

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA
MINUTES
November 18, 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 Bill Haddad, Lori Torrey, and Jeff Watkins; Village Administrator Jeremy Ryan; Code Enforcement Officer Mike Adsit; DPW Foreman Doug Holdridge; Police Chief Sean Barton; Recreation Leader Cherie Bealer; CFD Chief Lyle Chafee; Dan Cunningham of CWT; Village Historian David Sadler; and Mark Taylor.

ABSENT: None.

Motion by Trustee Torrey, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to approve the following budget modification: Increase 16202.01 (Building Capital) by \$7,502.36; increase 31202.01 (Police Equipment) by \$860.16. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Watkins, to approve the attached General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$64,253.79. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Torrey, to approve the attached Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$14,061.55. Passed 5 to 0.

Administrator Comments.

Administrator Ryan reported that the building renovation project is 99% complete - there is a small list of items for Meid. Administrator Ryan reviewed those items with the Board and noted that final payment will be made after the list has been completed.

The Town of Lenox has completed their phone conversion to the County. The County has been very responsive to the Town's needs. The Mayor asked if we will need to send the phones back to Northland. Administrator Ryan advised that we will need to purchase new phones and we will send back the phones that we have currently. He explained the process for switching over. This will save the Village a significant amount of money. DPW Foreman Holdridge talked about the flags on Peterboro Street and the problems with finding the parts for the broken ones. He advised that there is a specific bolt pattern. Foreman Holdridge suggested that the flags be put on their own poles. He talked about the damage that the flags have sustained with the weather. The Board talked with Foreman Holdridge about how to do this and talked about the plastic sleeve that is in the sidewalk that the VFW uses for flagpoles now. Trustee Watkins asked if we can have the parts fabricated. Foreman Holdridge thought that maybe Ron Debrucque could do it, but it is the bolt pattern that is the problem. The placement of the poles was discussed. The flags currently get wrapped around the

poles, wires and other poles and they would like to avoid this, if possible. The Mayor is concerned about people taking them out of the ground.

Administrator Ryan advised that Rec Basketball is underway and practice is happening now with games starting after Thanksgiving. Trustee Watkins asked about gym use. Administrator Ryan noted that it is going pretty well and advised that we will not need to use the CAC as much as we thought we would need to. Recreation Leader Bealer and Administrator Ryan talked about scheduling.

Administrator Ryan reported that the EV charging station company went out of business and he has been contacting other companies to see if they can take over the service. Trustee Haddad asked if it is the same company that did the service on the Thruway. Trustee Watkins asked if it would cost the Village money to have a new company come in. Administrator Ryan and the Board talked about how this would work. The Board discussed how often the charging station gets used. Chief Barton talked about some people that use it occasionally. The Mayor talked about money that the Village was supposed to get as part of the process. The Board talked about the cost to the Village and the cost of charging our vehicle.

Department Heads.

Dan Cunningham reviewed his report for the Board. He talked about the price to replace the pump as shown on the report - \$5,877 and \$11,754 to fix them. It will be \$9,962 for a new pump and \$3,214 for the electrical work. Dan gave the Board his recommendation for replacing the RAS and WAS pumps and piping. He advised that he spoke with Tim O'Hara regarding the Post Construction Compliance Monitoring Plan (PCCMP) and that the Mayor sent the draft onto the DEC asking them to let us know if anything needed to be addressed or corrected. The Mayor asked Dan about the conversation with Tim O'Hara. Dan advised that they talked about what testing needs to be done - upstream and downstream on a weekly basis in dry weather and also if we are discharging more than 85%, we will be under a consent order.

CEO Adsit asked the Board if they have questions about his report. He noted that it is starting to slow down and he is catching up on his fire inspections. CEO Adsit was set back with COVID and he is still answering questions for the Town daily. He noted that the sign at the Main Street Deli was taken down. He suggested that they use a sandwich board sign. They want to advertise their new sandwiches. The Mayor asked about the landscaping and sidewalk out front. CEO Adsit talked about his conversations with the owners. The Mayor would like to see some tables outside maybe. The Mayor asked about the old Erie Mill property. CEO Adsit stated that he talked with the owner. He is having a problem with the asbestos survey. CEO Adsit noted that he has spoken with someone today regarding the asbestos and explained what was needed. The Mayor advised that she spoke with the owner and she commented about the status of the roof trusses. The Mayor advised the

owner that if he wants to continue as an event center, he will need to write a letter to the Village and ask for a zone change because this is zoned residential. The Mayor spoke with Scott Ingmire at the County and asked him about the zone change. Mr. Ingmire thought that with the commercial property across the street, it would be considered contiguous for the zone change.

Chief Barton advised that the PD has made progress with the situation upstairs - all the big things are done and just a few small things left and they will be fully operational. Officers Findlay and Jiusto did a lot of the work. The Mayor noted that she asked the Chief if he would host the Village and Town when it was all done. The Chief is happy to.

Fire Chief Chafee advised that the new air packs are in service. He asked what the Village wanted to do with the old ones. Trustee Watkins would like us to surplus them. He asked if Auctions International would want them. The Mayor asked about when they expire. Chief Chafee explained that as long as they pass the hydrostatic test they can be used.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to declare the MSA Firehawk air packs surplus and list them for sale on Auctions International. Passed 5 to 0.

Chief Chafee advised that the Fire Department is still working on the truck spec. They have looked at a lot of trucks and are taking their time. The Mayor noted that she signed up for the site and is waiting to see if we are accepted. Chief Chafee asked if we should be looking for another grant for the elevator. The Mayor is meeting with Homes and Community Renewal soon to talk about an ADA grant that comes out in the spring. The Board talked about the potential for the NY Forward Grant and another State Department grant at the same time. The Mayor noted that the Fire Department project was the number one project for support in the Village. We are still applying for the other grant. Chief Chafee does not want to miss anything. The Mayor talked about using funds from the grants to do the project. Chief Chafee noted that his work schedule is changing soon and he won't be at our meetings for a while.

DPW Foreman Doug Holdridge talked about the catch basins that they installed on Circle Drive North. He is hoping this fixes the water in the resident's driveway. He reported that the blacktop was completed. People on First and Hickory are very happy how it turned out. Mr. Holdridge has been going to headworks daily with Tony, and Tony is doing the paperwork on his own now. He advised that there are a couple of little things that need to be done at headworks - waiting to be pumped out to get the pump back in there. This cost is coming out of ARPA. Trustee Torrey asked about the overhand on the mural. Trustee Watkins will contact Mr. Holdridge to help with that. The Mayor advised that she spoke with Corky Goss and he was supposed to be back in August. She thinks that maybe we need to find someone else. The Mayor talked about options and what needs to be done. Mayor Warner advised that the people on Pleasant Street were very pleased with the

work that the DPW has done on their street over the last year. People on Hickory Street are pleased also.

Village Historian David Sadler is continuing his work on historical markers. He is researching 9 new ones now. Mr. Sadler stated that whatever he gets the most information on is what he will submit. The deadline is December 9, 2024. Mr. Sadler reviewed the list of potential markers.

Recreation Leader Cherie Bealer reported that bowling started and is drawing 10 - 12 and growing each week. There were almost 1200 people for Trunk or Treat. The pumpkin decorating contest did not have many entries but had lots of votes. Basketball evaluations were held - there were not as many kids this year. They have 4 teams with 10 - 12 on a team. Indoor walking started this month. The Craft Fair is this Sunday and is the biggest one yet. Santa and Mrs. Clause will be there from 10 - 1. The vendors will be spread out throughout the whole building. The Fun Run will be held with the Holiday Parade of Lights. Lights on the Lake sign-ups are going well. We have 30 people so far. We need a couple more people to make the minimum for the Cookie Decorating class at Flo's. Skills and Drills for volleyball and basketball is being planned. Recreation Leader Bealer was asked if the trophy for the slow pitch co-ed softball league could be named after Chris Brown. Chris was instrumental in putting the league together and played in it for a long time. He passed away recently and some of the players asked if we could do this for him. The Rec Board will take this up at their next meeting. The Mayor noted that the County asked for a list of recreation events. Rec provided a 2 ½ page list - the County was very impressed. Mayor Warner noted that recreation is doing a great job!

Public Comments.

None.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving payments totaling \$4,702.55 from the General Fund to MBI for health insurance debit card transactions from October 1, 2024 - October 31, 2024. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the following payments to AccuData from General Fund Account No. 16204.01.155 (Payroll Service): \$132.20 9/11/24; \$187.20 9/18/24; \$187.20 9/25/24; \$187.20 10/2/24; \$190.70 10/9/24; \$190.70 10/16/24; \$162.00 10/23/24; \$162.00 10/30/24; \$165.05 11/6/24; \$167.10 11/13/24. (Note: this is for the weekly payroll service. The contract and pre-payment were previously approved by the Board on May 20, 2024.) Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Torrey, approving the attached Resolution Declaring Support of Madison County's Application to Restore NY Funding for the 160 Center

Street Canalside Pocket Neighborhood Site. **Discussion:** Trustee Watkins asked if this project will ever get off the ground. The Mayor noted that they picked a developer and they are looking for grant funds. They are asking for money from our New York Forward grant. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, approving the reinstatement of Mark Polisse into the Canastota Volunteer Fire Department based on the attached request from Council Secretary, Matt Freund. (Note: A copy of Mr. Polisse's driver's license has been received.) **Discussion:** Trustee Torrey asked why he left in the first place. Chief Chafee noted that he got out in good standing and is ready to come back. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Torrey, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the attached Resolution in Support of Continued and Increased State Aid for Local Governments. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Haddad, awarding the contract for janitorial services for the Canastota-Lenox Municipal Building to Boo's Cleaning Service, LLC, for a period of two (2) years commencing on January 1, 2025 and ending on December 31, 2027, at a monthly cost of \$2,300.00, including cleaning supplies, which said cost is to be split with the Town of Lenox. **Discussion:** Trustee Haddad asked where the contract is. Clerk/Treasurer Williams stated that Administrator Ryan is working on that. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Torrey, approving the appointment of Neeraj Modgil to the Canastota Housing Authority to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Debra Ford, with a term expiring on April 7, 2025. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Torrey, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the attached Resolution in support of the 2025 Erie Canalway Heritage Fund Grant in the amount of \$3,000.00. **Discussion:** The Board talked about the grant amount - it can be between \$500.00 and \$3,000.00. Passed 5 to 0.

The Mayor asked about how the planning was coming. Recreation Leader Bealer stated that they will hear in January if they received the grant and will do more planning then.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Torrey, amending the appointment of Isabella Rogmans-Pineda to the position of Clerk to the Justice made on November 4, 2024, as follows: part-time effective November 6, 2024 through November 19, 2024, at a rate of \$24.08 and full-time effective November 20, 2024, at a rate of \$46,957.95. **Discussion:** Trustee Watkins asked about Debbie DiGeorge's final retirement date. Clerk/Treasurer Williams advised that her last day of work is November 29, 2024 and her first day of retirement is November 30, 2024. Passed 5 to 0.

Correspondence.

None

Mayor's Comments.

The Mayor asked about the Stroud Street sidewalk near the Kimes' old property. She wants the Board to go there and look at it.

The Mayor asked if she let the Board know about the trash that has been dumped on the property owned by the Village in the Town of Lenox near the tank on Oxbow Road. This has been a problem for a while. CEO Adsit and Town CEO Nisiewicz have spoken to the neighbors - they blame each other. The Mayor stated that we will need to do some cleanup there. DPW Foreman Holdridge will go up and look at it.

Mayor Warner advised that we would have a draft on the Comprehensive Plan soon and she will get it to the Board.

New York Forward is putting together a document for us. The Mayor met with the consultants last week to ask if we will get a chance to review it before it is submitted. The Mayor will try to get a copy for us.

Mayor Warner advised the Board that npp.gov is the site that the Mayor signed up for and if they accept our application, we will be able to purchase items for the fire department, police department, etc. She stated that we can piggyback of their bids and not have to go out ourselves.

The Mayor is meeting on November 25, 2024, with HCR about the firehouse. She is meeting on November 26, 2024, with Hughes Energy and the Nation regarding the project on the other side of the treatment plant.

Mayor Warner advised the Board that the bench has been purchased and she thanked DPW Foreman Holdridge for putting the pad in for the Santa house and the bench.

The Mayor talked about the change in process by the County for selling dump passes. The Village will not be selling the passes any longer.

OCWA has proposed a new contract to do our sewer billing and they want us to pay for the unpaid charges every quarter. Trustee Haddad asked about e-bill options. Clerk/Treasurer Williams explained the process for paying the Village in whole and what the problem will be if we have to do our own billing. It is a cash-flow issue for us and tracking the unpaid receivables.

Trustees Comments.

Trustee Gustin in all set.

Trustee Watkins is all set.

Trustee Haddad is all set.

Trustee Torrey is all set.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Watkins, to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine E. Williams

Catherine E. Williams
Clerk/Treasurer