

Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building
August 20, 2012

ATTENDANCE:

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

Others: Mark Gebo, Village Attorney; Michael Gillette, Fuller Insurance Agency Inc.; Elaine Avallon, Johnson Newspapers; Reginald Huber, Village Police Chief; Robert Ball, CEO; Kathy Amyot, Tug Hill Commissions; Daniel Nevills and Mary McMahon.

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 July 16, 2012 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Ms. Amyot stated that the EPA and a representative of E&E, Inc. met with individual community members regarding the study they are conducting on the Black River below the State Dam for PCB's contamination. Ms. Amyot is looking into the Village of Carthage joining the initiative for the asset management JIMI project which is coming to a close in March 2012.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to permit Cub Scout pack 39 to use the Carthage Recreation building to hold various Scouting events and meetings on Monday and Thursday evenings, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., from September 10, 2012 through May 30, 2013 and additionally to use the building on Saturday, March 23, 2013 for the annual Pinewood Derby and further waive the rental fee providing they remain flexible if the building is requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to permit Carthage Area Hospital to host a "Think Pink 2-Mile Fun Run/Walk" on Saturday, October 13, 2012 to begin at the Carthage Park - North Washington Street - Edwards Street - Sherman Street - Boyd Street - Parham Street - Adelaide Street - Alexandria Street - North James Street - Fulton Street to finish at the Carthage Park and further to allow the use of the Recreation Building and waive the rental fee. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to reduce the sewer portion of the Water/Sewer bill in the amount of \$169.59 due to a water leak at 302 North James Street. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to reduce the sewer portion of the Water/Sewer bill in the amount of \$566.54 due to a commode running undetected and further waive the late payment fee of \$123.75 for 439 North Washington Street. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy read the letter received by Todd LePine, Village of Malone Mayor seeking support of a bill introduced by Congressman Owens titled "Common Sense Waiver Act of 2011". The board did not act on this issue.

President McIlroy read the appreciation letter received from the Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce for supporting the Sounds of Summer Concert Series which contained a hand written note thanking the DPW for their help.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to reduce the Water/Sewer bill in the amount of \$71.92 due to a final bill which was requested by the previous owners after the new property owner took possession of the premises for 444 Sherman Street. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to formally approve the request received by Lori Borland to consume alcohol at the Recreation Building on August 11, 2012 providing they do not use glass containers. Motion carried unanimously. The board members and Chief Huber were polled via email and the majority approved this request on August 6, 2012.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to formally approve Jennie Busch to hold the 2012 Elm Street Block Party on August 11, 2012 from 2:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. and have the DPW provide barricades to close of the street. Motion carried unanimously. The board members and Chief Huber were polled via email and the majority approved this request on August 8, 2012.

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.

At the July 16, 2012 meeting, Attorney Gebo explained the draft of the Veteran's Exemption to be included in the Village of Carthage Code Book and stated he would follow up with more information via email. The Board requested the Clerk/Treasurer to contact CEO Robert Ball to obtain the cost of implementing the proposed Veteran's Exemption.

Update 8-20-12: CEO Ball explained the current Veteran's Exemption and stated there should be no additional financial burden on tax payers if the Village enacts the exemption. CEO Ball further explained if the Village did not take action, the residents who currently have the exemption would lose it the following tax year.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to hold a public hearing on September 17, 2012 at 7:10 p.m. to consider the Veteran's Exemption to be inducted into the Village Code Book. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy received a complaint regarding 204-206 Washington Street stating there are rodents and raw garbage and the owner is out of town. Chief Huber stated he would follow up on the complaint.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to approve CDBG Draw #3 in the amount of \$1,125.00 to be paid to Lead Safe, LLC and \$1,556.35 to be paid to Avalon Associates, Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve HOME Draw #10 in the amount of \$8,827.00 to be paid to Kenneth Jenkins and Painting Etc.; \$60.00 to be paid to Hrabchak, Gebo, and Langone; and \$2,000.00 to be paid to Avalone Associates, Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to attend the annual NYCOM Fall Training in Lake Placid, September 10 – 13, 2012 and pay applicable travel and training expenses. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore authorizing the Village Justice to attend the NYS Magistrates Association annual meeting in Syracuse, September 9 – 12, 2012 and pay applicable travel and training expenses. Motion carried with Trustee Vary abstaining.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer authorizing President McIlroy to sign the agreement with the Carthage Free Library in the amount of \$6,000.00 for library services from August 1, 2012 – July 31, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to authorize Chief Huber to obtain a Village credit card for business use. Motion carried unanimously.

The Police Report was reviewed and the board expressed their appreciation for the detailed format.

The CEO Report was reviewed and the board expressed their appreciation for the detailed format.

The Treasurers Report was reviewed and there were no questions. The General Fund cash balance is \$1,742,548.29 with Reserves of \$171,158.80; Water Fund cash balance is \$279,023.68 with Reserves of \$109,639.72 and the Sewer Fund cash balance is \$150,035.89 with Reserves of \$52,538.46 the Joint Fund cash balance is \$18,910.92 with Reserves of \$387,538.05.

Deputy President Astafan and Trustee Smith-Spencer reviewed the monthly bills prior to the meeting and no concerns were noted.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve payment of payrolls and bills as follows: General Fund P/R 07/19/12, 07/26/12, 08/01/12, 08/02/12, 08/09/12, and 08/16/12 \$102,459.11; Water Fund, P/R 07/19/12, 07/26/12, 08/01/12, 08/02/12, 08/09/12 and 08/16/12 \$8,328.99; Sewer Fund, P/R 07/19/12, 07/26/12, 08/01/12, 08/02/12, 08/09/12 and 08/16/12 \$3,914.36; Joint Fund P/R 07/25/12, 08/01/12, and 08/08/12 \$19,660.46. General Fund Abstracts, \$107,466.85; Water Fund Abstracts, \$7,801.64; Sewer Fund Abstracts, \$3,958.73; and Joint Fund Abstracts, \$143,680.98. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT McILROY UPDATE:

President McIlroy reminded the board the next meeting will be Tuesday, September 4, 2012 due to the Labor Day holiday on Monday.

ATTORNEY GEBO UPDATE:

Attorney Gebo stated the deed to the Village Green is signed and recorded with Jefferson County. He is taking care of renewing the DPW bond which is due to be renewed in September 2012. Attorney Gebo still continues to work with the Branch Manager at the First Niagara Bank regarding their parking lot agreement. Attorney expressed that he is pleased that the Village is utilizing the iPads for Village business and is encouraging other communities to do the same.

LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Trustee Latremore thanked CEO Ball for his quick response regarding the complaint received for 204-206 North Washington Street.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy L. O'Shaughnessy
Village Clerk/Treasurer