

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA  
MINUTES  
July 1, 2024

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

PRESENT: Mayor Rosanne Warner; Deputy Mayor Doug Gustin; Trustees Jeff Watkins, and Bill Haddad; Village Administrator Jeremy Ryan; Recreation Leader Cherie Bealer and Bruce Burke of PAC 99.

ABSENT: Trustee Lori Torrey.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to approve the attached General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$43,684.95. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Watkins, to approve the attached Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$17,738.38. Passed 4 to 0.

Public Comments.

None.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the attached Resolution authorizing premium holiday pay for part-time seasonal pool personnel when they work on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 2024, holiday. **Discussion:** Trustee Watkins doesn't like how it was presented to us. His recommendation is if this comes up again we just close that day. Administrator Ryan noted that when it came up that they would get additional pay the pool schedule was full. Trustee Haddad noted that people were hired to work a job and they should have given notice to the pool director before this that they were unable. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, approving the attached request from the Canastota Italian Heritage Festival to hold the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Italian Heritage Festival on Canal Street between Peterboro Street and Main Street on August 10, 2024. (Insurance certificate has been received.) Passed 3 - 0 - 1. Mayor Warner abstaining.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the attached request from Chief Barton for street closures for the Cana-l-stota event on July 20, 2024, and the Italian Festival on August 10, 2024. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the attached Change Order #4 from M.E.I.D Construction in the amount of \$6,050.00 to replace approximately 25 feet of 4" sanitary draining in the ceiling of the courtroom. **Discussion:** Trustee Haddad asked what this is holding up if we wait. The Mayor thought that they were supposed to start today. Administrator Ryan gave an update on the project. He explained that it would slow things down a bit because it

is part of the plumbing. They are doing the bathroom next and that will take a couple of weeks so he does not think that it will be impactful. The Board talked about what work is being done on the bathrooms upstairs and how they will be impacted by waiting. The Mayor read from the change order and the Board discussed the work to be done. Trustee Haddad does not think that the cost is justified. The Board discussed whether this is something that the DPW can do and talked about hiring it out to someone else to do. Motion Defeated 0 - 4.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, to table this matter. There was no second.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Gustin, approving the attached Change Order #5 from M.E.I.D. Construction in the amount of \$1,271.00 to provide and install 5 duplex receptacles, 1 quad receptacle, 1 switch and 1 LED closet light in the Police Department. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Gustin, approving the attached Request for the Use of a Village Facility from Rachel Russo for use of the Recreation Field on August 4, 2024, for Senior Sunset. (Note: the requested time of use is 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. but the Recreation Board's motion for approval was for 4 p.m. - 8 p.m. The required insurance certificate has been received.) **Discussion:** Trustee Gustin asked about the discrepancy. Clerk/Treasurer Williams explained the difference as explained to her from the Rec Board. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Watkins, approving the attached Request for the Use of a Village Facility from Enid Lewin to use the Firemen's Field Pole Barn on July 20, 2024, from 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. for a baby shower. (Note: The required insurance certificate has been received.) Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the attached Agreement with the Canastota Community Band in the amount of \$1,750.00 for the 2024-2025 season and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Watkins, approving the attached Artist Performance Contracts for the 2024 Summer Concert Series and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Watkins, approving the attached Contract with Scarlett Rat Entertainment in the amount of \$1,000.00 for 4 historical character actors on July 20, 2024 and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same. (Note: The Mayor has confirmed with the owner that payment for their services can be mailed on July 22, 2024.) **Discussion:** Trustee Haddad would like the contract to reflect the exact amount when the Mayor signs it. The Board spoke with Recreation Leader Cherie Bealer about how many actors we will have. The Mayor will make the

necessary adjustments before signing. She explained her conversation with the owner of the company. Passed 4 to 0.

The Board talked again about the pipe replacement in the bathrooms.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, accepting the attached Proposal from RIG Rentals to Go in the amount of \$490.00 for rental of porta potties and hand washing stations on July 20, 2024, and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same. (Note: The \$1 charge will be removed.)  
**Discussion:** The Board discussed the price on the contract and concluded that this is a good price. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, approving the attached Rental Contract from Ralston Supply Center, Inc., in the amount of \$131.89 for rental of a Dual Burner Propane Stove, Brinkmann Single Burner Propane Stove and 4 propane tanks on July 20, 2024, and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the attached Rental Agreement and General Release from JB Rentals, in the amount of \$225.00 for rental of a 20 x 20 pole tent on July 20, 2024, and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Watkins, approving the attached Contract with Varano Super Jump, Inc. in the amount of \$560.00 for the rental of a 28 foot wacky obstacle course and boxing ring bounce house on July 20, 2024, and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same.  
**Discussion:** The Mayor noted that \$2,500 was coming from the Grant and the other \$2,500 will come from the Village. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Gustin, approving a request from the Canastota Committee to set a fee of \$5.00 per entry to judge the Riggie Cookoff on July 20, 2024. **Discussion:** The Mayor asked what the \$5.00 got people. Recreation Leader Cherie Bealer described the process for judging the contest. Trustee Watkins asked if you had to be a judge in order to taste the riggies. Cherie explained that there is a peoples' prize and a judges' prize. Passed 4 to 0.

**Discussion regarding formation of a Slow Pitch Softball League. Recreation sent a request to establish the league with a \$200/team registration fee. This will cover referee fees only. Additional expenses for supplies (game balls - approximately \$200, field marking supplies and maintenance, field lighting, etc.) were not calculated into this fee.**

The Board discussed the fees that were previously charged to this league. It was \$400 per team in 2013. Recreation Leader Bealer and the Board talked about how it would work. Cherie noted that Little League had left over supplies. The Board discussed what the fee should be. The Board

discussed the fee schedule for the referees and how that would be paid. Cherie noted that Pop Warner asked that the games be moved to Monday so that they don't interfere with their schedule. Trustee Watkins asked if they have interest already and asked how many teams they had. Cherie believes that they would have 4 teams without advertising. The Board discussed how the field usage would work if the games were played on Thursday. Cherie confirmed that the softball teams would only use the lighted softball field. Trustee Haddad doesn't have a preference but believes that Pop Warner could work around it. He suggested that softball be held on whatever night would get the most players. He asked about the Code of Conduct for the participants. Cherie has what was in place previously. Trustee Watkins asked about having Little League open the stand. The Board talked about putting it out to Little League first and then opening it up to other people.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving a Co-ed Slow Pitch Softball League on Thursday nights beginning August 15, 2024, and continuing through October 3, 2024. There is to be a minimum of 4 teams and a maximum of 6 teams. Registration fee is set at \$400.00 per team and referee fees of up to \$50/game will be paid from the registration fees. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Gustin, approving the attached Amendment to Agreement between the Village and Environmental Design & Research, Landscape Architecture, Engineering & Environmental Services, DPC (EDR) for Professional Services relating to the Canal Street Redesign project in the amount of \$170,048 and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same. **Discussion:** The Mayor noted that this is the Village and the grant amount together stating that the Villages contribution is 25%. The Mayor spoke with Sam and she is expecting an update from her discussions with the State and EDR regarding reconnaissance. She is waiting for this from Sam. Passed 3 to 1.

### **Correspondence.**

- ISO letter - we did not change ratings and are still at a 4. The Fire Department had hoped for a change.
- Thank you card from Liz Metzger for the Metzger Mile and for showing up for the parade.

### **Administrator's Comments.**

Administrator Ryan talked about the recent vandalism at the 9/11 Memorial and to the flower pots. He met with JoJo to start getting the lights fixed. They believe that it will be difficult to access the existing wiring because it is in the wall. He talked about the work that would need to be done to correct this. Administrator Ryan noted that solar lights would be another option. The Board discussed looking for the original plans. They all talked about installing new lighting in the ground. Administrator Ryan thinks looking into solar lights might be an option, noting that we need to make sure that we have a lot of sunlight. Trustee Haddad believes we will be okay. The Mayor suggested

getting some lights and trying it out first. The Board talked about what to do in the event we cannot locate the plans.

Administrator Ryan advised that Koester will be in tomorrow to work on the bar screen at headworks. He talked about the plans to make the repair. If it does not work, the cost will be about \$30,000 instead of the \$10,000 for Koester. The Mayor asked about what is left in the ARPA funds and would like to have the repair taken from there. The Mayor would like to have the ARPA funds spent when this is done.

Administrator Ryan talked about the New York Forward meeting/Open House last week. He is working on the Village applications and he has had meetings on the projects that the Village would like to do. The deadline is July 21, 2024. The Mayor asked if he has been out to deliver applications to the original applicants. Administrator Ryan has and has also given out a few additional applications. Administrator Ryan asked if the Fire Company wanted to put in an application for the pole barn. The Mayor would like a few applications and she will deliver them to some more property owners. The Mayor and the Board discussed potential applicants.

Administrator Ryan advised that Rec would like to move Sunrise Yoga from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. Recreation Leader Bealer advised that they were requested to move the time to get more participants.

Administrator Ryan is working on the application for the Fill the Boot Drive for the Fire Department. He noted that this will likely take place in August. They meet next Tuesday and will advise of the day. The state needs 30 days. The Fire Company would like to do it under the Peterboro Street bridge.

The RFP for the drainage engineering has been published and we have received no responses yet.

### **Mayor Comments.**

The Mayor received a request from the property owner on Ravine and First Streets. She has tall grass and received a notice from the Code Officer that it has to be cut by July 3, 2024. The owner stated that she is a professor of horticulture at Cornell and she is growing the grass to cut for Cornell to make baskets. Trustee Gustin asked if it was in writing. The Mayor advised that it doesn't matter - the law is the law. Some other people in the area who received the notice complained about this. She will harvest the grass on July 31. The Mayor asked Trustee Haddad about it because he drives by everyday. Trustee Haddad noted that it is a residential area. Trustee Watkins asked if this would be classified as a garden. Trustee Haddad also noted that it is marked out and there is a walking path now through it. The Mayor explained that the owner is doing this for her masters in another program. Trustee Watkins believes that we need to be careful that this is not a garden. Mayor Warner will talk with CEO Adsit.

Mayor Warner advised that permits have been filed for Canastota and there will be no kayaking. The Mayor has a Mayors' meeting in Wampsville on Wednesday. John Mancini, an attorney with NYCOM, will be there and the person who does our physicals. The physicals will be more expensive now. This is an open-comment period and the Mayor is questioning who is responsible when a volunteer has a physical and something is found. The question is who will be responsible to follow up on any diagnosis if one is found. The Mayor noted that she is taking complaints everyday. Administrator Ryan read the definition of garden and Trustee Haddad read the overgrown grass ordinance.

**Trustee Comments.**

Trustee Gustin advised that the Alumni Banquet was very nice and there were over 140 attendees. He would like us to keep in touch with our State and Federal representatives to make them aware that we do not support this change in requirements for fire department physicals.

Trustee Watkins would like us to check with the DPW regarding the bathrooms at the Rec Park being unlocked every day, noting that one was not unlocked on Friday. Trustee Haddad talked about the bathrooms and asked if it was time to think about a different curfew time and adding an additional evening patrol at the Rec Park. He stated that we may not need the extra patrol every night, but something to give a different presence for those hot spots. The Mayor noted that Administrator Ryan did a story on Canastota.com and the resident on Spencer Street is saying that the lights are still pointing at his house. He advised that kids are at the playground at midnight. The Mayor talked about the damage that was done at separate times. Trustee Watkins noted that there are 2 patrolmen on during that time. Trustee Watkins asked Administrator Ryan what our cameras are picking up at the Spencer Street Park. The Board talked about what to do with the cameras at the park. The Mayor asked about adding something to the lights that are already on and making it click on when it detects something. Trustee Haddad stated that we need to do something before it gets worse. The Mayor is frustrated that we keep throwing money at the problem but it keeps getting worse. Trustee Haddad believes that we need to do something.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Passed 4 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

*Catherine E. Williams*

Catherine E. Williams  
Clerk/Treasurer