

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA
TOWN OF LENOX
MINUTES
July 21, 2008

Mayor Rouse called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT: Canastota Mayor Todd Rouse, Deputy Mayor Scott Rapasadi, Trustees Charles P. Sweeney, Ann Marie Rossi and Theodore Lumbrazo; Lenox Supervisor Rocco DiVeronica, Council Members John Haddock, Anthony Palamara and Grace Rapasadi; Margo Frink of the Bee-Journal

ABSENT: Council Member Richard Rossi

Justice Court

Supervisor DiVeronica will be starting his budget next month and asked the Village Board if it was going to split the cost of the court clerk with the Town. Mayor Rouse advised that the Village will not be splitting the cost of the Town's court clerk.

Christmas Lights

Mayor Rouse had Ron Bennett look at the cost to put conduit in the existing concrete to the trees pulling power from Rotary Park, Reflection Park and this building. He believes that the price will be around \$30,000.00 to bring power to each tree. Trustee Rapasadi asked where the power currently comes from for the trees. The Mayor explained that it comes from National Grid's poles. If we want to use small lighted decorations on the light poles we could. Mayor Rouse explained that the Village would supply whatever labor we could supply. Supervisor DiVeronica noted that the Town would do whatever it could do. Council Member Grace Rapasadi asked if the Village would be looking to the Town to share some of the expenses. Supervisor DiVeronica stated that he believes that this should be a joint venture between the Town and Village. Mayor Rouse will have DPW Foreman Ron Bennett get written quotes detailing the project and get a price. Supervisor DiVeronica would like to see the lights put back in the park at the corner of the Municipal Building. He suggested that we get a quote for the entire project and one if the Village and Town performed the work.

Sidewalks Around Municipal Building

Supervisor DiVeronica would like to replace the sidewalks in front of the building with brick pavers. The pavers are easy to replace if something goes wrong with them. Mayor Rouse asked Supervisor DiVeronica to get some numbers on the cost. Trustee Scott Rapasadi asked if this would be a joint venture between the Town of Lenox and the Village of Canastota. Supervisor DiVeronica expects that the Town and Village could do the work and that we could seek donations toward the cost of the pavers. He will get prices.

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Community Signs

Supervisor DiVeronica has been working on replacements for the community signs. Mayor Rouse advised that the Village has 5 x 5 signs in storage that say "Welcome to the Village of Canastota", adding that we could order signs for the community organizations from Corcraft and add them under the welcome signs. Mayor Rouse will ask the DPW to bring one of the signs to the Municipal Building so that the Village and Town Board members can look at the signs

Sludge

Supervisor DiVeronica advised that the County committee has changed and now we may have a new vote on this matter - possibly 3 to 2 in favor of setting a new price for municipalities to dispose of sludge at the County landfill.

Consolidation

Supervisor DiVeronica noted that the Town and Village were not selected to receive a Shared Municipal Services Grant. Mayor Rouse shared with the Boards an article in a recent NYCOM Bulletin regarding consolidation. The article emphasizes shared services as a means for saving money as opposed to consolidation. Supervisor DiVeronica believes that we are on the right track with shared services. The Mayor will have the article copied for the Town Board members - the Village Board members receive the Bulletin from NYCOM.

Sewer Billing

Mayor Rouse anticipates having a new local law enacted with regard to sewer billing. Beginning in January, instead of charging for debt/capital recovery as part of the water bill, this charge would be part of the tax bill for all town sewer districts and everyone in the Village. The Mayor reminded the Town to get their billing in line per the agreement between the Village and Town. He believes that the unit charge will be about \$250.00. The revised local law will give the Village the ability to put this charge on the tax bill. Mayor Rouse stated that the Village will send a bill to the Town based on the Agreement between the Village and Town.

Fire Department

Mayor Roue believes that we should have a discussion about the Town contribution to the Village for fire protection. Supervisor DiVeronica believes that with the new assessments the Town should be able to increase the amount that it gives to the Village. He does not want to use the mutual aid numbers when considering the increased amount. The Mayor stated that he did not use the mutual

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aid calls in his numbers that he gave to the Town. Supervisor DiVeronica will look at the numbers when the Town prepares its budget and will get back to the Mayor. The Mayor would like to review the numbers now before the Town does its budget. Council Member Grace Rapasadi questioned that the Town needs to contribute but does not have a say as to how the Village spends the money. Mayor Rouse stated that the fire department is looking at a \$350,000 to \$650,000 vehicle expense depending on what direction they go.

Other

Supervisor DiVeronica advised the Boards that at a recent meeting held in Kansas City, 3 resolutions were passed with regard to placing of Indian lands into trust. These resolutions were approved by all who attended the meeting, including representatives from 40 states and 2 Indian tribes. These resolutions now go to Washington. Mayor Rouse asked Supervisor DiVeronica about the impact on the Town. Supervisor DiVeronica stated that no property in the Town was placed into trust. Both parties are appealing the decision and he believes that we will be able to collect taxes.

Motion by Council Member Grace Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Rossi, to adjourn at 8:23 p.m.
Passed 9 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine E. Williams
Clerk/Treasurer