

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA
MINUTES
March 16, 2009

Mayor Rouse called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT: Mayor Todd Rouse, Deputy Mayor Scott Rapasadi, Trustees AnnMarie Rossi and Theodore Lumbrazo; Village Historian David Sadler; DPW Foreman Ron Bennett; Fire Chief Mark Ferriter; Village Administrator Larry Carpenter and Margo Frink of the Bee-Journal.

ABSENT: Trustee Charles Sweeney

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Rossi, to approve the minutes of the last board meeting. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rossi, seconded by Trustee Lumbrazo, to approve the General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$50,937.46. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Lumbrazo, to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$45,932.51. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Rossi, to authorize the following budget transfer: \$1,492.80 from 19904.01 (Contingency) to 51102.01 (DPW Equipment); \$1,340.02 from 19904.01 (Contingency) to 51422.01 (Snow Removal Capital). **Discussion:** Trustee Rossi asked if we used more supplies this year. Mayor Rouse explained that the shortfall was caused by the increase in the price of the treated salt. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Rossi, to accept the proposal from Bond, Schoeneck & King for legal services to act as Bond Counsel for the \$16,500,000 NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation Financing of the WWTP Upgrades and CSO Abatement Project and to authorize Mayor Rouse and Administrator Carpenter to execute same. **Discussion:** Mayor Rouse explained that even though the financing comes through the State, we must hire Bond Counsel from an approved list of attorneys. Bond, Schoeneck & King's fees were below what we had from the other counsel - the cost is about 1/3 of the other firm. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Rossi, to authorize Village Historian David Sadler to attend the APHNYS 2009 Annual State Conference from April 27 - 29, 2009 at the Crowne Plaza in Albany, New York at a cost of \$284.00 plus meals and mileage. (Note: The \$284.00 fee includes the banquet on Tuesday evening and no other meals.) **Discussion:** Mayor Rouse noted that meal reimbursement would be limited to \$30.00 per day. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Lumbrazo, seconded by Trustee Rossi, to approve the membership of Robert Robertson in the Patten Hook and Ladder Company of the Canastota Fire Department based on the request of TJ Tornatore, Fire Council Secretary, dated March 11, 2009. **Discussion:** Trustee Lumbrazo asked for Mr. Robertson's address. It was noted that Mr. Robertson has a learner's permit and cannot drive any of our vehicles. Passed 4 to 0.

Correspondence

- Letter from Canalway Trail Celebration regarding National Trails Day on June 6, 2009.
- Letter from Time Warner Cable regarding the spin-off of Time Warner Cable Inc. from TWC.

Administrator

Administrator Carpenter presented to the Board a fire hydrant map that was produced using the recently purchased GIS program. There are 30 different mapping applications available to the Village.

Mayor Comments

Mayor Rouse advised that he is working on the budget. The tentative general budget is done. He is waiting for figures from the Auditor for a projection on the fund balance - expenses vs. income - for this year. The County is reporting that sales tax is down. This may not affect us until next year. Mortgage tax is also way down. Sales tax, mortgage tax and interest income revenues are all down. Expenses overall are appearing to be slightly lower because of some bonding from last year that is now moving to long term bonding. Overall, gas usage is down even though some departments may be up. We cannot cut back on streets or we will fall behind in our schedule. Trustee Lumbrazo asked about curbing. Mayor Rouse did not put it in next year's budget. Trustee Lumbrazo asked about the curbs that had been damaged from the winter. The Mayor stated that curbs damaged by the plows would be fixed. Mayor Rouse discussed with the Board the budget process pertaining to determining the tax rate with the increased assessments. He stated that not all capital requests were funded for all departments. The Mayor is trying to have the money from the County for the Oneida Indian Nation taxes released to offset some of our expenses and increase our revenue. The Mayor is starting to work through the Budget for the Waste Water Treatment Plant, reminding the Board that we have changed the structure for payment towards the debt loan. Trustee Lumbrazo asked if we had received any stimulus monies for our project. The Mayor does not know if we will receive any money or how much we might receive. We have submitted our applications. For Peterboro Street we asked for sidewalks and new streets, but the Mayor does not believe that we will get the sidewalks.

Administrator Carpenter added that we have done everything that the Village can do to put ourselves in the right position. The Mayor advised the Board that the land purchase that he was negotiating which would have given a new location for the holding tank at the pump station fell through, adding that the other party was not interested in selling the Village the property. He has asked the engineers to look for another location for the tank. Moving the tank behind the minor league field is not feasible. The one other spot would be the property in the front parking area. Trustee Lumbrazo asked if the school was adding fields. Mayor Rouse does not know what the school's future plans are.

Trustee Comments

Trustee Lumbrazo is all set.

Trustee Rapasadi discussed with Administrator Carpenter earlier a pot hole on Stroud Street. DPW Foreman Ron Bennett stated that his department will box it out when the weather gets better.

The Mayor asked Village Historian David Sadler if he had any information to share with the Board. Mr. Sadler reported that APHNYS is celebrating its 10th Anniversary and wants to put together a quilt. They are asking for a square from each of its members which represents the member's community. The squares will be sewn together and displayed. The Canal Town Quilters have offered to prepare the quilt square for free. The Mayor asked Mr. Sadler to provide the Board with pictures.

Fire Chief Mark Ferriter is all set.

DPW Foreman Ron Bennett reported that the street sweeper should be out soon. The County roads have stone dust on them - the Village roads are pretty clean. Mayor Rouse asked how the drainage project worked behind the Peterboro Street school. Mr. Bennett stated that at least 90% of the water was relieved.

Trustee Rossi asked Mr. Bennett if the streets were better this year. Mr. Bennett stated that they were much cleaner this year except for the streets that we didn't plow. Mr. Bennett advised that his department used all but 180 tons of the 1200 tons of treated salt that was purchased this year.

Delegations.

None.

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Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Rossi, to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Passed 4 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine E. Williams
Clerk/Treasurer