

Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees  
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building  
March 5, 2012

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**Guests:** Kathy Amyot, NYS Tug Hill Commission; Elaine Avallone, Johnson Newspapers; One Participation in Government Student; and one guest.

**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 Deputy President Astafan to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2012 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2012 special meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to close off West Street from the corner of South Mechanic Street to the corner of South School Street and to allow the St. James Church to put up banners at the entrance to the Village Park and at the foot of the bridge near the Gazebo for the annual St. James Fair on June 21-23, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve Jessica Street's request to have her wedding ceremony down by the river on Riverside Drive on July 14, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. providing she confirms with the Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce to ensure it doesn't conflict with a previously scheduled event and the request does not include use of the Farmer's Market Pavilion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jefferson County Emergency Medical Services Program invited the Village Board to participate in a presentation of the Emergency Medical Services Cooperative opportunity that will be made available to all agencies in the coming year on Wednesday, March 7, 2012 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Town of LeRay Board Meeting Room. Deputy President Astafan plans to attend.

Judge Shettleton received a JCAP Grant in the amount of \$4,793.44 to purchase security lights and cameras for the Municipal Building. The board commended her efforts in obtaining grant funding.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The board addressed the draft of the local law regarding dogs in public areas tailored by Attorney Gebo using the example from the City of Watertown. Attorney Gebo provided a copy of the local law enacted by the City of Watertown on January 17, 2012. Attorney Gebo further amended the draft of the local

law under Section A. for the boards review. After review of the latest draft, President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to set a public hearing on March 19, 2012 at 7:10 p.m. to consider the local law.

Carthage Coordinated Development Group, LLC is in the process of having their attorney develop the paperwork necessary for the Village to acquire the Village Green to include the maintenance of the property. Attorney Gebo spoke with Tim Farley who is finalizing the paperwork to complete the transfer of property. No action was taken therefore the board requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue over until the March 19, 2012 regular board meeting.

National Grid submitted an easement request for line relocation near Cemetery Street for safety purposes. Mark Gebo, Village Attorney; Michael Astafan, Village Deputy President; and John McHugh, Community Development Coordinator met with National Grid on February 15, 2012 to discuss the easement request. The group asked National Grid to explore other options for the guy wires and will have a report for the March 5, 2012 meeting. The board did not receive the report so no action was taken therefore the board requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue over until the March 19, 2012 regular board meeting.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing Michael Astafan, Linda Smith-Spencer, Kathleen Latremore, Kristy O'Shaughnessy, and Wendy Oliver to attend the 23<sup>rd</sup> Local Government Conference on March 29, 2012 at Jefferson Community College which is sponsored by NYS Tug Hill Commission for a total cost of \$250.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Nathalie Zecher submitted a request for consideration of the Disability Tax Exemption for Real Property of Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes from Nathalie Zecher. Attorney Gebo advised that Robert Ball, Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) is currently looking into this exemption to provide the board with more information prior to making a decision. The board did not receive the necessary information from the CEO therefore they requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue over until the March 19, 2012 regular board meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to approve HOME Consortium Draw #3 payment to Victor LeRoux and Angus Construction in the amount of \$4,140.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to approve HOME Consortium Draw #3 payment to Avalon Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$4,346.40. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve HOME Consortium Draw #4 payment to Kenneth Jenkins and Painting Etc. in the amount of \$8,208.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve HOME Consortium Draw #4 payment to Lead Safe, LLC in the amount of \$500.00. Motion carried unanimously.

The Code Enforcement Officers Report was reviewed and there were no questions.

The Treasurers Report was reviewed and there were no questions. The General Fund cash balance is \$870,128.55 with Reserves of \$149,917.14; Water Fund cash balance is \$148,905.30 with Reserves of \$46,798.71 and the Sewer Fund cash balance is \$55,238.06 with Reserves of \$30,459.74 the Joint Fund cash balance is \$75,645.47 with Reserves of \$388,055.46.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to approve payment of payrolls and bills as follows: General Fund P/R 02/23/12 and 03/01/12 \$28,171.90; Water Fund, P/R 02/23/12

and 03/01/12 \$4,249.20; Sewer Fund, P/R 02/23/12 and 03/01/12 \$5,141.38; Joint Fund P/R 03/01/12 \$430.60 and General Fund Abstracts, \$79,238.91; Water Fund Abstracts, \$0; Sewer Fund Abstracts, \$58,995.25; and Joint Fund Abstracts, \$0. Motion carried unanimously.

**PRESIDENT McILROY UPDATE:**

President McIlroy stated there will be a Planning Board Meeting on March 20, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

**LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:**

Deputy President Astafan stated that Daniel Trembley, DPW Superintendent provided him with an update regarding fixing the men's bathroom at the Recreation Building to make it handicap accessible. Mr. Trembley estimates the renovation will cost approximately \$2,350.00. Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Latremore to authorize the DPW to repair the men's room at the Recreation Building to comply with Americans Disabilities Act in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00 and further to authorize the Clerk/Treasurer to transfer the funds from Utilities A7140.0441 to Building Maintenance A.7140.0442. Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy President Astafan spoke with Todd Cummings, Supervising Dog Control Office of Jefferson County regarding dog control. Mr. Cummings stated the Village of Carthage does not contract with Jefferson County for dog control services; only the Town of Wilna. Trustee Latremore questioned if the fee paid by the Town of Wilna was exempt from Village tax payers as they do not receive the service. Deputy President Astafan requested a copy of the dog control services contract the Town of Wilna has with Jefferson County from the Town Supervisor, Paul Smith which does not include enforcing a leash law. Deputy President Astafan will review the agreement the Town of Wilna has with Jefferson Country regarding dog control and report back to the board.

Deputy President Astafan provided an update regarding the potential restructuring of the police department. According to Jefferson County Human Resources (JCHR), we are not mandated to have a police chief therefore the Village could implement a position such as an officer in charge. Deputy President Astafan consulted with Attorney Gebo who advised to speak with the Union prior to implementing a new position. President McIlroy stated that he is forming a committee for the police department which will consist of Deputy President Astafan, Trustee Smith-Spencer and himself.

**MEDIA QUESTIONS:**

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to enter Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. to discuss one personnel issue.

Regular Session resumed at 8:05 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Latremore to adjourn at 8:06 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy L. O'Shaughnessy  
Village Clerk/Treasurer