

Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees  
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building  
March 16, 2015

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**Others:** Mark Gebo, Village Attorney; Kathy Amyot, Tug Hill Commissions; Elaine Avallone, Johnson Newspapers; and four Participation in Government students.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President McIlroy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., requested a moment of silence due to the passing of Albert Pike, former Trustee, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**BUDGET WORKSHOPS:**

March 11, 2015                      4:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.                      Including Department Managers

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2015 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Ms. Amyot stated there is a Jefferson County Stormwater meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at the Village of Black River. Ms. Amyot reminded the Board of the upcoming RACOG meeting scheduled for March 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. and the Joint ZBA agreement to be signed to include the Village of West Carthage. Ms. Amyot expressed she spoke with the Clerk/Treasurer prior to the meeting and she stated the agreement had not been received. Attorney Gebo stated he drafted the agreement and he is comfortable with the Board approving it.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing President McIlroy to sign the Joint Zoning Board of Appeals agreement with the Towns of Wilna and Champion; Village of West Carthage; and River Area Council of Governments commencing April 1, 2015 - December 31, 2019 with an automatic five year extension. Motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

President McIlroy read the correspondence received from the Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce requesting to place a wall mount mailbox outside their office door. After considerable discussion, President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the April 6, 2015 meeting.

President McIlroy read the correspondence received from the NYS Department of Health notifying the Village of their 2015 monitoring requirements and stated this correspondence should be directed to the Water Superintendent.

President McIlroy read the correspondence received from the NYS Public Service Commission regarding the 315 area code being exhausted by the first calendar quarter of 2017. President McIlroy encouraged the Board to submit their comments by May 8, 2015 and requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the April 6, 2015 regular meeting.

President McIlroy read the correspondence received from Laban Haverstock requesting reimbursement for his broken glasses due to his fall on the sidewalk at 217 North Washington Street. President

McIlroy stated this claim was turned into our insurance company and we are awaiting their response therefore he requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the April 6, 2015 meeting.

President McIlroy read the correspondence received from Kathryn Santamour requesting a sewer credit due to broken water pipes at her unoccupied residence.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Deputy President Astafan, based on the recommendation of the Water Superintendent, to give Ms. Santamour a sewer credit in the amount of \$61.00 due to broken water pipes. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy read the request for projects funding received from the Carthage Area Rescue Squad (CARS) and expressed that the Towns typically provide funding to CARS. Deputy President Astafan suggested having the Community Development Coordinator to seek funding sources for them. Ms. Amyot stated FEMA typically provides funding for the types of projects listed. Ms. Amyot stated she would see if FEMA funding has been announced and will follow up with the Community Development Coordinator.

President McIlroy read the correspondence received from Jefferson County Watertown Jefferson County Area Transportation Council (WJCTC) regarding formation of a local stakeholders group and they are looking for a representative from each municipality. President McIlroy appointed Trustee Latremore to the group due to her involvement with the Wilna/Champion Transportation Association. Trustee Latremore stated she is not available during the daytime. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to inform WJCTC of the appointment of Trustee Latremore.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith Spencer to approve the request of the St. James Church to hold their annual fair from June 25-27, 2015, to include closing off through traffic on West Street from South School Street to South Mechanic Street and to post banners on both ends of the Village providing they remove the banners immediately after the event. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

At the February 17, 2015 meeting, the Board tabled the vote to override the property tax cap for fiscal year 2016 until the budget has been reviewed.

Update 3/2/15: President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue until the March 16, 2015 regular meeting.

Update 3/16/15: President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue until the April 6, 2015 regular meeting.

The Board reviewed the current water shut off register.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

There will be a Special Meeting on Monday, March 23, 2015 at 4:15 p.m. to review the Tentative Budget.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Latremore to schedule a public hearing on Monday, April 6, 2015 at 7:10 p.m. to discuss the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to transfer excess funds in the amount of \$2,895.54 from the Capital Projects Fund to the General Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Deputy President Astafan and Trustee Smith-Spencer reviewed the monthly bills and bank statements including reconciliations prior to the meeting and Deputy President Astafan stated everything looks to be in order. The documents were also available at the meeting.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith Spencer to approve payment of payrolls and bills as follows: General Fund P/R 02/19/15, 02/26/15, 03/02/15, 03/05/15, and 03/12/15 \$70,057.77; Special Grant Fund P/R 02/19/15 and 03/05/15 \$198.74; Water Fund P/R 02/19/15, 02/26/15, 03/05/15, and 03/12/15 \$11,293.58; Sewer Fund P/R 02/19/15, 02/26/15, 03/05/15, and 03/12/15 \$11,190.53; Joint Fund P/R 02/19/15 and 03/05/15 \$10,226.60. General Fund Abstracts \$140,704.36; Special Grant Fund Abstracts \$0; Water Fund Abstracts \$4,600.64; Sewer Fund Abstracts \$3,544.18; and Joint Fund Abstracts \$63,479.59. Motion carried unanimously.

**PRESIDENT MCILROY UPDATE:**

President McIlroy asked the Clerk/Treasurer if Gary Trombley paid the bill from the cleanup of 208 North Mechanic Street and she responded no.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing Attorney Gebo to seek a judgment against Mr. Trombley in the amount of \$10,953.37 Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy stated a letter will need to be sent to Betty Shampine notifying her that her appointment to the Joint ZBA has been appointed to the Village of West Carthage and thanking her for her service. Ms. Amyot stated she would draft the letter and forward it to the Clerk/Treasurer.

President McIlroy stated there will be a RACOG meeting on March 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.; a Joint Utility meeting on March 18, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Village of West Carthage; encouraged the community and Board members to attend the rally for Fort Drum at Jefferson Community College on March 20, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.; Budget Workshop meeting on March 23, 2015 at 4:15 p.m.; CIDC meeting March 25, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.; and the Tug Hill Conference on March 26, 2015.

**ATTORNEY GEBO UPDATE:**

Attorney Gebo stated the Association of Town Supervisors is moving ahead with negotiations with Jefferson County regarding dog control. Attorney Gebo requested an Executive Session to discuss Collective Bargaining and a potential litigation.

**LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:**

Deputy President Astafan requested an Executive Session to discuss a possible candidate for DPW Superintendent when Daniel Trembley retires. Trustee Vary stated the Water Department has been doing a great job as they have had multiple issues. Trustee Latremore stated all of the Departments have been doing a great job due to multiple issues attributed to the weather. Trustee Latremore suggested more no U-Turn signs should be placed throughout the Village as she has witnessed multiple

near accidents due to people doing U-Turns throughout the Village. President McIlroy stated he will talk to the Police Chief and ask that they follow up on this issue.

**MEDIA QUESTIONS:**

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to enter Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss a Collective Bargaining issue regarding the DPW Teamsters Union contract; a potential litigation; and the employment history of a particular DPW employee. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Latremore to resume Regular Session at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing President McIlroy to sign the DPW Teamsters Union contract effective April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2019 pending council approval of the final version of the contract. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy O'Shaughnessy  
Village Clerk/Treasurer