

Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building
November 3, 2014

ATTENDANCE:

Members: President G. Wayne McIlroy; Deputy President Astafan and Trustees Kathleen Latremore, Rebecca Vary and Linda Smith-Spencer.

Others: One Participation in Government Student.

CALL TO ORDER:

President McIlroy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2014 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

President McIlroy read the correspondence received from the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Council of Jefferson County, Inc. requesting a donation in support of their services. President McIlroy stated the Village is unable to donate to organizations.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to approve the request of the Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce to allow various businesses to decorate the Village Green Park for the holidays under the guidelines set forth by the Chamber. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve the request of the Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce to hold their Annual Memory Tree celebration on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Green. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to allow the Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce to use the Carthage Park and Recreation Building and waive the rental fee, to host the Annual Winterfest on Saturday, February 14, 2015 and to set up for the event on Friday, February 13, 2015 contingent upon receipt of a Certificate of Liability Insurance. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was an Evidentiary Hearing on July 15, 2014 regarding the unsafe condition of 208 North Mechanic Street.

Update 8/18/14: The property on 208 North Mechanic Street is still unsafe. The Board authorized Attorney Gebo send a letter to Mr. Trombley, 208 North Mechanic Street, informing him the Village intends to demolish the building.

Update 9/15/14: Attorney Gebo sent the letter to Mr. Trombley but referenced the wrong address. Attorney Gebo stated he would re-send the letter with the correct address and give Mr. Trombley an additional week of notification of the Village's intent to demolish the building.

Update 10/6/14: President McIlroy stated he and the Community Development Coordinator have been working on obtaining permits to remove the building which they anticipate to cost around \$10,000.00.

Update 10/20/14: President McIlroy stated they are working on disconnecting the services to the residence.

Update 11/03/14: President McIlroy stated he hopes the building will be removed by the November 17, 2014 meeting.

The Board reviewed and discussed the two examples of local laws from the Village of Lacona and the Village of West Carthage regulating farm animals. President McIlroy encouraged the Board to review the examples and be prepared to discuss them at the November 17, 2014 meeting.

At the October 20, 2014 meeting, the Clerk/Treasurer submitted a memo regarding the replacement of the rooftop heat exchanger due to holes in the current system as discovered during the annual inspection by Hyde Stone Mechanicals. The heating system is a supplement heating system for the Clerk's Office side and level of the building with an estimated replacement cost of \$5,200.00 and the Clerk/Treasurer is not recommending replacing the unit at this time. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to obtain more information regarding the heating unit and to hold this issue over until the November 3, 2014 meeting.

Update 11/03/14: President McIlroy contacted Hyde Stone Mechanicals who stated the heating system serves as a backup if the main boiler system should fail. Deputy President McIlroy stated he would prefer to put the money into replacing the old boiler system which heats the entire building with the exception of the court room. The Board concurred that they are not in favor of replacing the roof top heating system at this time.

At the October 20, 2014 meeting, the Board made a motion to permit President McIlroy to sign a change order with Springbrook to switch to their cloud option providing Attorney Gebo reviews the contract regarding indemnification if there is a data breach of their system.

Update 11/03/14: Attorney Gebo reviewed the information provided by Springbrook and stated they do not indemnify the Village if there is a data breach with their cloud option and further stated the Village was not indemnified with the premise option the Village previously agreed to. The Clerk/Treasurer stated she contacted Fuller Insurance who has insurance policies to decrease the liability the Village would incur if their data was breached.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore permitting President McIlroy to sign a change order with Springbrook to switch to their cloud option and further for the Clerk/Treasurer to meet with Fuller Insurance to review data breach indemnification insurance policies. Motion carried unanimously.

At the October 20, 2014 meeting President McIlroy stated the lights at the Recreation Building are not working.

Update 11/03/14: The DPW fixed the lights at the Recreation Building and Chief Huber told the Clerk/Treasurer he feels they do not adequately light the area and suggested installing motion lights. President McIlroy will speak with Chief Huber regarding the lighting at the Recreation Building.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to formally approve publishing the all night parking ban notice in the Carthage Republican Tribune which was previously approved to be published via email poll on October 24, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Latremore authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to return unpaid Village taxes to Jefferson County in the base amount of \$52,497.89 and penalty amount of \$4,199.81 for a total of \$56,697.70. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer authorizing President McIlroy to sign an agreement with Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation to attach holiday decorations to light poles throughout the Village. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer authorizing the Clerk's Office to close on Friday, November 28, 2014 and for employees to utilize personal or vacation time for the day. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT MCILROY UPDATE:

President McIlroy encouraged the Board to vote on November 4, 2014. President McIlroy researched the new school zone signs posted for the Augustine Academy and other various schools. The other schools posted the school speed limit during specified school hours. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue over until the November 17, 2014 meeting when Attorney Gebo is present. President McIlroy asked the Clerk/Treasurer when the Village begins accepting credit cards if the Village will be charged fees and the Clerk/Treasurer stated the fees will be charged to the customer not the Village.

LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Deputy President Astafan stated he was approached by a resident due to a minimum water/sewer bill being charged twice during one billing cycle due to the sale of the house as they feel the Village is double dipping. The Clerk/Treasurer explained when a home is sold, an attorney requests a final reading which triggers one bill and when the billing cycle ends, another bill is produced and sent to the new property owner. After considerable discussion, President McIlroy asked Trustee Smith-Spencer to research the policy, discuss the issue with the Water Superintendent, and report back to the Board at the November 17, 2014 meeting.

Trustee Smith-Spencer requested an Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a Water Department employee.

Trustee Latremore received a complaint about the railroad crossing on South James Street and President McIlroy stated it is the responsibility of NYS Department of Transportation and suggested the complainant send them a letter.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to enter Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a Water Department employee and a potential part-time Clerk for the Clerk's Office. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to resume Regular Session at 8:40 p.m.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to permit the Clerk/Treasurer to hire a part-time temporary Clerk, at her discretion, with a rate of \$9.00 per hour for twenty hours per week. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to permit the DPW Superintendent to hire a full time temporary DPW Laborer to replace Donald LaParr who was hired as

a full time temporary DPW Laborer but is unable to work due to medical leave at a rate of \$14.60 per hour. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy O'Shaughnessy
Village Clerk/Treasurer