

Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building
September 17, 2012

ATTENDANCE:

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

Others: Elaine Avallon, Johnson Newspapers; Reginald Huber, Village Police Chief; Mark Gebo, Village Attorney; Matthew Burr; Donald Foster and twenty-six Participation in Government students.

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 September 4, 2012 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr. Burr from the Carthage Area Rescue Squad (CARS) requested use of the parking lot at the Village Park to conduct a Zone Five driving course training on Saturday, September 22, 2012 from 1:00 p.m. till 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to allow the CARS to use the parking area at the Village Park to conduct the above said training providing the CARS coordinates with Chief Huber and Daniel Trembley, DPW Superintendent; provide a certificate of liability insurance; and rope off the parking area where the driving course will be conducted. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Proof of notice having been furnished regarding the public hearing to consider the adoption of a local law to allow an exemption from real property taxes for certain veterans pursuant to Section 458 of the Real Property Tax Law was called to order at 7:10 p.m. President McIlroy asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak on the law and Mr. Foster stated that he did not feel the board should approve this exemption because it pertains to only a few residents who were veterans of World War II. Mr. Foster, who is a veteran, further expressed that the Village should not open the exemption to all veterans because it would be costly to the Village. President McIlroy explained that the exemption is currently in place and the local law is necessary or else the remaining few residents who have the exemption would lose it.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to adopt Local Law #5 of 2012 as presented. Motion carried with Deputy President Astafan and Trustee Smith-Spencer abstaining.

CORRESPONDENCE:

President McIlroy read the memo received from Jeff Wood and Jill Pippin of the Jefferson County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee (CEDS) inviting the board to attend the presentation of the 2012 CEDS update on Friday, September 21, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at Jefferson Community College.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve the request for the 2012 Crop Walk on Sunday, October 21, 2012 from 2:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m. to walk from the Church

of the Nazarene on State Street, to McDonalds on Bridge Street in West Carthage, possibly throughout the village of Carthage and then back to the church. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to allow Makalla Bushey and Zachery Pimentle to host their wedding ceremony at Long Falls Park on Saturday, October 27, 2012 from 1:45 p.m. till 2:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy read the thank you letter from Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County, Inc. (CAPC) for the Summer Recreation program's participation in the Summer Food Service Program which was provided to 19 different sites. CAPC provided to our Summer Recreation program 2,152 lunches out of a total of 12,375 and 2,238 snacks out of a total of 6,758.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to allow the Carthage Central High School to conduct their Homecoming Parade on Monday, September 24, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. to begin on North Jefferson Street; turn left onto Bridge Street; proceed across the bridge onto State Street; turn left onto North James Street and end at the Carthage Elks Club. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy read the letter received from Raymond and Mary Connolly requesting the flood map be revised as their property on 323 South Clinton Street is considered to be in a flood zone. No action was taken therefore President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this matter until the October 1, 2012 regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

At the June 4, 2012 meeting, the board reviewed insurance proposals received by Haylor, Fryor and Coon, Inc. and Fuller Insurance Agency, Inc. and requested Michael Gillette attend the June 18, 2012 regular meeting.

Update 6-18-12: Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to accept Fuller Insurance Agency, Inc. proposal and continue to work with Mr. Gillette to insure the Village has the appropriate coverage. Mr. Gillette will provide an update to the board at the July 16, 2012 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Update 7-16-12: Mr. Gillette continues to review the Joint Waste Water Insurance policy to ensure the Village is adequately covered.

Update 8-20-12: The Village received a refund check from Fuller Insurance Agency, Inc. in the amount of \$5,136.00 citing the Village Water operations are covered by the Joint Water Policy with the Village of West Carthage. Mr. Gillette explained that the contracts with the Village of West Carthage for the Water System do not delineate where coverage begins and ends therefore it is Glatfelter insurance company's opinion that the Village of Carthage is covered by the Joint Water Policy. President McIlroy asked Mr. Gillette to work with Attorney Gebo to ensure the Village is covered. Attorney Gebo advised the Clerk/Treasurer not to cash the check.

Update 9-4-12: President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the September 17, 2012 meeting when Attorney Gebo will be present.

Updated 9-17-12: Attorney Gebo advised the Clerk/Treasurer to return the refund check from Fuller Insurance Agency, Inc. in the amount of \$5,136.00 to insure the Village has adequate insurance coverage. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to contact Mr. Gillette and request his attendance at the October 15, 2012 meeting and to forward applicable documents to Attorney Gebo prior to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve CDBG Draw #5 in the amount of \$5,687.00 to be paid to Painting, Etc. and Jason & Amber Lacey. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to approve HOME Draw #11 in the amount of \$5,023.00 to be paid to Painting, Etc. and Jason & Amber Lacey. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to renew the annual agreement for youth services with the Carthage YMCA in the amount of \$3,750.00. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy read the letter received by John McHugh, Community Development Director, notifying him of various boards he has been requested to serve on. The board wished to meet with Mr. McHugh to discuss this issue. No action was taken therefore President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the next meeting.

The Police Report was reviewed and there were no questions.

The CEO Report was reviewed and there were no questions.

The Treasurers Report was reviewed and there were no questions. The General Fund cash balance is \$1,649,239.65 with Reserves of \$171,158.80; Water Fund cash balance is \$263,100.59 with Reserves of \$109,639.72 and the Sewer Fund cash balance is \$38,798.51 with Reserves of \$52,538.46 the Joint Fund cash balance is \$230,961.97 with Reserves of \$387,538.05.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to approve payment of payrolls and bills as follows: General Fund P/R 09/06/12, and 09/13/12 \$23,695.42; Water Fund, P/R 09/06/12, and 09/13/12 \$4,247.69; Sewer Fund, P/R 09/06/12, and 09/13/12 \$3,854.99; Joint Fund P/R 09/05/12 \$10,853.62. General Fund Abstracts, \$517,527.57; Water Fund Abstracts, \$37,058.66; Sewer Fund Abstracts, \$7,257.86; and Joint Fund Abstracts, \$5,329.21. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT McILROY UPDATE:

President McIlroy continues to work with Ernie Prieto, Water Superintendent, on possibly obtaining a GIS/GPS system for the Village water and sewer lines. The blacktopping and milling was completed with the Town of Clayton and the Town of Wilna's assistance. There is a Tug Hill Commissioners meeting at the Town of Wilna office on Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. There is a Joint Water and Joint Sewer meeting at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building on Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at 4:15 p.m. There is an Evidentiary Hearing at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building on Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. A RACOG meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 25, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Champion office.

LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Trustee Smith-Spencer stated that Robert Ball, CEO produced different reports and asked the Clerk/Treasurer to email them to the board for their consideration.

ATTORNEY GEBO UPDATE:

The Environmental Facilities Corporation sent documents offering a lower interest rate for the Village's sewer long-term debt. The estimated savings could range between three and fifteen percent.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to sign the applicable documents to apply for the interest rate savings.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

Ms. Avalone asked the amount of the outstanding debt which totals \$483,000.00.

Chief Huber asked Attorney Gebo if he had reviewed the policies he presented at the last meeting. Attorney Gebo asked the Clerk/Treasurer to forward the policies to him and he would forward his comments to Chief Huber.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to enter Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss current litigation and invite Attorney Gebo and Chief Huber to attend. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular session resumed at 8:12 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy L. O'Shaughnessy
Village Clerk/Treasurer