

- A. The Seneca Falls Town Board held a regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at the Seneca Falls Town Office, 130 Ovid Street Seneca Falls.
Supervisor Schmitter called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 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 was followed by a moment of silence.
- D. Regular Meeting
- a. Presentations/Petitioners/Privilege of the Floor –
- i. Waterloo Container – Rich Swinehart – Informed the board members that Waterloo Container has met with 40 elected officials at multiples levels of government regarding SMI. Waterloo Container will be presenting evidence that indicates that the air is poor resulting in employee illness. The odor complaint system that was implemented resulted in all the complaints that went in front of the Varick Town Judge to be dismissed.
 - ii. Heather Bonetti – December is the month for the Wonderful Life event bringing nearly 6,000 runners from 32 states to visit and explore our charming town. They don’t expect to travel to a movie town and smell a landfill. She urged the board to vote no on the landfill permit.
 - iii. Greg Lazarro – Commented on the importance of the town accepting the CSEA.
 - iv. Peter DeVivi – Explained that he started a business about 12 years ago. His business requires oak sticks to be seasoned for 3 years. He explained that wood is a porous material and will absorb the air around it. He expressed concern about what odor from SMI will mean for his business. He does not want to move his business but needs to be able to maintain his professional credibility.
 - v. Jean Gilroy – Owns a 110-acre farm that backs up to Blackbrook Road. Two things happened in November: 1. She attended the board of supervisors meeting and upon exiting the building at DiPronio Drive, was hit with the smell of hydrogen sulfide. 2. November 27, smells from the landfill persisted for 13 hours.
 - vi. Valorie Sandlas – Stated that she was a proud union member of 40 years and feels that unions make society better. She also asked that the board deny the landfill permit in January. She asked that the board stop ignoring the issue and start doing something for the sake of the children who are growing up here.
 - vii. Tom Hunt – Stated that he has lived around a lot of farm dumps and does agree that the smell is not good. He asked why we don’t have any Cornell scientists looking at it. SMI contributes to taxes. Would like to see Waterloo have a wind breaker to decrease the wind and help with the smell. He noted that things need to be addressed for the children, and we need to have scientists take a look at it.
 - viii. Rick Swartz – Works hard for the community and feels he has a good report with people when they go to the transfer station. He stated that he is disappointed in the board members for not allowing the union. Stated that the employees work hard and will not allow management to fracture them. All their rights need to be respected and feels that this matter should have already been resolved.
 - ix. Dale Gibson – Stated that he has worked for the town for 1/5 years and used to live here. His father was a union member at Goulds. Stated that he likes his job and likes serving the community. Stated that there are currently 2 improper practice notices in the works for targeting employees. Dale asked if other towns allow their zoning officer to be in a union. Councilman Sinicropi answered that yes other places do but it was up to the town if they wanted to let the zoning officer be part of the union and their opinion was that the position is management/confidential which does not qualify for a union. Councilwoman Laskoski noted that the code enforcement officers at the county are union. Councilwoman Laskoski mad a motion to include the zoning officer in the CSEA. Motion was

seconded by Councilwoman Dyson. AYES – Councilwoman Laskoski, Councilwoman Dyson. NAYES – Councilman Sinicropi, Supervisor Schmitter. ABSTAIN – Councilman Puylara.

- x. Barb Reese – Made an announcement regarding the curbside organics waste collection. She informed the board that there is a link to sign up and the company will pick up food waste from the residence home.
- xi. Ian Spenser – Local 334 – Stated that he observed 2 issues in Seneca Falls. The landfill and the union. And the board seems to be kicking the can on both issues. He stated that he has observed disregard for the law, broken promises, union busting. Stated that unless the position is policy making the PERB will side with the union.
- xii. Lisa Utterback – Stated that she looks forward to the meeting each month in Seneca Falls to see what kind of show it will be. Stated that she also felt that unless the position of zoning officer is policy making the PERB will side with the union.
- xiii. Shannon Falk – Made speech about deeply personal experiences that have affected her life and how a small dog in the police station was able to help her feel more relaxed and at ease when making a statement to the police so that they could begin an investigation. She would like to see that dogs are allowed to re-enter the building in January of 2025 to make a positive impression on those who need them.
- xiv. Lenny Marr – Stated that he is in support of the union and asked Councilman Puylara what his hold back was. Councilman Puylara noted that he wanted to gather more information prior to deciding.
- xv. Chantalise DeMarco – Urged the board to reconsider Councilwoman Laskowski’s motion. She stated that the union isn’t going anywhere and that the town does not have the resources that are available to the union.
- b. Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Councilwoman Laskoski and seconded by Councilwoman Dyson to approve the minutes of October 17, 2024, and November 5, 2024. All in favor. Motion carried.
- c. Communications – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilwoman Laskoski to approve the following communications:
 - i. Dog Control Officer & Shelter Report – November 2024
 - ii. Heritage Preservation Commission – November 2024
 - iii. Planning Board – November 2024
 - iv. Letter – Real Christmas Celebration 2024
 - v. ATIS – Elevator Inspection
 - vi. DOH Water System Compliance Inspection
 - vii. 30 Day Notice – Kirk Casey Post 366 serving alcoholic beverages
 - viii. 46 Public Comments Regarding SMI Permit

All in favor. Motion carried.
- d. Special Events
 - i. The Ball Drop – Gould Hotel – December 31, 2024 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Laskoski and seconded by Councilwoman Dyson to approve the event. All in favor. Motion carried.
 - ii. 2025 Rotary Flag Project – A motion was made by Councilwoman Laskoski and seconded by Councilwoman Dyson to approve the event. All in favor. Motion carried.
 - iii. Wonderful Life 5K – Chief Snyder informed the board members that the paperwork has been received for the race. A motion to approve the race was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilwoman Laskoski. All in favor. Motion carried.
- e. Old Business:
 - i. Scheduled Service Agreement with Trane – BG-2024-003 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Laskoski and seconded by Councilman Sinicropi to table the following resolution: **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 FURTHER RESLOVED** that the one-year service agreement is to be paid from budget line _____, for the remainder of 2024 and money be allocated in the 2025 budget for continued service. All in favor. Motion carried. Resolution has been tabled.
- f. New Business:

- i. Decorative Street Light Poles – DA-2024-18 – A motion was made by Councilman Sinicropi and seconded by Councilwoman Puylara to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the integrity of the decorative light poles along Fall Street have been compromised due to salt and age, it is now time to replace them with kind/like poles.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that 30 new decorative light poles be purchased for the amount of \$47,437.50 to be paid from the budget line A5182.402. All in favor. Motion carried.
- ii. Purchase of Garbage Totes – DA-2024-19 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilwoman Laskowski to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the Highway Department and the Town Clerks office oversee the purchase and distribution of the garbage totes; and
WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Highway Superintendent that several totes have been broken in the past year by Cardinal Service's in addition to a number of purchases over the past year by residents wanting additional totes.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Highway Superintendent purchase 180 totes for the total of \$11,825.00 to be paid from budget line SR8160.403. All in favor. Motion carried.
- iii. Purchase of Rolloff Truck – DA-2024-20 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Laskoski and seconded by Councilwoman Dyson to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the current roll off truck purchase approximately 20 years prior, has developed engine and transmission problems; and
WHEREAS, the roll off truck is critical to the operation of the Highway Departments waste collection (both at the highway department and the dumpster program offered to residence) and organic materials collection events (yard clean up done four times per year).
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a 2024 International Roll off Truck/Garbage Truck – MV607 be purchased for the sum of \$148,678.00 to be paid from the Highway Reserve Account, and a request has been submitted for this purchase to be reimbursed by NYS via CHIPS Grant. AYES- Councilwoman Laskoski, Councilwoman Dyson, Councilman Puylara, Supervisor Schmitter. NAYES- Councilman Sinicropi. 4/1 Motion carried.
- iv. Purchase Pump (Water Treatment Plant) – FG-2024-34 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilwoman Laskoski to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, three quotes were sourced for a 480V three phase Finish Thompson SP11 self-priming pump; and
WHEREAS, Siewert equipment of Rochester NY provided the lowest quoted price.
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Seneca Falls Town Board authorize the purchase of said pump from Siewert Equipment for the price of \$2,812.00. All in favor. Motion carried.
- v. Purchase Variable Frequency Drive – FG-2024-35 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Laskoski and seconded by Councilman Sinicropi to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the town uses pumps to move water from the lake into the main treatment facility; and
WHEREAS, the VFD's that operate said pumps are past their normal life expectancy, and are due for replacement as part of the low lift pump project; and
WHEREAS, replacement of these VFD's was budgeted for in the 2024 town budget under line F8330.206 Low Lift Pump Replacement; and
WHEREAS, four different vendors provided quotations for replacement VFD's with Turner Integrated Solutions being the lowest.
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Seneca Falls Town Board approves the purchase of 3 Schneider 30HP Variable Frequency Drives from Turner Integrated Solutions for the total cost of \$11,725.92. All in favor. Motion carried.
- vi. Release of Funds (\$7,000.00) to the It's A Wonderful Life Museum – TS-2024-54 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Laskoski and seconded by Councilman Puylara to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the Town Board has passed the 2024 Town Budget which includes items and amount for the benefit of the it's a wonderful Life Museum in the amount of \$7,000.00; and
WHEREAS, the It's a Wonderful Life Museum has requested release of such funds for the 2024 calendar year.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board is authorized to release the \$7,000.00 to the it's a wonderful Life Museum paid from account A7550.405. All in favor. Motion carried.
- vii. Authorize the Purchase of Wastewater Treatment Plant Chemical Storage Tanks – TS-2024-55 – A motion was made by Councilwoman Laskoski and seconded by Councilman Sinicropi to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the Town of Seneca Falls (Town) is the owner of their Town's Wastewater Treatment Plants (Plant); and
WHEREAS, the 2020 5-Year Chemical Bulk Storage Inspection Report, dated April 2020 included corrective action to be take in the Chemical Storage Room at the Plant; and
WHEREAS, the Town's Engineering Consultant, Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. (B&L), reviewed the necessary and requested improvements with the Town; and

WHEREAS, based on their review and this request, B&L requested quotes from two (2) Polyethylene Aluminum Sulfate Storage Tank suppliers; and the lower cost supplier’s PO is attached.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board hereby authorizes the purchase of the two (2) tanks from Mass Tanks at the total cost of \$14,394.80. This is a budgeted item from G8130 WWTP Spill Containment.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately. All in favor. Motion carried.

- viii. Appoint Director of Public Works – TS-2024-56 – A motion was made by Councilman Sinicropi and seconded by Councilman Puylara to approve the following resolution: **WHEREAS**, the Town of Seneca Falls has advertised for a Director of Public Works; and
WHEREAS, the Town has received one applicant for the position; and
WHEREAS, review of the application by Seneca County Personnel Office has determined that Peter F. Messmer is well-qualified for the position; and
WHEREAS, the Town Personnel Committee interviewed the candidate and recommends he be appointed as Director of Public Works at an annual rate of \$85,000.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Seneca Falls hereby appoints Peter F. Messmer as the Director of Public Works with an annual salary of \$85,000, effective December 16, 2024. Discussion: Councilwoman Laskoski noted that the requirement of a four-year degree excluded many qualified applicants. AYES – Councilman Sinicropi, Councilman Puylara, Supervisor Schmitter. NAYES – Councilwoman Dyson, Councilwoman Laskoski. 3/2 motion carried.
- iv. Select Preferred Qualifications for Engineering Firm for Water System Improvement Project – TS-2024-58 – A motion to approve the following resolution was made by Council **WHEREAS**, the Town of Seneca Falls was awarded a WIA grant by the New York State Environmental Funding Corporation to conduct water system improvements; and
WHEREAS, said grant requires the Town to demonstrate that a firm is qualified and available to conduct such an investigation; and
WHEREAS, the Town submitted a “Request for Qualifications” with a due date of August 31, 2024; and
WHEREAS, the Town received credential packages from three firms.
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town of Seneca Falls has determined that Barton and Loguidice is the best qualified firm to conduct this investigation.

TOWN OF SENECA FALLS, SENECA COUNTY, NEW YORK
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS – ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR TOWN OF SENECA FALLS 2024 WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

PROJECT REVIEW
The Town of Seneca Falls is seeking Statement of Qualifications from qualified engineering firms to provide professional services including permitting, design, bidding and construction phase services for the Town of Seneca Falls 2024 Water System Improvement Project as outlined in the June 2023 Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by Baron & Loguidice, DPC. The Town of Seneca Falls selection committee will review and evaluate the proposal to select a single engineering firm. Qualified Minority and Women Owned Businesses are encouraged to submit a proposal. Questions regarding this solicitation may be directed to the Office of the Town Manager; 130 Ovid Street, Seneca Falls, NY 13148; (315)568-6933 or by email at psoscia@senecafalls.com.

- STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION (SOQ):**
The SOQ response shall include the following:
1. Proved your firm overview, including the size, location(s), overview of general services provided, etc.
 2. Describe your firm’s experience in providing design and construction phase engineering services for similar projects.
 3. Describe the organization and management effort you propose to accomplish the project.
 4. Identify the person you propose to serve as the Project Manager and include resumes of the individuals who will be assigned to the project.
 5. Confirmation that the proposer is a professional engineer licensed to work in the State of New York.
 6. Provide a proposed schedule to complete the project in a timely manner.
 7. Provide a list of successfully completed NYSEFC – funded water treatment and distribution projects completed over the last four-year period and include contact information for three (3) references.

- The selection of the Consultant will be based upon the following criteria:
1. Successful performance in providing Engineering Services for similar projects
 2. Knowledge and familiarity with the Town’s water system
 3. Technical capability (including experience) of the Project Manager and Project Team

4. The availability of the consultant's Staff and resources to assist the Town

5. Experience with NYSEFC Funded Projects

All in Favor. Motion carried.

- x. A motion was made by Councilman Sinicropi and seconded by Councilman Puylara to levy the delinquent water bills onto the tax bills for 2025. All in favor. Motion carried.
- g. Payment of Bills – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilman Puylara to pay the bills. All in favor. Motion carried.
- h. Executive Session – A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilwoman Laskoski to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing proposed, pending or current litigation. Entered executive session at 7:34 pm. Exited executive session at 8:21 pm.
- i. A motion was made by Councilwoman Dyson and seconded by Councilwoman Laskoski to adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa G. Brown
Town Clerk