Village of Gowanda
Board Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2025

The Village of Gowanda Board of Trustees meeting was called to order by Mayor Nephew at 6:00 PM.

Present: Mayor Mark Nephew, Trustee Peter Sisit, Trustee Paul Zimmermann, Trustee Wanda Koch Trustee Carol Sheibley

Employees: Clerk Danielle Wagner, Treasurer Traci Hopkins, Highway Supervisor Adam Reid, WWTP Supervisor Andy Carriero, Water Supervisor Kirk Trumpore, OIC Ross Olszewski, Code Enforcement Jason Pickering, George Poff

Public: Legislator John Mills, Jack Broyles, Steve & Stacy Raiport, Joshua Tripi, Mark Burr, Jay Frantz, Tricia Buchwald, Wayne White, Phil Palen

Absent: Attorney Deb Chadsey

Agenda & Minutes

Motion 10-77-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the agenda for October 14, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.
Motion 10-78-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2025 board meeting. Motin carried.

Public Hearing

Mayor Nephew opened the public hearing for the CDBG at 6:05 PM.

The Village is applying for grant funding from Erie County Community Development Block Grant. The funds would be used for St. Johns Park Improvement to revitalize the Splash Pad. The second is to support the Hollywood Theater for Stage Improvements and third is for Rural Transit Service.

No public comment was made.

Mayor Nephew closed the Public Hearing at 6:08 PM.

Public Participation

Jack Broyles-board should not discuss items not on the agenda, problems with Landlord law.

Steve Raiport-asked Mr. Mills for support on filling pot holes along Aldrich St from the school to 438, it is a county road.

Jay Frantz-wants to be a local resource to the board for zoning and improvement laws.

Correspondence

- Thank you from Assemblymen Sempolinski, DiPietro and Senator Borrello for the continued operation of Collins Correctional Resolution.
- Department of Corrections and Community Supervision-acknowledgment of advocacy for the continued operations of Collins Correctional.
- Cattaraugus County hosting housing study workshop

Official Business

Mayor/Board of Trustees

Trick or Treating hours for the Village will be on October 31st from 6pm-8pm

The Village was asked to support on a opt Out Mandate Under Climate Leadership Resolution.
Motion 10-79-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the support of S.8481/A.8996 Authorizing local governments to opt out of mandated under climate leadership and community protection. Motion carried.

Gowanda Ambulance reached out to the Village to ask for support in getting the funds that are owed to them from the State and they having been waiting on for months.
Motion 10-80-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the Gowanda Ambulance Service support of expedited reimbursement letter. Motion carried

Feed More WNY reached out to seek permission to set up on West Main near the old Rite Aid in the hopes to gain more Community involvement. Right now, they set up Healthy Community Alliance the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month from 9:30am-10:15am.
Motion 10-81-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the Feed More WNY Request. Motion carried.

Motion 10-82-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve the Erie County Community Development Block Grant Application. Motion carried.

Highway-*Adam Reid*

The Village of Gowanda hired Travis Moore as part time as needed employee for highway back in June. With winter approaching he will be called upon to plow.
Motion 10-83-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the wage change to $26.00 per hour for part time highway Travis Moore. Motion carried.

Fire-*Carol Sheibley*

The fire department received grant money for turn out gear.
Motion 10-84-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to accept the Assistance to Firefighters Grant award of $74,105.76. Motion carried.

Motion 10-85-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve the purchase of fire protective turn out gear as invoiced utilizing grant funds. Motion carried.

Joint Activity/Recreation-*Carol Sheibley*

Motion 10-86-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Koch to accept the American Legion donation for the learn to ski program of $1,200.00. Motion carried.

Treasurer-*Traci Hopkins*

Motion 10-87-Motion by Trustee Zimmermann, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve WWTP pay app #16 to STC Construction through 8/31/25 at $282,665.85. Motion carried.

Motion 10-88-Motion by Trustee Zimmmerann, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve WWTP pay app #17 to STC Construction through 9/30/25 at $80,385.20. Motion carried.

Motion 10-89-Motion by Trustee Koch, seconded by Trustee Sheibley to approve WWTP pay app #6 to BECC Electric through 8/31/25 and #7 through 9/30/25 at $16,902.87. Motion carried.

Motion 10-90-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve WWTP pay app #4 to Quackenbush through 8/31/25 at $8,159.31. Motion carried.

The Point Peter BAN renewal
Motion 10-91-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Koch to approve the 2025 BAN Renewal at $1,925,000.00. Motion caried.

NY Forward Grant Contracting-The Village was awarded $989,000 for a streetscape project. The DOT has a big road project they are doing in 2027. The Village would like to combine the projects with a betterment agreement. This will help the Village out. The DOT is sending their bids out in December, awarding bids in February 2027, Spring 2027 start date, and completion by December 2027. The Village has 3 options to choose from with DOT.

1. Betterment agreement with DOT and Village would have the DOT add the Village project to their project and the Village will need to provide all funds to the DOT upfront by September 2026. The Village would have to borrow the money to pay DOT and would likely have to wait until December 2027 to see the first reimbursement. This option would include estimate $60,000-$70,000 interest payment. Also, any bidding cost escalation would be the Villages responsibility.

2. The DOT could establish an MOU directly with the DOS and sub-allocate NY Forward funding to DOT directly. The Village would also have to establish a betterment agreement with DOT to cover any cost over runs. The Village could reduce the need to borrow with this option and the any of the cost oversight would come from the grant funds.

3. The Village does not work with the DOT and works with an engineering firm.

The Village board thinks that option 1 is would be the best one.

A budget amendment was provided to the board for approval for the water fund for Point Peter.
Motion 10-92-Motion by Trustee Sisti, seconded by Trustee Zimmermann to approve budget amendment #1. Motion carried.

Budget Modification #1 was provided to the board for approval for the police car from personnel line.

Motion 10-93-Motion by Sisti, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve budget modification #1. Motion carried.

The abstract bills to pay was provided to the board for approval.
Motion 10-94-Motion by Trustee Sheibley, seconded by Trustee Sisti to approve the abstract bills to pay for General $171,594.76, Water $27,972.97, Sewer $16,746.35, Capital Projects $464,866.89, and Community Development Special Projects $101,039.08. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday November 13, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Danielle Wagner
Clerk