

# Town of Niagara upgrading security

BY TIMOTHY CHIPP  
Contributing Writer

The Niagara Town Board approved spending more than \$16,000 to upgrade security at multiple facilities, according to the town's interim police chief.

Craig Guiliani said the town will contract with Doyle Security Systems in Cheektowaga to install both panic buttons for people working in town offices and new security cameras to replace an old system.

"The cameras that were there were not operable," Guiliani said, adding the cameras will be installed in multiple places in Town Hall, as well as outside the Highway Department's new storage shed, the senior center and in the town's newly renovated park with its bocce courts and miniature golf course.

Guiliani said the town received three total bids for the project, with the winning bid being the most comprehensive of the three, fulfilling the number of projects the town wanted to complete.

Retired Police Chief James

Suitor was exploring making security upgrades at a number of the same town facilities, focused primarily on buzzers to prevent immediate public access, before he left the town in August.

At the time, Suitor said an "irate and intoxicated man" entered Town Hall and caused an issue with many of the clerks who work in the offices. Town officials have been looking into the security issue since and settled on the panic buttons, Guiliani said.

"We ran into an issue where we wondered can you actually lock down a public building," Guiliani said. "Just because you have a camera at the door doesn't mean they're not hiding a gun in their jacket. We try to have an officer in the building as much as possible.

"This gives the clerks inside (these offices) a sense of security that they didn't have before if an officer is not in the building."

Many of the department offices will be fitted with the panic buttons, including the supervisor's office, the court clerks, the Building Department and the town clerk, Guiliani said.

In addition to the personal safety upgrade coming, the purchase will also include upgrades to the fire alert system in Town Hall, Guiliani said. Fire alarms will be replaced, while the electronics board running the system will also be upgraded.

Guiliani said the town hasn't had any issues yet, but the system is old and they didn't want to press their luck further.

The total cost of the upgrades is \$16,355, Guiliani said.

Niagara officials will next meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, at Town Hall, 7105 Lockport Road.

# NYPA board awards low-cost hydropower to Amazon in support of \$550 million WNY expansion

Said to be creating 1,000 jobs in Town of Niagara

Board also approves economic development awards to Micron in Central New York,

Gov. Kathy Hochul announced the New York Power Authority board of trustees approved economic development awards to 22 firms that will spur more than \$20 billion in capital investments and support 8,336 jobs – with 3,930 newly created.

Included among the approved items is a Niagara hydropower allocation to Amazon, the world's largest online retailer; and a Re-Charge NY power allocation to Micron, a U.S.-based memory and storage manufacturer, and the fourth-largest producer of semiconductors in the world.

The NYPA board also approved a low-cost hydropower allocation to the Village of Greene in Chenango County in the Southern Tier under the Power Authority's Industrial Economic Development program. Low-cost power through the statewide Re-Charge NY program was allocated to the remaining applicants.

"These transformative economic development awards to Amazon, Micron and other businesses across the state will create thousands of jobs and spur billions in economic activity," Hochul said. "New York continues to secure its legacy as the most business-friendly and worker-friendly state in the nation, while advancing the aggressive goals of our nation-leading climate agenda – creat-



Amazon is looking to build a shipping and warehouse facility in the Town of Niagara. (Amazon photo)

ing a greener, more prosperous Empire State."

At the meeting, the NYPA board approved a nearly 10.7-megawatt (MW), low-cost Niagara Power Project hydropower allocation to Amazon in support of the firm's construction of a \$550 million e-commerce storage and distribution center in the Town of Niagara that will receive, store, package and fulfill online customer orders.

Hochul's team said, "The project will lead to the creation of 1,000 new, permanent, full time-time jobs at the facility, in addition to hundreds of new construction jobs."

Low-cost Niagara hydropower is available for companies within a 30-mile radius of the Power Authority's Niagara Power Project or businesses in Chautauqua County. Niagara hydropower is linked to tens of thousands of existing jobs in the region.

The NYPA board also awarded more than 150 MW of low-cost power under its ReCharge NY program, including a 140-MW low-cost power allocation to Micron. Additionally, the NYPA board approved 404 MW of high load factor power that NYPA will procure for Micron on the energy market.

New York Power Authority

Chairman and Buffalo resident John R. Koelmel said, "The legacy of Niagara hydropower is deeply intertwined with the economic growth and vitality of Western New York. Amazon's investment in Niagara Falls will build on that legacy, creating more than 1,000 jobs and supercharging the regional economy with a more than half a billion-dollar investment."

New York Power Authority Acting President and CEO Justin E. Driscoll said, "Micron's historic investment secures New York's status as a global leader in semiconductor manufacturing. By leveraging clean, renewable hydropower, the Power Authority attracts the industries of tomorrow to our state, spurring transformative economic growth that will leave a lasting impact for future generations of New Yorkers."

Empire State Development President, CEO and Commissioner Hope Knight said, "These NYPA-approved awards will supercharge economic development across New York state, powering further job creation and investment. By supporting Micron and other transformational projects, we are reenergizing growth and opportunity for all New Yorkers."

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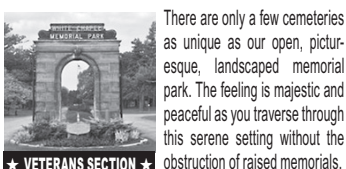
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