

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA
MINUTES
August 3, 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 Charles Sweeney; Trustees Ann Marie Rossi, Scott Rapasadi and Theodore Lumbrazo; Village Administrator Larry Carpenter; Anthony Palamara and Margo Frink.

ABSENT: None

Motion by Trustee Lumbrazo, seconded by Trustee Rapasadi, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Lumbrazo, to approve the transfer of \$3,755.78 from the Economic Development Fund to the Capital Fund for payment of expenses incurred in the landscaping of the Peterboro Street Railroad Bridge. **Discussion:** Trustee Lumbrazo commented that the BOCES kids did a wonderful job on the landscaping project. He has received comments from people who love the project and others who want to know why the Village spent the money. Mayor Rouse reminded the Board that the painting was paid for by CSX. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Rossi, to approve the General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$107,325.42. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Sweeney, seconded by Trustee Lumbrazo, to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$48,220.95. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Lumbrazo, to approve the Capital Fund Abstract in the amount of \$3,755.78. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rossi, seconded by Trustee Rapasadi, to approve the wire transfer sent to Hasler, Inc. on July 23, 2009, in the amount of \$500.00 for postage. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Sweeney, seconded by Trustee Lumbrazo, to approve the attached resolution authorizing the Mayor to file an application with the New York State Office of Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation for funding for the proposed Canastota Community Park Project. **Discussion:** Trustee Lumbrazo asked if this Grant was for the project at the Business Park which the Mayor confirmed. Passed 5 to 0.

Correspondence

- Letter from the Fire Department asking permission to use the fire department van to transport young adults on a trip to educate the young adults on burns from fires. Mayor Rouse expanded on the information for the Board, advising that the request came from Upstate Medical University through Mitch Dryer, an Oneida Fireman and one of the camp counselors at Watson Homestead in Painted Post, New York. This is a camp for burn survivors. They are asking to use our fire department van to transport the children to and from the camp. Mayor Rouse and the Board are concerned about the potential for liability to the Village taxpayers and agreed that such a request could not be accommodated.
- Letter from the Fire Department requesting permission for Queensboro to use the pole barn on August 26, 2009, for an employee celebration. The Fire Department advises that Queensboro has been informed of the required insurance information and rules for the use of the building.

Motion by Trustee Sweeney, seconded by Trustee Rossi, to allow the use of the Firemen's Pole Barn on August 26, 2009, by Queensboro pending receipt of a copy of the required insurance. **Discussion:** Trustee Rapasadi asked if Queensboro understood the policy regarding alcohol. Administrator Carpenter stated that he would make sure that they did. Passed 5 to 0.

- Letter from the County regarding the release of the funds that we were required to hold for the Oneida Indian Nation taxes.
- Letter from Greg Kutzuba regarding a tree in front of his property at 204 Spencer Street. The letter has been turned over to the DPW.
- Letter from the Oneida Indian Nation regarding its participation in the 2010 Bicentennial Celebration for the Village. They would like more information before they commit to participation.
- Letter from Ron Bennett announcing his retirement effective October 14, 2009. Ron expressed his gratitude towards the Mayor and the Board for their consideration.

Administrator

Administrator Carpenter advised the Board that we have applied for a \$1.6 million green grant through EFC. He met with CDM to decide what we could put at the plant and decided on an energy efficient motor project. The area around the treatment plant is not right for wind, solar or other types of green energy.

Administrator Carpenter and the Mayor met today with Kathleen Goodman of the USDA regarding funding for the treatment plant upgrade project. The Mayor signed a Letter of Intent and we were given a list of additional information that we need to provide. We have applied for and should receive \$2.9 million in a grant and \$100,000 in a loan at 2.6% interest from the USDA. This is in addition to the \$500,000 STAG grant, \$3,750,000 EFC Grant and \$6,750,000 EFC 0% Loan.

7:15 p.m. - Public Hearing regarding the Application for USDA Rural Development Funding

Mayor Rouse opened the Public Hearing and read the Notice of Public Hearing aloud. He advised that this hearing is regarding an application that we have submitted with the USDA. This public hearing is a part of the application process that we must complete. We have a \$14 million project that we must fund. We will receive stimulus money from the EFC and the money that we have applied for from the USDA will be stimulus money. Mayor Rouse asked if anyone wanted to ask questions regarding the funding application.

Village resident Anthony Palamara stated that the Mayor had answered most of his questions. He asked for the breakdown of the \$14 million funding. Mayor Rouse advised that we are receiving \$13.5 million in grants and loans and a \$500,000 STAG grant from Congressman McHugh. Mr. Palamara asked if this was a 50/50 grant. Mayor Rouse explained that from the USDA, we expect to receive \$2.9 million in grant funding and \$100,000 in a low-interest loan. From the EFC we expect \$3.75 million in grant funding and \$6.75 million in a no-interest loan. The total estimated project cost is \$14 million. Mayor Rouse confirmed that the local debt share would be about \$6.8 million. Mr. Palamara asked how many total sewer units were in the Village and Town. Mayor Rouse advised that there are 1620 total sewer units in the Village and 60 in the Town and that the Town number will change if there are any changes in sewer districts in the Town. Mr. Palamara asked if this project will address all of the Village's overflow issues. The Mayor stated that that is part of the intent of the project. The holding tank capacity is 500,000 gallons and the new pump station will have increased flow capacity. If it is necessary, the size of the holding tank can be increased by 250,000 gallons. By increasing the flow capacity of the pump station and installing a holding tank, we hope to eliminate most or all of the overflow issues.

Mayor Rouse asked 3 times if anyone wanted to speak for or against the USDA Rural Development Funding application. He received no response.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Sweeney, to close the public hearing at 7:20 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

7:20 p.m. Resume Regular Meeting

Mayor Comments.

Mayor Rouse reminded the Board that when the school bought the property on Roberts Street, we talked about the adjacent property owned by the Village which could be used by the school for the construction of a transportation facility. The school needs to conduct some tests on that property in order to move forward with its planned construction of a new school but cannot do so without some written assurance from the Village that the property will be turned over to the school. The Mayor would like authority to sign any and all necessary agreements with the school regarding the transfer of this property from the Village to the school.

Motion by Trustee Sweeney, seconded by Trustee Rapasadi, to allow the Mayor to execute any and all agreements for the transfer of parcel 36.47-1-15, which is about 4.3 acres of land on Roberts Street to the Canastota School District. **Discussion:** Trustee Lumbrazo asked if this land encompassed our DPW facility. The Mayor explained that the parcel in question is behind our DPW in the wooded area. Passed 5 to 0.

Margo Frink asked the Mayor if he said that he would transfer the property. Mayor Rouse explained that he would just execute the agreement for the transfer of the property. The school needs something showing that they have an interest in the property before they can conduct the required tests.

The Mayor noted that the bridge painting and landscaping is done now and everyone wants to know when the Main Street bridge will be done. Mayor Rouse was not certain that we could get CSX to pay for the painting of the second bridge also. The stains down the insides of the bridge are from the new railroad ties that CSX installed. The DPW will be installing a drip edge to try to prevent any future runoff. After the drip edge is installed, they will pressure wash the walls to try to remove the stains.

Mayor Rouse commended the BOCES kids for a phenomenal job on the landscaping project. There were 10 kids and 2 advisors at the beginning of the project - one of the kids left last week. The work that the kids performed saved approximately \$30,000.00 in labor costs. The Mayor stated that not only did we get a benefit from the project, but the kids that participated received classroom instruction as part of their work and they have something that they can see for many years to come and take pride in what they accomplished. It was valuable experience for the kids, many of who are from Canastota. The kids and advisors would like to do a project in Canastota next year. The Mayor would like to work with them again. Trustee Lumbrazo would like to see them landscape the Main Street bridge next year.

Trustee Comments

Trustee Lumbrazo asked how Operation Dump Truck was going. Mayor Rouse stated that it is going well. Administrator Carpenter advised that we have had many residents take advantage of the program. If someone puts out a pile that is too large for the DPW to handle, we provide them with the program information and ask them to participate.

Trustee Lumbrazo asked when the Peterboro Street paving would be complete. Mayor Rouse advised that Peterboro Street from the Thruway to Route 5 should be done by October. We are the first of five projects that the State has planned for the fall. Trustee Lumbrazo asked if the project included sidewalks. The Mayor stated that this round of stimulus money is for paving projects only. We are hoping that if the stimulus money is available next year that our sidewalks and street lights can be updated.

Trustee Rapasadi asked what the State was doing at Roberts and Peterboro Streets - they keep digging it up and covering it up. The Mayor explained that that is a different project. The state is adding a turning lane and installing a traffic light at that intersection. The project is supposed to be completed prior to the beginning of school this year.

Trustee Lumbrazo asked about the condition of the sidewalk in front of Village Hall. Mayor Rouse and Administrator Carpenter stated that they were not aware of any problems.

Trustee Rapasadi is all set.

Trustee Rossi is all set.

Trustee Sweeney is all set.

Trustee Rapasadi is all set.

Delegations.

None

Motion by Trustee Sweeney, seconded by Trustee Rossi, to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine E. Williams
Clerk/Treasurer