

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA  
MINUTES  
December 21, 2015

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

PRESENT: Mayor Carla DeShaw; Deputy Mayor Scott Rapasadi; Trustees Rosanne Warner, Jeffrey Carpenter and Bill Haddad; Administrator Larry Carpenter; Police Chief James Zophy; Former Crossing Guard Fern Crowell; Joey Crowell; Fire Chief John Massarotti; CVFC President Doug Chandler; Rick Stevens, Penny Stevens; Meghan Bonaventura; Larry Hastings; Carolyn Hastings; CHS Government Students Alonzo Barnello, Joseph Pinard and Anna Goings; Town of Lenox Councilman Anthony Palamara; and Bruce Burke of PAC 99.

ABSENT: None.

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

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to approve the following budget transfer: move \$3,784.80 from 90308.01 (P&F Retirement) to 14204.01 (Attorney); move \$2,680.00 from 90108.01 (Employees Retirement) to 85604.01 (Tree/Stump Removal); move \$14,400.00 from 90108.01 (Employees Retirement) to 51104.01 (DPW Contractual). Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve the General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$73,300.50. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$34,056.59. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, to approve the Capital Fund Abstract in the amount of \$20,145.25. Passed 5 to 0.

**Delegations.**

Lenox Councilman Anthony Palamara asked the Board what the Capital Project was and asked about number 15 on the agenda. The Mayor explained that they both have to do with the streetscape project that we are working on.

**Department Heads.**

Fire Chief Massarotti is asking for permission to pursue the FEMA grant for a new ladder truck. Administrator Carpenter and Fire Company President Doug Chandler are working on this. Administrator Carpenter updated the Board on the questions that were outstanding from the last meeting on this matter. He reported that there is no value to the current truck - maybe \$10,000 for

scrap. President Chandler reported that he and Administrator Carpenter are keeping good tabs with each other on this. A rough draft of the narrative is done and he has all of the literature regarding call urns and information on the truck. President Chandler thinks that the Mayor will like the package. The Mayor asked if some of the equipment was included in the application. Chief Massarotti thought that it was going to be just the ladder truck. The Board and Chief Massarotti discussed how to make the application. It was decided that it would be better to submit just one application for the fire truck alone than to submit two (2) applications - one for equipment and one for the ladder truck. The Board discussed the due date of the application and when a rough draft will be ready for the Mayor to review. Administrator Carpenter will have it ready by January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Chief Massarotti advised the Board that the Company voted to pursue the Community Days. They have had a meeting already and another is scheduled. Chief Massarotti will have more information for us after the next meeting. Mayor DeShaw explained that this is the community appreciation day that the Fire Department would like to do in the summer. Chief Massarotti advised that the tentative date is the second Saturday in August.

Chief Zophy advised that he sent his monthly report to the Board members. He is looking at body cameras for his officers. They will have some to try out and he may put them in his budget for next year. The Mayor asked for estimates. Chief explained that there are many vendors out there and there is also grant money available. He is looking into grant funding already. Chief Zophy advised the Board that there is an issue with regard to storage of the information collected by the cameras. Trustee Haddad noted that he does not have the Chief's monthly report. The Mayor has the report and will send it to the Board members tomorrow.

Chief Zophy made a presentation and gave a plaque to Fern Crowell for her service of 37 years and 8 months as a crossing guard. Chief and the Mayor thanked Fern for her many years of service to our children.

Administrator Carpenter announced the first place winner in the decorating contest. Larry Hastings of Stroud Street was presented with a check in the amount of \$100 from ZEMS and the Stevens family. The other winners were 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Vera Brady of Prospect Street \$75 from Community Bank; and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Ronnie Jo Trujillo of West Hickory Street, \$50 from Canastota Publishing.

### **Treasurer's Report.**

The Mayor asked if there were any questions and suggested that the Board members give Clerk/Treasurer Williams a call during the month if they have any questions.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to approve payments \$4,105.42 from the General Fund to MBI to health insurance debit card transactions from November 1, 2015 to November 30, 2015. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to approve a credit in the amount of \$42.39 against the sewer charges assessed to Donald VanDusen on his September 30, 2015, OCWA bill for property located at 125 Spencer Street, representing 30% of the total sewer charges of \$141.30. (Note: OCWA gave a credit of \$37.70 representing 30% of the water charges on this bill due to a leaking sink pipe behind a wall.) Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Warner, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to approve a credit in the amount of \$229.51 against the sewer charges assessed to Donald Starks on his March 31, 2015, OCWA bill for property located at 123 Chapel Street, representing 62% of the total sewer charges of \$370.18. (Note: OCWA gave a credit of \$216.47 representing 62% of the water charges on this bill due to a broken pipe in a vacant property.) **Discussion:** Trustee Warner asked how OCWA determines the credit that will be issued. Clerk/Treasurer Williams was previously advised by OCWA that the customer's average consumption is taken into consideration when a credit is requested. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, to give permission to the Canastota Volunteer Fire Company to hold the following annual fund raisers: Fish Fry beginning February 12, 2016 and continuing for 7 consecutive weeks until April 1, 2016; and the mailing campaign scheduled to go out on March 4, 2016. **Discussion:** The Mayor asked if the mailing campaign is to request money. Chief Massarotti confirmed that it is and added that the Fire Company has a copy of the letter to give to the Mayor. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to approve the attached request of the Canastota Volunteer Fire Department to authorize the use of the fire house by Sandra Henderson on January 10, 2016, for a baby shower. (Note: Proof of insurance is also attached.) Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, to approve the attached Shared Services Agreement between the NYSDOT and the Village of Canastota and to authorize the Mayor to execute the same. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Warner, seconded by Trustee Rapasadi, to approve the ACH payment to USDA Rural Development in the amount of \$9,112.50 from the Sewer Fund (97106.02 Interest on Debt Service) for interest owed on the 2003 Interceptor Pipe Bond. Passed 5 to 0.

**Correspondence.**

- Letter from Richard Smith regarding the removal of the tree from the abandoned property in his back yard. The Mayor thanked Mr. Smith for working with us and being patient. Administrator Carpenter explained that the tree removal company had to go onto Mr. Smith's property to safely remove the tree. Administrator Carpenter advised the Board that the charges will be assessed to the property.

**Administrator.**

Administrator Carpenter advised the Board that he has been working to obtain permission to have skating on the Canal during SnowBlast. The application fee to the Canal Corp. is \$25 to formally ask for permission to skate on the Canal.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve an application fee of \$25 to the New York State Canal Corp. for skating for SnowBlast 2016. Passed 5 to 0.

The Mayor thanked Administrator Carpenter noting that this has been a lot of work to get the skating approved. The Board discussed whether to make this a day specific event or a period of time. Trustee Haddad is concerned about whether a skating event will be held during SnowBlast as they do not have any supervision set up for that time. Administrator Carpenter would like to make sure that we have supervision. The Board discussed this with regard to SnowBlast.

Administrator Carpenter was approached by the snowmobile club - they want to change their route in the Village so that they are able to patronize some of the restaurants in the Village. They would like to use the paved trail on the south side of the railroad. Trustee Warner explained why they were looking for a new route. The Mayor asked if this would redirect them away from the Key Bank. Administrator Carpenter believed that it would. Trustee Warner noted that there are two (2) clubs with separate trails that ride through the Village - Tri Valley Riders and South Shore. Chief Zophy believes that the problem is more about using the sidewalk in lieu of crossing the street. The Board and Chief Zophy discussed possible routes through the Village. Chief Zophy reminded the Board that we have an ordinance that says snowmobiles cannot ride on sidewalks or roads. They can only cross Routes 5 and 13. Trustee Warner suggested that the Village leave a small amount of snow in the road under the trestle on Main Street and the riders would ride on that. The Mayor asked Administrator Carpenter to keep working on this and involve Trustee Warner.

**Mayor.**

Mayor DeShaw reported that on Saturday night she presented a proclamation to former Canastota Community Band Director Paul Schiffer for his 17 years of service as the band director. This was

at a concert at Crouse Community Center in Morrisville. The Mayor noted that the band is very good and there was a nice crowd in attendance. Mr. Schiffer was touched and moved with the presentation by the Mayor. Mayor DeShaw also noted that that evening's performance was with the full band and she stated that they did a real nice job! The Mayor asked the Board members to thank any members they may see as this is all volunteer.

The Mayor advised the Board that the Central New York Regional Economic Development Corp. was one of the top award winners in the upstate region. Mayor DeShaw will look for anything that may help the Village.

Mayor DeShaw updated the Board on the Restore New York amendment. Empire State Development approved our request for a partial reimbursement. This is a good thing for the developer. The Mayor reviewed the reason why we were seeking the change. She worked with the New York City office and the request was approved. We are waiting for the Board to act on the amendment. The Mayor believes that this should happen at their meeting this month or next. The Mayor reported that work is progressing on the fish project. The developer knows what they are going to do and they are hoping to begin work on the project in early spring. The Mayor spoke with the owner that will be renting from the developer. They are working with SUNY Morrisville on the Start Up New York initiative.

Mayor DeShaw met with Fran Pratt of Prime Materials the other night. They were trying to work with the new owners of the Diemolding building on renting some cold storage in the building. The Mayor received a lease agreement from the new owners - it is for a short-term cold storage.

The Mayor has a meeting this week with two (2) entrepreneurs that want to start a business in Canastota. One is interested in space in the Business Park and one just wants space in Canastota.

Mayor DeShaw reported that the streetscape project is moving along. Administrator Carpenter is doing most of the paperwork. The Mayor had questions from residents regarding holiday decorating. The Mayor will be taking a look at this. She explained to the residents that the lights in the trees downtown are not on because we don't have anywhere to plug them in. Mayor DeShaw believes that we will have them back next year. The Mayor was also asked about getting some municipal decorations like they have in Fayetteville. She and Administrator Carpenter will look into this. Trustee Haddad asked the Mayor if she had received any complaints about the laser decorations on the houses. The Board briefly discussed these decorations.

### **Trustee Comments.**

Trustee Rapasadi commented that the DPW did an outstanding job on Belleview Drive - TJ Tornatore, Reuben Pluff and Shane Nodine earned "high kudos" from Trustee Rapasadi. He noted

that they were there early in the morning and worked all day long. Trustee Rapasadi asked for clarification of an item in the General Fund Abstract.

Administrator Carpenter would like to have a conversation with the Board about what to do with the leaves in the Village. The current system for collecting bagged leaves is not efficient. Administrator Carpenter would like to talk some more about this later.

Trustee Warner asked Administrator Carpenter to pass along her thanks to the DPW for fixing the hole on Douglas Heights.

Trustee Haddad added that the company that we hired to work with the DPW to fix the hole in the road on Douglas Heights did a great job. The catch basin was also repaired - the DPW did a great job with that.

Trustee Haddad asked for approval to charge a vendor fee of \$10 and an entrance fee of \$5 for the SnowBlast after party at Rusty's that evening.

Motion by Mayor DeShaw, seconded by Trustee Rapasadi, to approve the \$5 entrance fee to the after party and the \$10 vendor registration fee for SnowBlast. **Discussion:** The Mayor is glad that SnowBlast is coming back. Passed 5 to 0.

Trustee Haddad advised the Board that they are in need of a couch for the couch race. Administrator Carpenter and Mayor DeShaw believe that the couch is being stored in the pool building.

Trustee Haddad asked for approval of the Fitness Pass Program fee schedule.

Motion by Mayor DeShaw, seconded by Trustee Rapasadi, to approve the Canastota Fitness Pass Program from January 11, 2016 through February 18, 2016, at Southside School from 6 - 7 p.m. with the prices shown on the attached flyer. **Discussion:** The Mayor and Recreation Director Steve White set this up so that it covers all the expenses. This is set up for a minimum number of participants. Passed 5 to 0.

The Mayor would like to thank Recreation Director Steve White for his work on this program.

Trustee Haddad noted that the by-laws approval is on hold pending a resolution by the Board changing the members from 7 to 5.

Trustee Carpenter will not be here on January 20 and February 1, 2016.

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The Mayor noted that there were students in attendance at tonight's meeting from Mr. Fiacchi's Government Class.

Motion by Trustee Warner, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

*Catherine E. Williams*

Catherine E. Williams  
Clerk/Treasurer