

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA
MINUTES
March 6, 2017

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

PRESENT: Mayor Carla M. DeShaw (7:05 p.m.); Deputy Mayor Scott Rapasadi and Trustees Bill Haddad, Jeffrey Carpenter and Rosanne Warner; Village Administrator Larry Carpenter; Lenox Town Councilman Anthony Palamara; John Patane and Bruce Burke of PAC 99.

ABSENT: None.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve the following budget transfer: move \$3,174.53 from 19904.01 (Contingency) to 51424.01 (DPW Snow). Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve the General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$75,637.98. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$4,015.61. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to approve the Capital Fund Abstract in the amount of \$6,310.00. Passed 4 to 0.

Delegations.

Lenox Councilman Anthony Palamara asked if the Capital Fund Abstract is the Downtown Project. Administrator Carpenter confirmed that it is. Deputy Mayor Rapasadi asked John Patane if he minded waiting for the Mayor to arrive. Mr. Patane does not mind waiting.

Motion by Trustee Warner, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to approve a credit in the amount of \$366.05 against the sewer charges assessed to Limestone Ridge, LLC, on the December 31, 2016, OCWA bill for property located at 109 Clark Street, representing 62% of the total sewer charges of \$590.40. (Note: OCWA gave a credit representing approximately 62% of the water charges. The reason for the high consumption was reported as a leaking toilet, which was corrected.) Passed 4 to 0.

Mayor DeShaw joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Delegations (resumed).

Mr. Patane addressed the Board regarding the downtown trees. He has a prepared letter that he would like to read, but stated that he first had some questions for the Board. He asked if the trees that were not taken down today would come down. The Mayor advised that as she had shared with him before, all of the trees are coming down except the tree by the mural. Mr. Patane stated that he thought the Board was “hell bent” on taking all of the trees down. Mayor DeShaw advised that she has had many discussions with Mr. Patane regarding the trees and reviewed with Mr. Patane the work that the Board did in making a determination about taking the trees down. She stated that the Board never wanted to take them down and they were upset that they had to come down. Mayor DeShaw advised that with the professional data, discussions with arborists and the downtown owners, the work of the tree committee and looking at the trees and the condition that they are in currently, the trees were not healthy and wouldn’t get better. The Board did not make a crass decision to take down the trees. They spent the most time on this decision and waited until the last minute to make the decision. Mayor DeShaw advised that the Board did not rush into the decision and were not “hell bent” as Mr. Patane commented. The Board made its decision based on multiple professional opinions and looking down the road. The Mayor also noted that in fairness to committee members Jerry Taylor and Natalie Gustafson, they took a weekend and researched the trees and then came in on a Monday morning to go over their research with the Mayor and Arborist Terry Karst. Part of their discussion was that if they were replacing the trees, they wanted to replace them with mature trees, they wanted a non-flowering tree, they wanted nothing falling except a leaf, they wanted a green tree in the spring/summer and colorful in the fall, they wanted a “New England” looking tree, they wanted no big leaves and no small leaves - all of this criteria was considered by the committee and they chose the red maple. Mayor DeShaw stated that she wanted to share this information again so that Mr. Patane knew that the decision was not rushed through. Mr. Patane noted that the trees were planted 40 years ago by donations and many were planted in memory of other people. Mr. Patane disagrees with the health of the trees and does not agree that they are the worst trees that could be here. He noted that the trees have been here and are on the list of the trees to be replaced with. Mr. Patane read from his prepared letter and stated that he would bring a copy to the Clerk’s Office for the minutes. He also asked that his letter of November 16, 2016, be added to the minutes. The Mayor let Mr. Patane know that he would be limited to 10 minutes for delegations. Mr. Patane would like his memo of March 1 and the comments from tonight to be added to the minutes. Mayor DeShaw thanked Mr. Patane for his comments.

Mayor DeShaw stated that were public meetings and there was only one resident that attended and there were other meetings held and not attended. Mr. Patane asked about the SEQRA determination and believes that this is no longer a Type II Action. The Mayor stated that it was DOT that made the determination and the engineers made the decision. Administrator Carpenter spoke with Mr. Patane about having given Mr. Patane the opportunity to look at the plans and making the plans available

to him - Mr. Patane had reviewed the plans in the Mayor's Office. Mr. Patane stated that the Village is no longer exempt from SEQRA. The Mayor noted that this is being addressed by our attorneys. Lenox Councilman Palamara advised that he has attended most of the meetings since pre-bidding of this project and noted that the Village has spent a lot of time on the decisions about the trees. He also stated that the Board has done their due diligence on this matter and has notified the public. Mayor DeShaw reiterated that this was a hard decision and spoke again about how difficult it was to make the decision to take down the trees. The Mayor appreciates Councilman Palamara's response because of how hard it was to make the decision with all of the data that we had from all of the different perspectives. The Mayor stated that they talked about all of the concerns that Mr. Patane stated. The Mayor is looking forward to the new trees and having them grow, noting that they are a faster growing tree. Mayor DeShaw stated that sometimes hard decisions have to be made. Administrator Carpenter stated that to his knowledge we did not receive any phone calls today regarding the trees. Trustee Warner remembers the trees when they were planted and the Village members were very proud. Trustee Warner asked if we could have a discussion about re-dedicating the trees to people and keep their memories alive. Mayor DeShaw stated that we could look for the list. Mr. Patane believes that it was around 1976 - 1978 and knows that one of the dedications were for Michael, John and Sebastian Patane. Mayor DeShaw advised that we can rededicate the trees and we will be having other dedications at the same time. Mr. Patane believes that the list could be found possibly in the old Bee-Journals.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Rapasadi, to adopt the attached Resolution scheduling a public hearing on the proposed local law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law section 3-6 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year to be held on March 20, 2017, at 7:15 p.m. **Discussion:** Trustee Warner asked if it were possible that we are going over. The Mayor stated that it is. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Rapasadi, to approve the attached Erie Canalway Grant Program 2017 Contract and to authorize the Mayor to execute same. **Discussion:** Administrator Carpenter advised that we are rotating this among the municipalities involved. The grant is for \$3,000.00 and includes in-kind services. The event will be held during the World Canal Conference and we are hoping for a lot of participation. Passed 5 to 0.

The Mayor asked for the email address of the conference contact.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, adopting the attached Resolution Determining that Proposed Action is a Type II Action for Purposes of The New York State Environmental Quality Review Act. (Note: A roll call vote is required.) **Discussion:** Trustee Warner asked if this was what Mr. Patane was talking about. The Mayor explained that this is for

the bonding on the project. Mayor DeShaw - Aye; Trustee Rapasadi - Aye; Trustee Warner - Aye; Trustee Haddad - Aye; Trustee Carpenter - Aye. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, adopting the attached Bond Resolution of the Village of Canastota, Madison County, New York Authorizing the Issuance of up to \$1,200,000 Serial Bonds to Finance the Cost of Improvements to South Peterboro Street. **Discussion:** The Mayor explained that this is the same resolution from the last meeting, but we need 4 of 5 Board Members for the approval. Trustee Warner asked about the posting requirements. Clerk/Treasurer Williams advised that it is required to be posted in 6 places throughout the Village. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Warner, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to appoint Marilyn Higgins as a member of the Planning Board to fill the vacancy created as a result of the resignation of Joe Longo whose term expires on April 2, 2018. **Discussion:** Mayor DeShaw informed the Board that this is the woman that the Mayor has been talking about. The Mayor talked about Marilyn's experience with the City of Syracuse and noted that she was also the Economic Development Director for the Chancellor of Syracuse University, The Mayor believes that Marilyn will be a good Planning Board member. Mayor DeShaw thanked Joe Longo for his service. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve the attached Financial Advisory Services Agreement with Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc. and to authorize the Mayor to execute the same. **Discussion:** The Mayor advised that this is the same firm that the Village has used in the past. Passed 5 to 0.

Correspondence.

None

Administrator.

Administrator Carpenter reported that the DPW will be taking down the fire alarm boxes and we are leaving the wire for now. We are hoping to auction the boxes and use the revenue to take down the wires. The Board discussed what it will look like with the boxes removed and the value of the copper wiring. Administrator Carpenter advised that last year we used a total of 800 tons of salt and that we have used that already this year. We needed to move money into that budget line so that we could order 200 more tons. Trustee Warner asked if that includes the brine. Administrator Carpenter advised that it does. Administrator Carpenter passed out an updated time line for the downtown project. He reported that the catch basin in front of Dunns' was completed today and that the trees have started coming down. National Grid was also in town and we were told that the lights

on the west side will be back on today. The Mayor noted that they are on. Administrator Carpenter advised that the project will be moving right along as long as the weather permits and they will continue to move north toward the Farr Building and then come to the other side. Railroad Street will be closed tomorrow due to work in the area. Mayor DeShaw noted that her time has been consumed with the tree people. Everything has been selected and a conference call will be held and the tree committee will be invited. The conference call will be to make sure that whatever is being done underneath the sidewalk for the trees, the arborist agrees with the way and what they are doing before the work starts. Types of soil and stone will be discussed. The Mayor reported that the business owners' meeting was a good meeting. The Mayor believes that we have turned a corner and now the people know what to expect and are excited to see it finished. Administrator Carpenter is thinking that the business owners are fully behind the project. He has met with some of the business owners and responses are very positive. Administrator Carpenter noted that we are working to make sure that they don't have to suffer any more than necessary. The Mayor advised that she will keep updating as we progress. Trustee Haddad advised that he received an email from Marion Cerio that she was disappointed that the trees are coming down. He also noted that John Patane has posted on FB about the trees. Mayor DeShaw will share the reports with anyone who wants to know about the trees coming down.

Administrator Carpenter advised that we received the pickup truck for the fire department. They sent the wrong truck. He has spoken with the dealer and they are taking it back as we are not accepting it. Administrator Carpenter is looking into a mini-bid through OSC. This process is only for vehicles and we can have bids in 3-5 days. Trustee Warner asked why the dealer isn't fixing this. Administrator Carpenter advised that the dealer spec'd the wrong truck. He hopes this will be taken care of soon. The Mayor has spoken with Chief Chafee. The Board discussed the mistake by the dealer. The Mayor discussed with the Board the need to review the vehicle policy in place through the Employee Handbook. It is not specific to the Fire Department. A draft policy was passed out to the Board members. The Mayor was not in favor of doing vehicle use approvals on a case by case basis and wants a comprehensive policy for the Fire Department. The proposed policy brings together the past policies that have been practiced and reduces them to writing. Administrator Carpenter pointed out that there has been a change and it is noted in red. The Board discussed the use of the car by the Chief to go to work. Trustee Haddad asked why we would have a separate Chief's Vehicle Policy. The Mayor explained that the Handbook is for employees. The Mayor would like questions to be answered and to have this brought back at the next meeting. Mayor DeShaw asked Lenox Councilman Palamara to take this to a Fire Council Meeting.

Mayor.

The Mayor updated the Board on the yogurt plant. There was a 1 ½ hour conference call last week with the Mayor, the owner, Supervisor Pinard and the attorney for the owner. The Mayor gave the

Board an overview of her notes from the meeting. Charalambides is the name of the investment company from Cypress. They are going ahead with the project and plan to invest \$8 - 9 million. They are speaking with CNS regarding designs and plans to get ready for Planning Board. They are also working with equipment companies. The Mayor is in the process of sending them all of the information to start doing paperwork for Planning Board - site plan, demolition, etc. The time line for planning, demolishing and rebuilding was discussed. They are planning on also remodeling the corporate offices for lease and are still in need of refrigeration space. The Mayor also discussed their production plan - they will start with Greek yogurt wholesale, feta cheese and ricotta cheese as a by-product and will possibly go after the private label after about a year. It will be just wholesale for now and they will start on the east coast first. Mayor DeShaw has shared with them the application for the Waste Water Treatment Plant so they can send us their waste treatment needs. The owners are working on paying the back taxes and have a meeting with the County Attorney this week to talk about it. Kipp Hicks will be doing a presentation to the Board of Supervisors to talk about the project and the value to Madison County. Mayor DeShaw stated that this looks promising and thinks that it will move forward.

The Mayor advised the Board that she had a conference with AECC - we will be receiving the grant agreement this evening. The agreement removes the fish company and the creation of jobs so that we can move forward. Mayor DeShaw explained that the building footprint is 48,000 sq.ft. The developer will clean the property up and redesign the space. The Mayor further stated that the fish company project is not over - they still want to come but we can't wait for them to make a decision or we will lose the money to clean up the space. The fish company could still come in at a later time, but this way we can still clean it up. Trustee Warner asked who owned the building. The Mayor advised that Zupan still owns the building and that they were waiting for the grant to come through before the new company would move forward so that they didn't have the cost of cleanup without the grant. Mayor DeShaw advised the Board that the Ariston (yogurt) company needs refrigeration space and found it in Syracuse. The Mayor told the yogurt company about the Barlow Street building. The Mayor believes that there is a good possibility that if the yogurt and Barlow Street project come through, that the refrigeration space for the yogurt plant could be on Barlow Street.

Trustee Rapasadi asked for the name of the company that is cutting down the trees. Administrator Carpenter does not know - it is a subcontractor for CCI. The Board talked about the DOT removing our in-kind match in the project which may have included cutting down the trees and taking out the sidewalks. Trustee Warner is unsure why our match would have been removed when shared services is what the Governor has been asking for from local municipalities. Mayor DeShaw noted that Matt Driscoll and the DOT have been very cooperative.

Trustee Comments.

Trustee Rapasadi is all set.

Trustee Warner noted that the fire truck should be delivered late in the summer and asked if we were going to put a press release out. The Mayor stated that she will be putting a newsletter out. She will have Kelly help us. She stated that there are a lot of great things happening that the Mayor wants people to know about and noted that Recreation is doing some remarkable events. Administrator Carpenter is hoping that the Fire Department will have an open house. Trustee Warner asked about putting the other truck to go on the market as well as the old chief's truck. Administrator Carpenter advised that we will be doing another auction soon. We have had material picked up - we do this every spring. Trustee Warner advised the firemen are having Community Day and it is tentatively scheduled for July 22, 2017. It was discussed that the new ladder truck may be here by September 11, 2017 and could be used for the 9/11 Memorial Service that day.

Trustee Haddad toured the OCWA building with Trustee Warner and the Recreation Board - it was interesting. He noted that there was some good and some ugly and that we need to do something to preserve what is there, adding that the roof is not getting better. Administrator Carpenter advised that we replaced the drain and fixed the area. Trustee Warner stated that the floor looked wet. Administrator Carpenter stated that now that spring is here, we can work on the roof. The Mayor stated that we could sell the building if we are not going to use it. Trustee Warner stated that Rec would like to use the building and the roof will need to be repaired. Trustee Haddad added that Rec has a lot of ideas for that building. Trustee Warner asked if Rec will also get to use the pole barn. The Mayor doesn't know if the use of that pole barn will go to Rec. She met with Rec Director Stephen White - they do have a lot of ideas. They would like to put fitness classes in there. The Mayor believes that we have to be mindful of the codes for whatever we do. She is thinking that if there are a couple of Trustees that want to work with Rec, we need a basic list of codes for who and what can be done with the building. The Mayor does not think that we will have enough money to do the renovations and believes that we need to have a discussion with the Town to see if they are interested in helping. The Mayor also suggested that we look for grants. We will need to come up with a plan before we put in some grant applications. The Mayor talked about some grant opportunities and other programs that we could offer that might give us more grant opportunities. Mayor DeShaw would like to combine other ideas with the Rec Board ideas and would like to think of things other than just recreation. The Mayor believes that we could have some great opportunities for interaction with the residents of Stoneleigh. She stated that it will take a group effort to write the grants and we can talk about it at the Joint Meeting. The more partners you have, the greater chance you have to get a grant. The Mayor attended a meeting recently with the Gorman Foundation. They are willing to partner with the Village on many opportunities. This is something that we need to talk about. The Mayor would like to try to get the Rec Board to expand their focus for programs. Trustee

Warner believes that the Rec Board is looking for a commitment from the Board that we will work with them. The Board discussed the possibility of fund raising for the repairs and asking community businesses for help. The Mayor does not want the Board members to ask businesses for donations for this. The Mayor believes that it will take community people to get together to move this forward. Mayor DeShaw would like to have Trustee Haddad ask for outside people to help with the process such as the Gorman Foundation who would let us know how they have done this with other communities. The Mayor would like to get through the downtown project and get the fire truck in here and not take on another large project right now. Trustee Warner would like us to get the roof fixed before there is any more damage. The Mayor believes that we have the money for that. Trustee Warner asked if we can talk about putting the roof repair out for bid. The Mayor stated that we could.

Mayor DeShaw met with the Children's Council President and Vice President last week. They have gotten the Board back together and have 6 members. They are doing the 4-week Summer Enrichment Program. The Mayor will be putting the same funding in the budget as last year for Children's Council. The Council is working on the 501(c)(3) paperwork. They are working with Pat Powers to help them figure it out. The Council is talking with the grant people in San Antonio. The Mayor recommends supporting them and helping them to move forward. She is recommending that they ask the school to restore their funding again. The Mayor offered that she would talk with the State Education Department to see if she can get an opinion about the school supporting them. The Mayor stated that we will support them any way we can and she is hoping that they get enough kids to support the program. The fees for the summer program were discussed.

Trustee Haddad reported that Little League is getting ready to start baseball and softball. They have brought some concerns in to the Rec Board. Administrator Carpenter addressed the improvements that were and will be made to the concession stand. The Board talked about the concession stand and fixing it or replacing it. Trustee Haddad asked about the nails and other debris that were left around the concession stand after the roof was replaced. Administrator Carpenter stated that it was taken care of already. The cost to replace the concession stand was discussed. Trustee Haddad said that he was not aware that a price had been fixed to the construction of a new building. The Board discussed the history of the plans for a new concession stand. Mayor DeShaw advised that DPW Foreman Tornatore presented a plan for renovating the existing building to her when she met with him about the budget. Trustee Haddad believes that the last Saturday in April is opening day.

Trustee Carpenter will be out of town for the next meeting. Trustee Rapasadi may also be out of town.

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Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine E. Williams

Catherine E. Williams
Clerk/Treasurer