

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA
MINUTES
October 2, 2017

Mayor DeShaw called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT: Mayor Carla M. DeShaw; Deputy Mayor Scott Rapasadi; Trustees Bill Haddad, Rosanne Warner and Jeffrey Carpenter; Fire Chief Lyle Chafee; Recreation Board Members Sarah VanDusen and Allison Forth; Canastota Canal Town President Joseph DiGiorgio; Lenox Supervisor John Pinard; Resident Michael Muench; and Bruce Burke of PAC 99.

ABSENT: None.

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

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Rapasadi, to approve the General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$28,274.42. Passed 5 to 0

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$17,535.09. Passed 5 to 0

Delegations.

Joe DiGiorgio addressed the Board regarding signage. He talked to the Board about the history of signs in the Village. He asked for an explanation before action is taken. The Mayor asked if a reason was given when the Code Officer asked him to take the sign down. Mr. DiGiorgio stated that he was not given an explanation. The Mayor stated that the signs were in illegal places as were the other signs that were taken down. Mr. DiGiorgio and the Board discussed the location of the signs on the corner of Peterboro and Canal Streets. Mr. DiGiorgio believes that the Canal Town sign is a temporary directional sign as is defined under our current local law. He talked about other signs that are put around the community. Mr. DiGiorgio does not believe that we should be taking the signs down without letting people know about it and that it will hurt their business and the other businesses that use the signs. He believes that we need to work with these businesses to find another solution. The Mayor updated the Board on the status of the review of the sign ordinance. She will seek clarification of the code from the Code Officer and Administrator Carpenter. The Mayor talked about what needs to be done to look into the matter further. Mayor DeShaw talked about the Codes Committee, who they are and what they are doing. Mr. DiGiorgio advised that the sign law was amended in 2008 and does not think that it is good timing now as far as enforcing the sign law. The Mayor responded that the Village did not wait 9 years to enforce the law and noted that it is our job to enforce the laws that we have. The Codes Committee is going through the whole code book and updating laws that need to be updated. The Mayor will have Code Enforcement Officer Mike Adsit look into why the sign was removed. Trustee Haddad talked about what the Committee is considering and stated that under the code, the sign may be placed on the property belonging to the

business. Mr. DiGiorgio believes that the museum sign meets the definition under our current ordinance of a temporary directional sign. Trustee Haddad talked about other signs and the problems that we are having throughout the Village, adding that we are trying to enforce this across the board. Mr. DiGiorgio talked about how many people the sign has brought into the museum. The Mayor talked about signs that are being moved from the Thruway area due to contemplated construction in that area.

Discussion regarding proposed local law amendments as presented by the Codes Committee.

The Mayor noted that the codes review has been a long time coming and she asked Trustees Haddad and Warner to go over this information and give some background on how the changes came about. Trustee Warner discussed Section 144 Parks - Chief Zophy wanted to be able to close parks after dark and when needed. Trustee Haddad noted that they may also need to identify the parks in the Village. We may need to add 9/11 Memorial Park and Founder's Park. The section of the local ordinance was discussed. Trustee Warner spoke about Section 230 Zoning - this is what Mr. DiGiorgio addressed with the Board. There is a problem with additional signs and no regulations. Trustee Warner has received calls from people about enforcement of this law - they are wanting to know why the change is happening. Mayor DeShaw questioned the sign law asking why the sign is only allowed in front of the business. Clerk/Treasurer Williams advised that our current laws state that off premises signs are not allowed. The Board talked about the fact that the decision was to make the signs more restrictive and regulate what can be used and how it should look. The Board discussed what direction to take the law to try to make this better for businesses. Trustee Carpenter noted that Fayetteville has a schedule of when the signs can be placed and where. Trustee Haddad advised that the proposed change does call for permits for the signs. The Board discussed how they could possibly change the law. Mayor DeShaw would like to see something that allows a business to have a sign that is professional that could be informational in some way. She doesn't want to make it any harder, but we need to have controls in place. The Mayor would like to see a designated place where the signs could be placed where they are not distracting traffic. Mayor DeShaw would like to research what other communities do with these signs. Trustee Haddad explained that the committee did do some research. Trustee Warner added that the issue is that our law requires that the signs be placed on their own property. The Mayor would like to see what would need to be done to meet people half way. After more discussion, the Mayor asked the Committee to talk about designated areas for the signs and time frames.

Trustee Warner talked about the proposed amendment to the Zoning Law regarding Mixed Use Residential and Industrial on Barlow Street. The Committee considered the set backs and reduced them because of the size of the existing properties.

Trustee Warner talked about the proposed amendment to allow fire pits and outdoor burning. She noted that there was a lot of debate about this amendment. The amendment would regulate where the fire pits can be located to try to take care of the smoke into a neighbors home, but they are not sure that it will control the smoke. The Mayor asked if people could buy bricks and call it a fire pit. Trustee Warner stated that the Committee talked about what could be burned more than what could be used for the pit. The Mayor talked about the complaints that she receives and has when people have bonfires that are large and the smoke goes into their neighbors' properties. She is concerned about the people who are having large fires and are burning things that they should not be burning. Mayor DeShaw asked that the committee develop criteria for Codes Enforcement to have so that we are able to judge a situation to a set of criteria. She believes that an approved container is a good idea and she worries about a grass fire with cinder blocks. Fire Chief Chafee stated that currently if the fire department is called, the fire is being extinguished. They are waiting for the law to be changed.

Trustee Warner advised that the proposed amendment to Section 56-15 increases the fine for violation of not cleaning up dog waste. She explained that the committee did not know how to combat this and how to prove it. The process of installing bag dispensers throughout the Village was discussed. The Mayor asked that the Codes Committee talk a little further on the sign laws. The Committee meets again on October 24 and could have more information for the November 6 meeting. Trustee Haddad asked to have questions and information directed to the Committee. Mayor DeShaw thanked the Codes Committee for its work.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, to approve the request of Chief Zophy for the following street closures on October 5, 2017, for the Homecoming Parade: Railroad Street beginning at 6:00 p.m.; Peterboro Street from Maple Ave to James Street and Roberts Street from Bruno to Peterboro Street from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Rapasadi, seconded by Trustee Warner, to approve payment in the amount of \$1,650.00 from the General Fund (97107.01 Interest on Debt Service) to Community Bank for interest owed on the 2011 General Obligation Bond for the purchase of the Triple Combo Pumper. Passed 5 to 0.

Correspondence.

- Letter from Madison County regarding the Workers' Compensation Summary.
- Letter from Mrs. Albanese complimenting us on the work downtown and talking about the history of the beautification effort downtown.

- Letter from Pop Warner thanking us for our support.
- Letter from The Community Band thanking us for our support.

Administrator.

Administrator Carpenter advised that Jo Jo Electric completed the work at Rotary Park to repair a part that was broken by National Grid. We will be reimbursed by National Grid. We are waiting for National Grid to reconnect the service.

Mr. Carpenter reminded the Board that we had previously talked about the former ladder truck and trying to sell it. He advised that there has been no interest at this point. The grant for the new truck can't be closed yet as FEMA has not installed the software. The air pack grant was decided - we were in the running up until the last week but were not funded. We will resubmit.

Administrator Carpenter asked the Board to consider \$5,100.00 to Riccelli for paving. The contract calls for the Village to supply the trucks to haul the millings - the contractor is not helping us. The Mayor asked if we asked the Town Highway for help. Administrator Carpenter stated that we did and we were told that they could not help us. The Board discussed asking other town highway departments to help us but Administrator Carpenter advised that none of them were available to help - they were all busy. Supervisor Pinard will check with Highway Supervisor Cesario to see if the Town of Lenox can assist the Village in the morning. The Mayor would like to make a motion pending the outcome of Supervisor Pinard's discussion with the Highway Supervisor. The Mayor asked where the money would be coming from. Administrator Carpenter advised that the money would be coming from Chips.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Warner, approving the \$5,100 for Riccelli for transportation of millings and blacktop for the North Main Street project pending there is no help from the Town of Lenox due to their work schedule. Passed 5 to 0.

Administrator Carpenter forwarded information to the Board regarding a new Sewer District No. 9 in the Town of Lenox regarding the church on Route 5. This was sent to Village Attorney Jim Stokes for review and guidance. The Mayor spoke about the workshop that was held recently with the former Mayor and advised the Board that the information sent to the Board by Administrator Carpenter is only for the church on Route 5 and that the Town has advised that the allocation for this new district is coming from the Roberts Street District. We are being told that it should be just the same as a single family residence. The Board talked about the process and what needs to be done. Trustee Haddad asked about what was sent by Administrator Carpenter regarding this matter. Administrator Carpenter will check and resend the information if necessary.

Mayor.

Mayor DeShaw gave an update on the Barlow Street Project. Abscope is there and starting the clean up work. The Mayor has a meeting coming up a week from Thursday with a potential company coming in. Madison County and Empire State Economic Development will also be there. The Mayor noted that they have had other interest, but this company is the main interest right now as it could create about 75 high-wage jobs. They are looking for money from the State Economic Development Agency. Mayor DeShaw advised that this company is expanding to about 75-80 jobs from 25-30 and that she is working with them on this project. The Mayor also advised that a public hearing has been scheduled regarding the PILOT for 10 years. Kipp Hicks of the Madison County IDA will come back to us after the hearing. The Mayor noted that the process of approving a PILOT is new to her and it has been quite a while since there has been a new one in the Village. Trustee Haddad commented that he is not sure that the school is on board with the PILOT. The Mayor stated that she only knows what has been shared with her by the Madison County IDA. Trustee Warner does not remember dealing with this in the past. The Mayor clarified that we gave them the go ahead to pursue it, but it will come back to us for final approval.

Mayor DeShaw advised that she checked in on the brewery - they are opening the first or second week of October - she is waiting to hear. They are working in the old Financial Quest space and are waiting for renovations to be completed. There will be a grand opening.

The Mayor has been trying to schedule a meeting regarding the old Farr Brothers Building. We are considering coming up with a project for the next round of Restore New York grants. The Farr Brothers Building could be eligible - there has been interest in renovating that building. Administrator Carpenter and the Mayor have been talking with the Oneida Foundation and they are interested in working with the Village and they would be willing to give us the money back as in the past. The Mayor has been talking with many people on this matter, including a prospective owner. They are just beginning discussions now but the bank is willing to sell and the Oneida Foundation is willing to give us the money. Mayor DeShaw reminded the Board that this is the oldest building in the downtown and she believes that if we want to save the building, we need to do something with the building. The Mayor talked about options for uses and how to renovate the building. Trustee Warner asked if we did a Restore New York grant on this before. The Mayor advised that we did a development grant before. Trustee Warner asked if we could use the information from the prior grant application. The Mayor stated that we can and that is good for us right now. The Mayor talked about it being a SHPO building and what that means.

Lenox Supervisor Pinard advised Mayor DeShaw that Highway Supervisor Cesario can help the Village DPW in the morning with the millings and asphalt. The Mayor and the Board thanked Supervisor Pinard for his help on this.

Trustee Comments.

Trustee Rapasadi is all set.

Trustee Warner advised that there is a crater in the intersection of Lamb Avenue and Wilson Avenue. Administrator Carpenter stated that he will have the DPW take care of it.

Trustee Haddad advised that he went to the Recreation Meeting and he thinks things are on track and they are happy. He toured the Recreation Field with Recreation Member Allison Forth. Mayor DeShaw noted that at the next meeting we hope to have some personnel recommendations for Recreation.

Trustee Carpenter is all set.

Resident Michael Muench asked for an update on the creek. The Mayor let Mr. Muench know that he should ask questions under Delegations. The Board advised Mr. Muench that cleaning of the creek is the responsibility of the property owners. Cleaning under the bridges and the catch basins was discussed. Mayor DeShaw was advised by Supervisor Pinard that they are talking about cleaning around the bridges. The Mayor does not know exactly what will be done but suggested that Mr. Muench talk with Supervisor Pinard about it. Administrator Carpenter will meet with Mr. Muench if he has any questions.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Rapasadi, to adjourn at 8:24 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine E. Williams

Catherine E. Williams
Clerk/Treasurer