

Supervisor Gary Dickson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present	-	Gary Dickson	Supervisor
		William Bauer	Councilman
		William P. Hanley, Jr.	Councilman
		Jeff Piekarec	Councilman
Absent	-	Joseph Cantafio	Councilman

Supervisor Dickson read the Fire Prevention Code instructing the public where to exit in case of a fire or an emergency.

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### **MINUTES TO BE APPROVED**

- Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Bauer, to approve Minutes #2021-04 of February 22, 2021.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

### **LEGAL NOTICES**

1. Proofs of publication and posting of legal notice: "OF A PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN A REQUEST FOR A HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 799 ORCHARD PARK ROAD" in the Town of West Seneca received and filed.

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to open the public hearing.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

Mr. Juliano stated his request is to obtain his Federal Firearm License to service himself and other locals in law enforcement. A Federal Firearm License is required to assist in the legal transfer of guns between owners and suppliers. A secure home office with a safe will be the location within the house where his business will be conducted.

Councilman Piekarec clarified that this will only be sales based, no testing or shooting of guns onsite. Mr. Juliano confirmed there will be no weapons discharged.

Councilman Bauer questioned if Mr. Juliano will be dealing with ammunition. Mr. Juliano stated he is not.

Chief Denz stated this is not a gun store and many businesses like this exist in town and he does not have a problem with granting the permit.

Code Enforcement Schieber stated through the Planning Board process, neighbors were notified, and their questions were addressed. The Planning Board's recommendation to approve was unanimous.

**LEGAL NOTICES** (continued)

Supervisor Dickson referred to a phone call he received and questioned if there will be advertisements for the business. Mr. Juliano stated he will not be advertising. Further, he has taken appropriate measures to be certain the guns are in gun safes and the room is under lock and key.

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to close the public hearing.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Bauer, to grant a home occupation permit for the property located at 799 Orchard Park Road.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON COMMUNICATIONS**

No comments were received.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**TABLED ITEMS**

1. Supervisor Dickson re National League of Cities Service Line Program

The item remained on the table.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**5-A ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Supervisor Dickson re ECIDA

Supervisor Dickson stated this is notification of properties that are dropping off the PILOT program and will be paying taxes to the town going forward.

- Supervisor Dickson re NYS Agriculture and Markets Reports
- Supervisor Dickson re West Seneca Historical Society request from Town Historian James Pace to continue with the process of establishing a historical preservation law
- Supervisor Dickson re Appointment of Alissa Straus as Director of Finance

Supervisor Dickson appointed Alissa Straus as Bookkeeper effective March 22, 2021 and effective April 16, 2021 she will be terminated as Bookkeeper and appointed as Finance Director with the salary of \$70,000 for both positions with funds available in line 1310.0100.





On the question, Councilman Hanley questioned if appropriate procedures were followed. Highway Superintendent Adams confirmed procedures were followed. Town Attorney Hawthorne stated this employee was under a last chance agreement and some additional things happened that were addressed.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

**12. Highway Sup't. re Buildings and Grounds Appointments**

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Bauer, to appoint Anthony Holakowski and Joseph Sitarek as part-time Laborers in the Buildings and Grounds Department effective March 9, 2021 at the rate of \$12.50 per hour contingent upon completion of paperwork and passing of drug and alcohol testing and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

**5-C APPROVAL OF WARRANT**

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to approve the vouchers submitted for audit, chargeable to the respective funds as follows: General Fund - \$75,936.07; Highway Fund - \$59,319.29; Sewer District - \$10,216.19; Gas Conversion - \$109.48; Electric Lighting Districts - \$1215.39 (vouchers 16294 - 17180)

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

**5-D REPORTS FOR FILING**

- Amy M. Kobler, Town Clerk's report for February 2021, Receiver of Taxes February 2021 & Return of Tax Collection reports received and filed.
- Jeffrey Schieber, Code Enforcement Officer, building & plumbing reports for February 2021 received and filed.

**5-E DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

- Engineering Department received and filed.
- Recreation Department received and filed.

**ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC**

Residents questioned/commented on the following:

- ✓ Speeding on Covington Drive has been and continues to be a problem, reminding the Town Board a petition with 103 signatures requesting the speed limit be lowered to under 35mph, possibly to 25mph and further asks the Town Board to put this in writing to the state – Supervisor Dickson has been in contact with a NYS Traffic Engineer about the process that recommends enforcement of the limit versus the lowering of the speed limit. Councilman Hanley commented that a previous effort by the police to enforce the limit resulted in several residents from Covington Drive, Tudor Boulevard, and Tampa Drive

being cited for speeding. Supervisor Dickson questioned if the Traffic Safety Committee reviewed this situation. Highway Superintendent Adams stated digital speed signs were placed on the road for a period of one week and only a few cars were recorded over the speed limit; additionally, extra police patrols were assigned. Chief Denz stated the high speeds captured were intermittent throughout the day compared to the below average speeds recorded overall. Further, placing temporary speed bumps has been considered and patrols do make their rounds; there is no easy solution. The resident questioned if a stop sign could be placed on the street. Highway Superintendent Adams stated this option can be investigated. Supervisor Dickson questioned if speed cameras were an option. Chief Denz stated the department does not possess any cameras.

- ✓ How is JCL Telecommunications providing telephone numbers, telephone lines, and 911 service – Supervisor Dickson stated the service for the town is being added to the police network and he has been reassured those components are covered. Chief Denz stated the 911 system is already in place and supplemental lines are being added.

### **COMMUNICATIONS BY BOARD MEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS**

#### **Recreation Supervisor Masset**

- Now hiring for positions, please visit the town website
- Online program registration is underway

#### **Councilman Piekarec**

- The West Seneca Joint Veterans Committee is selling banners in honor of local Veteran's
- The West Seneca Historical Society will hold a zoom meeting Wednesday evening to discuss historical neighborhoods

#### **Councilman Hanley**

- Recognized the Sewer Department for their quick response to clogged lines

#### **Supervisor Dickson**

- Referred to a poll about the deer population problem in town and will be addressing this issue at the next meeting
- The West Seneca Arts Society will be hosting an art show in the Community Center
- The Governor has lifted more restrictions effective March 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### **Councilman Bauer**

- Requested an update from Highway Superintendent Adams regarding an issue on Woodward Drive – Highway Superintendent Adams stated a line had been repaired a few months prior, another line collapsed, and an emergency repair was completed; currently another emergency repair is being considered due to ongoing issues. Supervisor Dickson stated Town Engineer Tanner suggested replacing the line in a way to increase the slope and increasing the flow of sewage. Councilman Piekarec questioned if this area is where DEC consent order work is scheduled for this year. Supervisor Dickson confirmed it is.

**Chief Denz**

- The winter parking ban is in effect until March 15<sup>th</sup>
- 2020 Annual Police Report to be posted by the end of the week
- Police Reform Committee is on schedule and currently working on the final draft for the Town Board's review and then submission to the governor's office
- Requested to have the annual police awards night at the April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting
- The department had 30,199 calls in 2020 and 5393 so far, this year

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Piekarec, to enter into executive session to interview two candidates for the position of Senior Services Director and to discuss the PBA COVID-19 overtime grievance.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 P.M.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

  
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**AMY M. KOBLER, TOWN CLERK**