

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA
MINUTES
December 16, 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; Code Enforcement Officer Mike Adsit; DPW Foreman Doug Holdridge; Recreation Leader Cherie Bealer; CVFC President Doug Chandler; CFD Assistant Chief Markus Labarbera; Village Historian David Sadler; Dan Cunningham of CWT; Mark Taylor and Frank Ilacqua.

ABSENT: Village Administrator Jeremy Ryan

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the attached minutes of the July 15, 2024, and December 2, 2024 meetings. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Watkins, to approve the following budget modification: Increase 16202.01 (Building Capital) by \$1,083.99. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Torrey, to approve the attached General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$60,629.63. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Watkins, to approve the attached Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$18,629.37. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Torrey, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the following payments to AccuData from General Fund Account No. 16204.01.155 (Payroll Service): \$162.00 for payroll dated 12/5/2024; \$159.95 for payroll dated 12/12/2024. **Discussion:** Trustee Watkins asked if we are paying weekly why can't we go to bi-weekly payroll. Trustee Haddad believes that New York State says that hourly payroll roll must be paid weekly. The Board discussed the possible savings going to bi-weekly payroll. The Board will look into whether we can to this or not. The Mayor wants this on the contract for the next time. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Torrey, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving a credit in the amount of \$71.50 against the sewer charges on the September 30, 2024, OCWA bill for property owned by Jordan Walker and located at 122 E Hickory Street, Canastota, New York. (Note: The reason for the excess water consumption was due to a toilet that has been corrected.) **Discussion:** Trustee Watkins asked if all 4 of these are the first one. Clerk/Treasurer Williams stated that they are. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving a credit in the amount of \$158.73 against the sewer charges on the September 30, 2024, OCWA bill for property owned by Jamie Warner and located at 111 Souter Street, Canastota, New York. (Note: The reason for the

excess water consumption was due to two toilet issues that have been corrected.) Passed 4 to 0 to 1. Mayor Warner abstains.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving a credit in the amount of \$94.77 against the sewer charges on the September 30, 2024, OCWA bill for property owned by Melissa Matas and located at 117 S Peterboro Street, Canastota, New York. (Note: The reason for the excess water consumption was due to a toilet leak that has been corrected.) Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Torrey, seconded by Trustee Watkins, approving a credit in the amount of \$45.50 against the sewer charges on the September 30, 2024, OCWA bill for property owned by Karen Moro and located at 105 Bellevue, Canastota, New York. (Note: The reason for the excess water consumption was due to a toilet leak that has been corrected.) Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Watkins, approving the sale of the 2016 Ford Taurus police vehicle via Auctions International to the winning bidder Ernestosanchez23 in the amount of \$1,400.00. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving an ACH by USDA Rural Development in the amount of \$6,660.00 from the Sewer Fund (Account No. 97107.02) for payment of interest owed on the 2003 Interceptor Pipe Project. Passed 5 to 0.

Department Head Comments.

Village Historian David Sadler advised that he sent in one letter of interest to the Pomeroy Foundation. It was approved. The Town of Lenox applications were also approved. The request was for the Erie Canal. The Mayor asked for a location. David would like it on the west end near Main Street. He will get a GPS location for the Mayor and he will send all the papers with the application once he and the Mayor determine the exact location for the marker. Frank Ilacqua offered his building location for the marker. David noted that it will have to be somewhere between Main Street and Peterboro Street which is in the historical district.

Recreation Leader Cherie Bealer read her report. She talked about bowling, the Harvest Craft Fair, the Fun Run, Cookie Decorating, Walking Program and Youth Basketball and noted that they are finding out after break when they will be able to use the school. Cherie talked about use of the OIN Community Center by the Boys A Team because a member of the team is part of the Nation. They are trying to schedule skills and drills for basketball and volleyball. Cherie talked about upcoming events and thinks they will be voted on today. She asked about using extra money from Trunk or Treat for Program Development. The Mayor asked for Cherie to send information on what they want to do. Trustee Haddad asked about the contract for use of the OIN Center. He wants to know what the charge was. Cherie doesn't know what those fees are.

DPW Foreman Holdridge noted that most of their time has been spent on Christmas decorating and taking seasonal things down. They worked with Dan and Tony to get the head cell bank online. Doug reported that he has met with vendors regarding pumps to purchase using the rest of the ARPA funds. Doug talked about the meeting tomorrow. Doug also talked about the accident with a DPW vehicle last week and the damage that occurred. We are waiting for the adjuster to look at the vehicle. The Mayor believes that she heard that the other driver admitted fault. Trustee Watkins asked for a copy of the Accident Information Exchange Form. The Mayor will ask for that from Administrator Ryan. Mayor Warner told Foreman Holdridge that they did a great job getting ready for the parade and thanked them for lowering the flags for former Mayor Donald Cerio. She asked that the flags be brought back up tomorrow.

Assistant Chief Labarbera has nothing tonight other than the truck. Trustee Watkins asked if we can talk about that after.

Code Enforcement Officer Adsit asked if there were any questions on his report. He is slowing down but he is out looking and writing. The Mayor asked about the property on Railroad Street. CEO Adsit will talk with the Judge about this property. The Mayor asked about the stuff at the curb on Deppoliti Avenue. CEO Adsit talked about how it worked and noted that Stoneleigh Housing got rid of it. Doug Chandler asked about the ordinance regarding junk piles between properties. He explained to CEO Adsit what and where he was referring to. Doug is concerned about the fire hazard. The Mayor asked CEO Adsit to take a look at it tomorrow.

Dan Cunningham reviewed his report for the Board. He explained what they found when they pulled out a pump - there is a nicked wire. Dan is waiting on a quote to fix it. He has some additional quotes for pumps that he will bring up at the meeting tomorrow.

The Mayor advised that there are specs on the table - she was given specs by Steve Dembrowski on a new fire truck with a total price of \$1,396,170, with a \$96,166 discount. The truck was specked with the motor that is coming out in 26 or 27. If Colden can get a different motor, it will discount the price by another \$80,000. Delivery of the truck is 830 days out. The Mayor reviewed some of the specs. The Mayor went through the time-line for reviewing the specs. She noted that this truck is on Sourcewell and she asked for proof from Steve Dembrowski that it was bid correctly so that she can provide that to our attorney, John Langey. Clerk/Treasurer Williams asked if we are applying for a grant. Chief Labarbera stated that we are not and noted that he did not believe that we would get one. Mayor Warner advised that she spoke with Doug Chandler and because we are so far out on completion and delivery of the truck, we can try to apply for the FEMA grant next year. Assistant Chief Labarbera noted that we are combining two trucks with the purchase of the new truck - a heavy rescue and an engine. Trustee Watkins is concerned about putting \$1.4 million into two trucks that barely get out the door. Assistant Chief Labarbera noted that if the American LaFrance breaks down there are no replacement parts available. Doug Chandler stated that there isn't a

department around that can roll all of their equipment everyday. He advised that 124 and the rescue go out the door when they are needed. Currently, the truck that is going out the door is the 2010. Doug Chandler advised that they do not make trucks to last more than 20 years anymore. Assistant Chief Labarbera advised that 121 goes out on every call. Doug Chandler stated that if 121 goes down, then 124 goes out - he also talked about the fact that you cannot find parts for the American LaFrance trucks anywhere. Trustee Watkins asked about using 124 for all calls. Assistant Chief Labarbera noted that it is not set up for gas calls. Doug Chandler stated that now we have a firm price for the truck to go to everyone. Trustee Haddad asked if we can reserve the motor tomorrow and pay for it now. Assistant Chief Labarbera stated that as soon as we put in the papers, they will put our name on the chassis and motor. The Board talked about the other trucks that were bid and looked at and what the other costs were. The Mayor noted that they are all very close in price and Colden is the only one that will hold the price. The Board talked about how we will pay for the truck and what the cost of bonding will be. The Mayor talked about what the cost will be and what we can use from fund balance and bond for the rest. The Board talked about what to do with the trucks that we are not going to use any more. The Mayor believes that we will get about \$5,000 for the pumper and hopes to get \$50,000 for the rescue. Trustee Haddad doesn't think that we should count on any money from the sales. The Board talked about what we will need to buy after this truck is purchased. The Mayor talked about the history of truck rotation and financing. Mayor Warner asked if she could pass this along to the Town for them to look at. The Board will give it to the Town to look at. The Board talked about what the Town has kicked in for the past trucks that were purchased. The Board talked about fund balance. Trustee Watkins would like Administrator Ryan to find out what the average fire tax is in the County. Trustee Haddad noted that we are going to find out what it is going to cost us and look at the numbers, we are going to send it to the Town and see what they are willing to do. It is a math problem - we need to see where that is.

Public Comments.

Frank Ilacqua, owner of the old Erie Mill property, recapped the conversation about the fire truck. He asked if the truck can be split between two (2) fire departments. He asked about fund-raising. He understands both sides of the truck questions.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Watkins, approving the attached Village of Canastota Time Recording System Policy. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, authorizing the Mayor to enter into the attached Agreement with the Oneida Indian Nation for use of the Mary C. Winder Community Center for the purposes of youth basketball practices and games effective December 18, 2024 through January 31, 2025. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Watkins, approving the following requests from Recreation:

- a. Continue Senior Bowling January 7 - February 25, 2025, at Hi Way Bowl at a cost to the Village of \$3/week for residents;
- b. Adult Painting Class on March 22, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. at the Canastota American Legion with Brianna Crossway. The fee is \$40/participant and the costs are \$35/participant to the instructor and \$60 to the American Legion for the use of the room with a minimum of 10 participants and a maximum of 50;
- c. Line Dancing Program with Kaitlyn Romagnoli on January 22, January 29, February 12 and February 26, 2025, from 6 - 7 at the Southside Gymnasium. The fee is \$30/participant and the costs is \$120 total to the instructor with a minimum of 4 participants and a maximum of 20.

Passed 5 to 0.

Correspondence.

- Letter from Morgan White that there will be no increase to our life insurance/accidental disability policy in 2025.
- Letter from NYS Department of Labor regarding the boiler.

Administrator Comments.

Mayor Warner reviewed Administrator Ryan's report. The IT work in the building has started. The renovation project is close to completion. Joyce Gustin will be stepping down from her position with the Housing Authority as soon as a replacement can be found. The DPW plow truck that was involved in the accident on December 6 has been taken to Stadium International and has been inspected by the other driver's insurance company. We are awaiting a report. In the meantime, the new Ford pickup has been outfitted with a plow and salt spreader to help cover the routes. There is a meeting on Tuesday regarding use of the rest of the ARPA funds. The annual holiday luncheon is this Thursday. The office will be closed from noon - 1:00 p.m.

Mayor Warner asked Deputy Mayor Gustin to thank his mom for all her years of service to the Housing Authority and the community.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to allow the Mayor and Village Administrator to spend the remaining ARPA funds within the scope of the intended use of the funds.
Passed 5 to 0.

Trustee Watkins asked Clerk/Treasurer Williams to post a sign on Tuesday regarding the office closure on Thursday.

Mayor's Comments.

The Mayor sent the contract back to the County - we are not happy with some of the language. The County attorney will send it back for review. The Mayor talked about her conversation with OCWA and Clerk/Treasurer Williams regarding the External Customer Charge. The Board talked about other possibilities for water and OCWA billing concerns.

Mayor Warner spoke with Attorney Langey regarding the Zupan property. He recommends environmental review of the property and is sending us some information.

The Mayor has given the information to Attorney Langey regarding Frank Ilacqua's request for a zone change. She explained the process and noted that it could take until February at best. The Mayor noted that CEO Adsit could issue a conditional permit to close in the building, but that is all that he could do. Mr. Ilacqua asked if we are waiting until February to change it back to Commercial. The Mayor explained that it is a residential zone now and we are looking at changing it to CM. Mr. Ilacqua feels that it is silly to change from residential to commercial - the Mayor explained the process to Mr. Ilacqua and talked about what has to happen. Mr. Ilacqua stated that he didn't realize that there was a process. Mayor Warner noted that he should have come to the Village before he bought the building and did anything with it. Mr. Ilacqua talked about how he bought the property at tax sale. Trustee Watkins asked if he understood the process that he has to go through now. Mr. Ilacqua stated that he does. He did ask if it can be any faster. Trustee Watkins explained that if the attorney is saying February or March, then that is how long it will take. Trustee Haddad stated that it may not get approved. The Mayor talked about the two (2) options that Attorney Langey talked about - commercial or industrial. The Mayor thinks that it should be commercial. Mr. Ilacqua noted that he wants to finish the project and he talked about what he plans to do with the building. Trustee Haddad asked about what it is going to cost him and if he is still in. Mr. Ilacqua stated that, yes, he is in. He talked about the property that he bought in Oneida and what he is doing there.

Mayor Warner talked with FEMA today. The SCBA amendment is in - now the Town of Lincoln wants a fill station. The Mayor talked about what Lincoln will have to do for this, but they will move forward with Canastota and Village of Wampsville's purchases.

The Mayor has five (5) people for the Architectural Review Board - Jason Nisiewicz, Bill Marsh, Jake Smith, Marty Bargabos and David Sadler.

Mayor Warner noted that the LWRP paperwork was sent into the State, but the State wants to redo all of the contracts.

The Mayor talked about the LETECH Grant for \$106,000 from DCJS. The Mayor accepted the grant and put the paperwork in. She is working with Chief Barton. The Mayor reviewed the items that were on the grant application. Mayor Warner is asking for a copy of the application. Trustee Watkins noted that the money will be sent to us and we will need to put the money in an account.

Mayor Warner has not received anything back from the Court on the \$60,000 grant.

Trustees Comments.

Trustee Gustin asked about the status of the panic buttons. Trustee Watkins has not talked with the GLADD security person. He suggested that our Administrator get the information. Trustee Haddad suggested that we do a device instead of a service. Trustee Gustin would like to see us take care of this soon.

Trustee Haddad believes that we are done with the handbook review. Mark Taylor does not believe we are done. Trustee Haddad stated that we can have a separate discussion regarding the policy that is in question, but he believes that we can send it off to the attorney to begin the review. Mark Taylor would like to see it before it goes to the attorney.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to adjourn at 8:38 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine E. Williams

Catherine E. Williams
Clerk/Treasurer