

Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees  
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building  
October 3, 2016

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Members:** President G. Wayne McIlroy and Trustees Rebecca Vary and Kathleen Latremore. Deputy President Michael Astafan and Trustee Linda Smith-Spencer were excused.

**Others:** Edgar Countryman, DPW Superintendent; Mark and Julie Roberts; Patricia Smith; Heather Tanner; Elaine Avallone, Johnson Newspapers; and nineteen Participation in Government Students.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President McIlroy called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 September 19, 2016 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve the request of the CHS 12 Honors group on Friday, October 28, 2016 and Saturday, October 29, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. till 9:30 p.m. to conduct their annual Spook Trail Event at the Carthage Park to include the use the Recreation Building and waive the \$50.00 Rental Fee. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve the request of the Town of Wilna to expand Town of Wilna Water District #1 to provide service for 22461 and 22452 Boyd Road as the Water Superintendent confirmed the Town will be in compliance for water usage. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy stated the Town of Wilna Joint Planning Board minutes are provided for the Trustee's information.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

President McIlroy asked if Deputy President Astafan and Trustee Smith-Spencer had developed a policy regarding hardhat use at the DPW and Water Department and Deputy President Astafan responded he anticipates having information for the Board to review at the June 6, 2016 regular meeting.

Update 06/06/16: Deputy President Astafan stated the policy is a work in progress.

Update 06/20/16: President McIlroy stated we have a policy at the DPW which addresses wearing hardhats and requested Deputy President Astafan and Trustee Smith-Spencer to review and update. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the July 18, 2016 meeting.

Update 07/20/16: Deputy President Astafan stated he has started going through the current policy which is a good template. Deputy President Astafan expressed he will meet with Mr. Prievo, Mr. Countryman, and the Clerk/Treasurer and will have a draft for review at the next meeting.

Update 08/15/16: Deputy President Astafan requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the September 19, 2016 meeting.

Update 09/19/16: President McIlroy requested Trustee Smith-Spencer to have something for the Board to review regarding the policy regarding hardhat use at the DPW and Water Department.

Update 10/03/16: President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the October 17, 2016 regular meeting when the full board is present.

At the July 18, 2016 meeting, Attorney Gebo stated the 120 day notice period for Springbrook to cancel the contract has expired. Attorney Gebo further stated the only correspondence received from Springbrook was a bill for accounting software they never delivered. Attorney Gebo stated he will proceed with collections from Springbrook.

Update 08/15/16: Attorney Gebo is proceeding with collections.

Update 09/19/16: Attorney Gebo stated that he participated in a conference call with Springbrook representatives and the Clerk/Treasurer on September 9, 2016 and is hopeful that we will have a resolution in the near future.

Update 10/03/16: President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the October 17, 2016 regular meeting when Attorney Gebo is present.

At the June 20, 2016 meeting, the Board set an Evidentiary Hearing regarding 780 West End Avenue on July 18, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. which the CEO deemed unsafe.

Update 07/18/16: Attorney Gebo stated Ms. Mono waived her rights to the Evidential Hearing and consented to a finding that the building is unsafe. President McIlroy expressed he was informed there may be a problem with the property as the former Town of Wilna Highway Department was next door to the building and may have contaminated the surrounding soil. President McIlroy stated the CEO suggested a meeting with the Town Supervisor, CEO, and himself to discuss the issue. Attorney Gebo suggested the structure could possibly be removed without disturbing the soil. President McIlroy stated he will look into the issue.

Update 08/15/16: The Board declared the removal of the property an emergency and authorized Independent Commercial Contractors (ICC) and GYMO PC to remove the building.

Update 09/19/16: President McIlroy stated he anticipates the building being removed in the near future.

Update 10/03/16: President McIlroy stated ICC has been waiting for National Grid to disconnect the gas service to the building for over a month. President McIlroy stated the CEO is calling National Grid and expressing the removal of the gas service is an emergency. President McIlroy anticipates the building being removed soon.

At the July 18, 2016 meeting, Ms. Price stated she received a parking ticket in front of Sew What on State Street due to the one hour parking limit. After considerable discussion, President McIlroy requested Chief Huber to look into the one hour parking limit and forward his recommendation to the Board at the next meeting on August 15, 2016.

Update 08/15/16: Ms. Price stated she was able to get local business owners to sign her petition requesting to change the parking limit on State Street from one hour to two hours. Ms. Price asked why there are two 15 minute parking signs in front of Condino Motors and what the limits are for handicap parking according to the ADA. Deputy President Astafan stated he will look into it. Deputy President Astafan accepted the petition and expressed he will forward it to President McIlroy. Ms Turner stated she would like a handicap parking spot in front of her business. Ms. Lelakowski stated she is in favor of the two hour limit and expressed sometimes it is difficult to comply during busy times at the diner and other area restaurants. Deputy President Astafan stated the Board will look into increasing the parking limit on State Street therefore he requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until September 19, 2016.

Update 09/19/16: President McIlroy read the memo submitted by Chief Huber and stated there are some businesses against changing the parking limit from one hour to two hours. President McIlroy also cited the history behind the fifteen minute parking limit in front of Condino Motors and further stated that was once a no parking zone. President McIlroy asked each Trustee their opinion regarding the

parking limits on State Street. After considerable discussion, President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the October 3, 2016 meeting.

Update 10/03/16: President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the October 17, 2016 meeting when the full Board is present.

At the July 18, 2016 meeting, President McIlroy read the correspondence received regarding a dangerous tree at 602 Alexandria Street and stated he would follow up with the CEO.

Update 08/15/16: Attorney Gebo stated a violation notice has been sent to the property owner and no response has been received therefore Deputy President Astafan requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the September 19, 2016 meeting.

Update 09/19/16: The CEO submitted correspondence stating the property owner is looking into removing the tree and he should have an update at the October 3, 2016 meeting.

Update 10/03/16: President McIlroy stated the CEO informed him that National Grid and Eager Beaver plan to remove the tree on Friday.

At the August 15 meeting Michael Trieu, KC Nails & Spa owner, expressed his discontent about the Joint ZBA denying a variance for the sign on the side of his building.

Update 09/19/16: President McIlroy stated the CEO spoke with Mr. Trieu and he is having a decorative sign made for the side of his building and will remove the current sign when it is complete.

Update 10/03/16: President McIlroy state the CEO anticipates the sign being changed within the next couple of weeks.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to set hours for Trick or Treating on October 31, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to transfer the proceeds received from Auctions International for the sale of DPW surplus equipment in the amount of \$33,610.00 to the DPW Reserve. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Latremore to adopt Resolution 5 of 2016 as follows:

#### **RESOLUTION WITH REFERENCE TO DESIGNATING ACTING SUPERINTENDENT IN THE ABSENCE OF THE WATER SUPERINTENDENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Carthage has an agreement with the Teamsters Local 687 on behalf of the Department of Public Works employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the agreement refers to the designation of "Acting Superintendent" should a Superintendent be away from the facility shall receive half the difference between the Superintendent's pay and their own wage rate; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Carthage has historically paid an "Acting Superintendent" when the Water Superintendent has been on vacation for at least one week; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Carthage, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, desires to formally designate an "Acting Superintendent" for the Water Superintendent when the Superintendent is on vacation for at least one week;

**BE IT RESOLVED** as follows:

Acting Water Superintendent - Mark Roberts

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to accept the Annual Report from the Carthage YMCA and further authorize the Clerk/Treasurer to remit the contracted funds to them in the amount of \$3,750.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Latremore to accept the resignation of Brennan Ordway as a full-time police officer and further allow Mr. Ordway to remain as a part-time police officer. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing President McIlroy to sign an agreement with the Village of Copenhagen to sell them water at \$4.90 per 100 cu/ft plus the personnel cost for Village employees to pump the water into the tankers. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to hire Kylee Pominville effective September 28, 2016 as a part-time temporary Front Desk Clerk to call as needed while the Clerk's Office works to implement the new municipal software at \$9.00 per hour. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Latremore authorizing the DPW Superintendent and one employee to attend the 2016 Public Works Training School in Geneva, NY from October 16 - October 19, 2016 at a cost not to exceed \$1,900.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to attend the North Country Clerk/Treasurer Association meeting on October 13, 2016 in Lowville, NY to include reimbursement of luncheon and mileage expenses not to exceed \$50.00. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **PRESIDENT MCILROY UPDATE:**

President McIlroy stated there will be a CIDC budget meeting on October 11, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. and a Twin Villages Christmas meeting on October 12, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.

#### **LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:**

Trustee Latremore commended the Clerk's Office for the newsletter which was included with the quarterly water/sewer bill. Trustee Latremore had three suggestions for the Board to consider during next year's budget: 1) Add a mailing fee for bills to be mailed to tenants; 2) Give minimum water users a \$5.00 credit if they use minimum water for two consecutive quarters; 3) Apply for grant funding through the Black River Watershed as suggested by her nephew. President McIlroy stated he was aware of the grant funding.

#### **MEDIA QUESTIONS:**

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

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Latremore to enter Executive Session at 6:22 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining for the Police Department and a potential litigation. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to resume Regular Session at 6:38 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to adjourn at 6:38 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy O'Shaughnessy  
Village Clerk/Treasurer