

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA

MINUTES

November 26, 2012

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

PRESENT: Mayor Carla Deshaw; Trustees Rosanne Warner and Bill Haddad; Village Administrator Larry Carpenter; Fire Chief John Massarotti and 1st Assistant Fire Chief/DPW Foreman Antonio Tornatore.

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Scott Rapasadi, Trustee Margaret Peters.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Passed 3 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Warner, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to approve the General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$38,819.84. Passed 3 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$29,304.89. Passed 3 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Warner, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to approve payments totaling \$487.01 from the General Fund to MBI for health insurance debit card transactions from November 1, 2012 - November 25, 2012. Passed 3 to 0.

Correspondence.

- Tree letter from Thomas DiGaspari regarding a tree at 124 Clark Street. This has been turned over to the DPW. Mayor Deshaw asked DPW Foreman Tornatore to take a look at the tree to determine if it is ours and what, if anything, needs to be done to it. She also asked Administrator Carpenter to determine if there is money left in this budget item.
- Letter of resignation from Officer Valerie Clarke. Mayor DeShaw noted that Officer Clarke is moving on to the Sheriff's Office. We will be looking for a new full-time police officer.

Department Heads.

Fire Chief Massarotti advised the Board that truck 124 was sent to Jerome Fire Equipment for repairs - it will be there for a week to a week and a half - the fuel pump went bad. The Fire Department received two (2) donated copiers from Eastern Copy Products. Chief Massarotti asked about the old computers in the Clerk's Office.

DPW Foreman Tornatore advised that the new radios for the DPW trucks have been ordered. The wreaths and garland were put on the municipal building this morning and the trees on Peterboro Street are lit. The Mayor would like to have lights in Patane Park.

Administrator.

Administrator Carpenter reported that we have received a NYSERDA grant reimbursing 75% of the cost of energy efficient appliances and equipment. Four (4) new refrigerators that we placed in the Municipal Building, DPW, Pool and Waste Water Treatment Plant, a scanner and copier were purchased for the Fire Department.

Administrator Carpenter discussed with the Board a proposal to change the terms of our HRA. He presented a Comparison showing the potential exposure to the Village due to the change. The change would eliminate the "2 pot" reimbursement method to "1 pot" making the process more efficient for our employees and our Clerk/Treasurer. The current process was cumbersome confusing and required many, many hours of work from the Clerk/Treasurer to assist our employees with the claim process. There is also a savings of \$750 in administrative costs to change methods of reimbursement. The Village contribution per employee will not change.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Warner, to switch from a two (2) pot reimbursement plan to a one (1) pot reimbursement plan effective December 1, 2012. Passed 3 to 0.

Mayor.

The Mayor updated the Board on the progress of the REDC grant. The Governor's Office has delayed announcing the grant award due to the recent Hurricane Sandy disaster. The announcements should come some time at the end of January. The Mayor has met with Superintendent Fred Bragan and Children's Council member Mary Rouse regarding the recently announced Literacy Grant application period. We are interested in the Literacy Zone grant, but must also apply for additional grants. The school would like to service out of school youths. A community partnership is needed to apply for the grant. Potentially 30 - 40 agencies could be involved. A possible site has been identified - the old pharmacy building on the corner of South Peterboro and Center Streets meets the demographic for the grant and would be an ideal location.

Mayor DeShaw attended the Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday. The event was well-attended and very nice. The Community Band did a great job. The Mayor spoke with Rick Stevens about taking over some of the Chamber functions. Mayor DeShaw would like to see the Tree Lighting event grow next year. Trustee Haddad asked why the tree is not located in Clark Park.

Mayor DeShaw attended the Lions' 65th Anniversary Dinner - Senator Velasky and Assemblyman Magee were also in attendance. The Mayor presented the Lions with Proclamations on behalf of the Village and Town of Lenox, Supervisor DiVeronica was unable to attend. Administrator Carpenter recently attended the Canal Town Annual Dinner. The presentation was on the Watson Wagon and was very interesting.

Mayor DeShaw advised that the meetings with the businesses and community based agencies have been moved to the first week in December.

Trustee Comments.

Trustee Warner is all set.

Trustee Haddad reported that the Rec Field improvements have begun. A lot of sand and clay has been added to the major baseball field and the infield has been cut back. They have 7 - 8 loads of topsoil to be used to fill in the ruts in the other fields. If the weather holds out, the volunteers will try to get to the drainage work in the minor baseball field this weekend. Trustee Haddad advised that a speaker wire was pulled down during some of the work - this is not a live wire and he does not want anyone to worry that it may pose a danger to anyone. It will be repaired this spring. Material for the project was donated - Blocks and Rocks donated \$500 worth of sifting and sand - Saunders donated another load of sand and the clay was also donated. There will be some minor costs yet, but Trustee Haddad believes that there is money left in the Little League budget that will cover the costs. Trustee Haddad is sad to see that the Madison Transit bus service is leaving the County - funding was cut from the County budget.

Trustee Haddad would like to have Administrator Carpenter and Clerk/Treasurer Williams look into the cost of providing dental and vision insurance for the employees. Mayor DeShaw believes that it may be expensive, but would like us to look into it.

Mayor Deshaw asked for an update on the money spent on sidewalks. Administrator Carpenter will work on this.

The Mayor noted that the State overestimated our retirement contribution for this year.

Trustee Warner will attend a planning and zoning seminar next week.

Delegations.

None.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Warner, to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. Passed 3 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine E. Williams/s

Catherine E. Williams
Clerk/Treasurer