

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL MINUTES AND HAVE NOT YET BEEN APPROVED BY
THE VILLAGE OF CARTHAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building
January 20, 2015

ATTENDANCE:

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

Others: Georami Corral; Cheryl Tousant, Katharina Basla; Kendra Phillips; Kelly Kowaloy; Brian Commack; Elaine Avallone, Johnson Newspapers; Reginald Huber, Village Police Chief; and Mark Gebo, Village Attorney at 7:10 p.m.

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 Vary to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2015 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Ms. Basla stated she has a daycare business on South Clinton Street and is concerned about the recent no parking signage placed on her side of the street. Ms. Basla is concerned for the safety of parents and children who now have to cross the street. Chief Huber stated the no parking signs do not exclude stopping or standing and therefore parents can still stop on that side of the street to load and unload their children. Chief Huber suggested parents should turn on their flashers when dropping off and picking up their children and he will issue a memo to police officers notifying them of the situation. Mr. Commack suggested placing Children at Play signs in the area to slow traffic down. President McIlroy stated he is not in favor of a Children at Play sign but will look into other signage to notify traffic of children in the area. Attorney Gebo stated a local law would not need to be enacted to place an informational sign.

CORRESPONDENCE:

President McIlroy read the letter received from New York State of Opportunity Department of Public Service requesting assistance in informing energy consumers of an energy modernization initiative which will fundamentally transform the way electricity is distributed and used in New York State. Northern Employee Assistance Services notifying the Board of their name change to Pivot.

President McIlroy read the correspondence received from the Wilna-Champion Transportation Association requesting an increase in the amount the Village contributes which is currently \$5,000.00 annually. Trustee Latremore stated the Wilna-Champion Transportation Association would like the Village to consider an increase when compiling the budget next year.

President McIlroy read the correspondence received from the State of New York Public Service Commission regarding case 04-M-0159- proceeding on motion of the commission to examine the safety of electric transmission and distribution systems.

OLD BUSINESS:

At the December 1, 2014 meeting President McIlroy asked the Clerk/Treasurer if she received a response from the NYSDOT regarding posting rough railroad crossing signs on South James Street of which she answered no. President McIlroy requested she send a second letter to NYSDOT requesting a response and further to send a letter to the Mohawk Adirondack & Northern Railroad.

Update 12/15/14: President McIlroy stated NYSDOT sent the request to the Department of Traffic & Safety for their review and are awaiting their response.

Update 1/5/15: President McIlroy read the response received from Mohawk Adirondack & Northern Railroad informing the Village that it is the responsibility of the NYSDOT to erect signage regarding rough railroad crossings and they are aware of the condition of the railroad crossing and will continue to provide remedial maintenance until such time as it can be replaced. President McIlroy also read the response received from NYSDOT stating they are still awaiting the response of the Department of Traffic & Safety.

Update 1/20/15: NYSDOT installed the rough railroad crossing signs on January 15, 2015.

President McIlroy stated the Citizen Preparedness Training Program has been rescheduled for Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Carthage Central School Auditorium and encouraged Trustees to register for the event at www.prepare.ny.gov and further stated he plans to attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve CDBG 2013 Draw #2 payable to Margaret Mandell and Painting Etc Inc \$14,274.00 and Avalon Associates, Inc. \$8,179.75 Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to formally approve the 32nd Annual Walk for Life on Sunday, January 18, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. which was previously approved via email poll. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to schedule a public hearing on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 7:10 p.m. to discuss housing and community development needs in the Village of Carthage. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to schedule a public hearing on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 immediately following the first public hearing to discuss overriding the 2015 property tax cap limit. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy stated the NYS Tug Hill Commission 26th Annual Local Government Conference will be on Thursday, March 26, 2015 at Jefferson Community College and encouraged Trustees to attend and forward their completed registration forms to the Clerk/Treasurer by February 13, 2015.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve the following budget transfers for account balancing:

A.1325.0410	Treasurer Telephone	1,000.00	
A.1325.0431	Treasurer Postage	939.00	
A.1325.0421	Treasurer Insurance		1,939.00
A.3650.0400	Demolition of Unsafe Buildings	12,000.00	

A.1990.0400	Contingency		12,000.00
A.5010.0432	Contracts/Maint Agreements	500.00	
A.5010.0444	Trash Removal	700.00	
A.5010.0441	Utilities		1,200.00
F.8310.0420	Internet	350.00	
F.8310.0421	Insurance		350.00

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to accept the monthly departmental reports from Code Enforcement, Community Development, Court, Police Department, Water Department and Treasurer as presented. Motion carried unanimously. The DPW report was not submitted.

Trustee Smith-Spencer reviewed the monthly bills and bank statements including reconciliations prior to the meeting. The documents were also available at the meeting.

Motion by Trustee Smith Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve payment of payrolls and bills as follows: General Fund P/R 12/24/14, 12/31/14, 01/08/15, and 01/15/15 \$62,558.33; Special Grant Fund P/R 12/24/14 and 01/08/15 \$198.74; Water Fund P/R 12/24/14, 12/31/14, 01/08/15, and 01/15/15 \$10,113.76; Sewer Fund P/R 12/24/14, 12/31/14, 01/08/15, and 01/15/15 \$11,413.16; Joint Fund P/R 12/24/14, 12/31/14, and 01/15/15 \$11,616.23. General Fund Abstracts \$46,769.92; Special Grant Fund Abstracts \$800.00; Water Fund Abstracts \$8,136.97; Sewer Fund Abstracts \$3,557.17; and Joint Fund Abstracts \$0. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT MCILROY UPDATE:

President McIlroy stated he has been approached by Carol Burke who resides on South James Street and is interested in serving at some capacity at the Village.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to appoint Carol Burke to the Village Planning Board to complete the term left vacant by Joseph Archer until July 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy stated the Long Pond Snowmobile Club approached the Village to have a trail go through the watershed property in Belfort. President McIlroy is concerned because he refused the request to allow hunting on the property. Attorney Gebo stated there could be potential damage to the property and advised the Board to check with the Lewis County Trail Coordinator. Attorney Gebo stated there also could be potential damage to the watershed and advised the board to review the NYSDOH study for vulnerabilities. Trustee Smith-Spencer will speak with Ernie Prieto, Water Superintendent prior to the Joint Water/Sewer meeting. President McIlroy stated there will be a Joint Water/Sewer meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Village of West Carthage and DPW Contract negotiation meeting on Monday, February 2, 2015. President McIlroy stated he will need an Executive Session to discuss a potential litigation.

ATTORNEY GEBO UPDATE:

Attorney Gebo stated the majority of his items were covered throughout the meeting but requested an Executive Session to discuss a collective bargaining agreement.

LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

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

Trustee Latremore stated the street light on North Washington Street still does not work properly and Chief Huber stated he would notify National Grid again.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

Ms. Avallone requested clarification on items discussed throughout the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to enter Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss a potential litigation; a collective bargaining agreement; and the employment history of a particular Water Department employee and request Attorney Gebo and Chief Huber to attend. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Huber was excused at 7:45 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to resume Regular Session at 9:02 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy O'Shaughnessy
Village Clerk/Treasurer