

- A. The Seneca Falls Town Board held a regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at the Seneca Falls Town Office, 130 Ovid Street Seneca Falls.
Supervisor Schmitter called the regular meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

- B. A roll call was taken of board members the following members of the board were present:

TOWN OFFICER	Present	Absent
Supervisor Frank Schmitter	X	
Councilman Frank Sinicropi	X	
Councilman Jackson Puylara	X	
Councilwoman Dawn Dyson	X	
Councilwoman Kaitlyn Laskoski	X	

Also present were:

Town Manager Peter Soscia	X	
Town Attorney Patrick Morell	X	
Director of Parks & Recreation Missy Jones	X	
Town Assessor Deborah VonWald		X
Zoning Officer Peter Porcelli		X
Highway Superintendent Jeremy Wendt	X	
Police Chief Timothy Snyder	X	
Chief of Water & Sewer Joesph Tullo		X

- C. The Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.
- D. Public Hearing
- a. Local Law #5 – Appointment and Compensation of Deputy Town Clerks – No speakers
 - b. Local Law #6 – Amend Section 173-3 of Seneca Falls Code – No speakers
 - c. Local Law #7 – Amend Chapter 300, Article XIV. Solar Energy Systems – No speakers
- Motion to close the public hearings made by Councilman Sinicropi and seconded by Councilwoman Dyson. All in favor. Motion carried.
- E. 2025 Proposed Budget – Town Manager, Peter Soscia, remarked on the development of the 2025 Budget and presented the budget to the board members and public.
- F. Regular Meeting
- a. Presentations/Petitioners/Privilege of the Floor
 - i. Shannon Falk – Addressed the board regarding the policy against having dogs in the offices/building. Noting that she found it comforting to have Tucker in the office when she was going through a difficult time and had to make police reports.
 - ii. Shawn VanGee – Made remarks regarding the CSEA Union.
 - iii. Tom Gayback – Commented on the CSEA Union.
 - iv. Don Black – Remarked on the efforts to organize a union.
 - v. Cole Marr – Commented on the Union organization efforts and questioned the development of the Department of Public Works.
 - vi. Mark Pitifier – Commented on the Seneca Meadows Landfill odor and its effects on the residence.
 - vii. Jean Gilroy – Made remarks regarding the Seneca Meadows Landfill odor and its effects on the residence.
 - viii. Aaron Passalacqua – Commented on the Union organization efforts and questioned the development of the Department of Public Works.
 - ix. Lisa Utterback – Made remarks regarding the Union organization efforts.
 - x. Toni Meeks – Made remarks regarding the development of the Public Works Department and the efforts to unionize by the employees.
 - b. Old Business:
 - i. Resolution - Water & Sewer Budget Transfer – FG-2024-29 – A motion to approve the following resolution was made by Councilman Puylara and seconded by Councilwoman Laskoski: **WHEREAS**, the water and wastewater plants currently utilize a SCADA control system designed and hosted by an outside contractor offsite; and **WHEREAS**, the Town has entered into a professional services agreement with a new contractor Turner Integrated Systems LLC; and **WHEREAS**, the Town realizes the need to transfer funds to cover the estimated costs of a new on-site SCADA program, software, and server hardware. **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Seneca Falls Town Board authorize the following budget transfers:

TRANSFER FROM	TRANSFER TO	AMOUNT
G8130.459 (Fence/Grounds)	G8130.403 (SCADA)	\$30,000
F8330.204 (Equipment Upgrade)	G8130.403 (SCADA)	\$30,000

F8330.409 (Chemicals)	G8130.403 (SCADA)	\$45,000
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All in favor. Motion carried.

c. New Business

- i. Resolution – Scheduled Service Agreement with Trane U.S. Inc. – BG-2024-03 – A motion to table the following resolution was made by Councilwoman Laskoski and seconded by Councilman Sinicropi: **WHEREAS** current mechanical systems within the Trane HVAC systems need immediate repair; and **WHEREAS** maintenance and repair of mechanical systems require specific training; and **WHEREAS** the company that installed the mechanical systems prior to its malfunction is no longer in business; and **WHEREAS** Trane U.S. Inc has provided services to the Town of Seneca Falls in the past and trained technicians are skilled in maintenance and repair of specialty equipment utilized by the Town of Seneca Falls; and **WHEREAS** entering into service agreement with Trane will allow for timely personalized services and saving taxpayer dollars by proper maintenance of specialty equipment; and **NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** the Town of Seneca Falls enter into a one-year service agreement with Trane HVAC, Inc for \$12,734.00. **BE IT FURHTER RESLOVED** that the one-year service agreement is to be paid from the budget line (board to decide where funds will be taken from), for the remainder of 2024 and money be allocated in the 2025 budget for continued service. All in favor. Motion carried.
- ii. Resolution – Authorizing Advertisement for Bids Sedimentation Improvement Project – BL-2024-10 – Councilman Puylara made a motion to discuss advertising the bids. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Dyson. All in favor. Motion carried.
- iii. Resolution – Provisional Appointment of Malyte Cisco to Senior Clerk – CR-2024-09 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilwoman Laskoski to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the position of Senior Clerk in the town of Seneca Falls Parks & Recreation is currently vacant; and **WHEREAS**, Malyte Cisco, Clerk in the Parks & Recreation Department (budget code CR7020.102), has demonstrated consistent dedication, proficiency, and exceptional service and is currently performing duties beyond those of a Clerk; and **WHEREAS**, the Seneca County Personnel Department has determined that Malyte Cisco meets the qualifications for the position of Senior Clerk and has recommended that the Town of Seneca Falls provisionally appoint Malyte Cisco to this title pending the administration of and passing the Senior Clerk exam; and **WHERAS**, the starting hourly rate for a Senior Clerk is \$21.18, and the remaining 2024 Town of Seneca Falls budget for code CR7020.102 has sufficient funds to cover this increase. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Seneca Falls Town Board provisionally promotes Malyte Cisco to the position of Senior Clerk in the Parks & Recreation Department, contingent upon passing the Senior Clerk exam, approved starting rate of \$21.18 per hour, effective November 6, 2024. All in favor. Motion carried.
- iv. Resolution – Surplus Parks & Recreation Skate Park Ramp – CR-2024-10 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and Seconded by Councilwoman Laskoski to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the Town of Seneca Falls Parks & Recreation Department has begun updates to the Community Center Skate Park funded by the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) Grant, including the installation of a new half-pipe ramp; and **WHEREAS**, due to these updates, the Town of Seneca Falls Parks & Recreation Department will no longer have sufficient space to accommodate all existing ramps, and the largest ramp is also in need of repairs. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Seneca Falls Town Board declares the large skate park ramp as surplus property and authorizes its disposal through Auctions International. All in favor. Motion carried.
- v. Resolution – Sidewalk Improvement Reimbursement Program Distribution – DA-2024-16 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilwoman Laskoski to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the Town of Seneca Falls has participated in a sidewalk reimbursement program for citizens to apply to when they replace their sidewalks in the town; and **WHEREAS**, the following residence have applied and complied with the application requests for reimbursement:

Resident	Total Reimbursement
Lisa Kaminski	\$447.07
Jose Aguilera	\$743.91
Total	\$1,190.98

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the above-named residence be issued a check for the respective amounts from the budget line A5410.401.

- vi. Disbursement – Water Leak and Pool Credits – F-2024-09 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilman Puylara to approve the following disbursement: The total amount of credits for Pool Fills and leak credits for October 2024: 2 accounts totaling \$410.61 Comprised of the following credit amounts:
Pool Fills: \$117.06
Leak credit: \$293.55

Account	Name	Credit Amount	Pool/Leak Credit
C0410	Jim Ricci	\$117.06	Pool
J1899	Jarred Weaver	\$293.55	Leak

All in favor. Motion carried.

- vii. Resolution – Purchase Chemical Pumps (WWTP) – FG-2024-33 – A motion was made by Councilman Sinicropi and seconded by Councilman Puylara to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the wastewater treatment plant uses pumps to feed chemicals; and **WHEREAS**, said feed pumps require replacement as part of the budgeted chemical storage room upgrade project.
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Seneca Falls Town Board authorize the purchase of replacement pumps, and parts from sole source supplier Koester Associates for the price of \$10,018.58. All in favor. Motion carried.

- viii. Resolution – Year End Budget Transfers for December 31, 2023, to be Recorded as of September 30, 2024 – FO-2024-03 – A motion was made by Councilman Puylara and seconded by Councilman Sinicropi to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS** any the Town approved budget is the planned spending for the 2023 calendar year, during the year unforeseen circumstances change the plan for the Town of Seneca Falls annual expenditures, and **WHEREAS** there are budget line items in the 2023 budget which underspent and or exceeded the budgeted allotment, and **WHEREAS** the Office of the State Comptroller will not accept the Town’s Annual Financial Report with line items which have exceeded their budgeted allotment.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the attached budget modifications to the 2023 Town Budget to transfer budget allotment from the underspent budget line items to the budget line items which have exceeded their allotments.
All in favor. Motion carried.

- ix. Resolution – Purchase of FirstTwo Public Safety Vison Intelligence App – PD-2024-14 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded Councilwoman Laskoski to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the Seneca Falls Police Department received a \$101,658.00 Law Enforcement Technology grant from New State Division of Criminal Justice Services to purchase technology equipment; and **WHEREAS**, it is extremely important to the Seneca Falls Police Department and the community in which it serves to be equipment with this technology to assist officers and investigators in solving crimes; and **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Seneca Falls Town Board authorize Chief Snyder to purchase the “FirstTwo Public Safety Visual Intelligence Software” using the Law Enforcement Technology grant funds at a cost of \$3,600. All in favor. Motion carried.
- x. Resolution – Purchase of Service Hours for Integrated Systems – TC-2024-38 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Laskoski and seconded by Councilwoman Dyson to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the Town of Seneca Falls has had significant upgrades in their computing software and hardware during the 2024 year; and **WHEREAS**, 200 hours were purchased in March of 2024, to be used for the upgrading/updating and regular maintenance of existing equipment and devices; and **WHEREAS**, during the course of 2024, Integrated Systems has provided at least one day per month of on-site service for the town of Seneca Falls to either install new devices, replace old devices, troubleshoot with staff, and conduct routine maintenance of the existing equipment; and **WHEREAS**, the number of hours remaining from the original purchase of 200 hours is less than 40. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Seneca Falls purchase 200 hours at a cost of \$17,000.00, to be paid from budget line A1680.400 and A1680.401. All in favor. Motion carried.
- xi. Resolution – Approval of Local Law #4 – TC-2024-39 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilman Sinicropi to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the Town of

Seneca Falls has been notified by the Seneca County Department of Human Resources that a Local Law is needed to establish the three Deputy Town Clerk positions as EXEMPT status with the Department of Civil Services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that proposed Local Law No. 4 of the year 2024 entitled “Local Law Providing for the Appointment and Compensation of a Deputy Town Clerk of the Town of Seneca Falls” 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 were laid upon the desks of each member of the Town Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the aforesaid proposed local law was referred to the Seneca County Personnel Department for review and recommendation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board held a public hearing on said proposed Local Law at 6:00 pm on November 5, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk caused to be published a notice of said public hearing in the official newspaper of the town, on the town website and the public notice board at the Town Office Building at least ten (10) days prior thereto.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls sees it appropriate to approve Local Law #5 of the year 2024 establishing the three Deputy Town Clerk positions as exempt status with the Department of Civil Service and the Seneca County Department of Human Resources/Civil Service Administration.

AYES- Councilman Puylara, Councilwoman Dyson, Councilwoman Laskoski, Councilman Sinicropi, Supervisor Schmitter.

NAYES – None.

- xii. Resolution – Approval of Local Law #5 – TS-2024-52 - WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls believes that it would be advantageous to the Town to amend the Town Code as it relates to the Heritage Preservation Commission; and

WHEREAS, that review by the Seneca County Planning Board under General Municipal Law is not required by the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding entered into between Seneca County and the Town of Seneca Falls which provides for an exemption for “Administrative Zoning Text Amendments”; and

WHEREAS, by this resolution, the Town Board made a Determination that adoption of this local law is a Type II Action under the State Environmental Quality Review regulations at 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(26) routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment and (33) adoption of regulations, policies, procedures and local legislative decisions in connection with any action on this list; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board held a public hearing on said Action on November 5, 2024; and

WHEREAS, after due deliberation, and consideration of the comments submitted by Town residents and other interested parties, the Town Board of the Town of Seneca Falls finds it in the best interest of the Town to adopt said local law.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby adopts the Local Law # 5 of 2024 entitled *A Local Law to Amend Section 173-3 of the Seneca Falls Town Code* and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to enter said Local Law in the minutes of this meeting and in the Local Laws of the Town of Seneca Falls, and to give due notice of the adoption of said Local Law to the Secretary of State of New York.

AYES- Councilman Puylara, Councilwoman Dyson, Councilwoman Laskoski, Councilman Sinicropi, Supervisor Schmitter.

NAYES – None.

- xiii. Resolution – Replace Sidewalk in Front of Burger King – DA-2024-17 – A motion was made by Councilman Puylara and seconded by Councilwoman Dyson to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Highway Superintendent that the sidewalk located in front of Burger King, 2013 Route 5, Seneca Falls, is in disrepair and needs to be replaced; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has secured an estimate from DiGeorge Construction Services (who had previously been selected as the town’s Heavy Equipment Bid contractor for 2024), for \$7,500.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board authorizes the replacement of the sidewalk located at 2013 Route 5 (Burger King), for amount of \$7,500.00 to be paid from line item A5410.401. All in favor. Motion carried.

- xiv. Resolution – Authorizing Settlement in Buffone v. Town of Seneca Falls Et Al. – TS-2024-53 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilwoman Laskowski to approve the following resolution: WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls and the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board are named defendants in a matter filed in the Seneca County Supreme Court entitled Jamie Buffone

vs. Town of Seneca Falls, Town Board of Seneca Falls and Michael J. Ferrara, Individually and as Supervisor of the Town of Seneca Falls; and

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff in this action is a former employee of the Village of Seneca Falls Police Department and this action involved her enrollment in the New York State Retirement System; and **WHEREAS**, in the course of defending this action, a negotiated disposition has been arrived at between the parties.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Seneca Falls approves settling this action by paying Sixty Thousand (\$60,000.00) to Jamie Buffone and authorizes the Supervisor to execute a Settlement Agreement with those terms and any further documents necessary to resolve this litigation. All in favor. Motion carried.

- xv. Resolution – Approval of 2025 Budget – A motion to accept the 2025 budget was made by Councilman Puylara and seconded by Councilman Sinicropi. Discussion followed. Councilwoman Dyson asked how we can accept a budget
- d. Payment of Bills – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilman Puylara to pay the bills. All in Favor. Motion Carried.
- e. Executive Session – A motion to enter into executive session to discuss pending and current litigation was made by Councilwoman Laskoski and seconded by Councilwoman Dyson. All in favor. Motion carried. Entered into executive session at 7:04 pm. Exited executive session at 8:00 pm
- f. Special Motion of the Day – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilman Puylara to adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully,

Melissa Brown
Town Clerk