to discuss a matter related to r the fair market value of real property and a personnel issue. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.
A motion was made to reconvene the regular Meeting at 9:00 P.M. by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Steve Churchill. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.

Being there was no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the Meeting by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Steve Churchill. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nayes.
Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Nicaletta J. Greer
NICALETTA J. GREER
Town Clerk