

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

ATTENDANCE:

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

Others: Jon Peck, Kathy Amyot, Tug Hill Commissions; and Elaine Avallone, Johnson Newspapers.

CALL TO ORDER:

Deputy President Astafan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and requested a moment of silence for President McIlroy due to the passing away of his wife, 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 October 19, 2015 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The November 2, 2015 regular meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Ms. Amyot stated the Tug Hill Commission is still in the process of hiring a new director.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to pay the Carthage Lions Club and Carthage Elks Lodge \$100.00 to assist with providing the community a free Thanksgiving Feast on Thursday, November 26, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

The Carthage Area Rescue Squad, Inc. submitted a request for a donation. Attorney Gebo reminded the Board they are not allowed to donate to organizations; only pay for services. Deputy President Astafan stated the Board can look into a request for services for the Carthage Area Rescue Squad during next year's budget.

Deputy President Astafan read the thank you card received from Anna Mae Wood, United Community Church, commending the Ed and the DPW crew. Deputy President Astafan stated it is nice to have others acknowledge the good job our DPW does for our community.

Deputy President Astafan read the invitation to the Open House/House Dedication for the Williams Family on Saturday, November 21, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at 4 Braman Lane, Carthage.

Deputy President Astafan read the thank you letter received from the Thousand Islands Area Habitat for Humanity for the Villages support and encouragement of their mission to help more Carthage families attain decent affordable homes.

OLD BUSINESS:

At the October 19, 2015 meeting, the Board adopted a local law to establish fees to cover administrative expenses involved in turning on and turning off water and in handling delinquent accounts as well as special readings on water meters. The Clerk/Treasurer requested to hold over establishing the fees until the next regular meeting on November 2, 2015.

Update 11/16/15: Deputy President Astafan has information regarding testing sprinkler systems of which he would like to discuss with the Water Superintendent. Deputy President Astafan requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the December 7, 2015 regular meeting.

At the October 19, 2015 meeting, President McIlroy asked Attorney Gebo if Timothy Steiner, Laborer could be designated as Acting Water Superintendent without a water license and Attorney Gebo stated Mr. Steiner is not qualified for the position without the license. After considerable discussion President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold designating an Acting Water Superintendent over until the November 2, 2015 meeting.

Update 11/16/15: Trustee Smith-Spencer thought Mr. Prievo, Water Superintendent was going to attend the meeting as she wished to discuss the Acting Water Superintendent with him. Deputy President Astafan requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the December 7, 2015 regular meeting.

At the November 16, 2015 meeting,

At the October 19, 2015 meeting, the Board tabled the Chief working additional shifts and receiving additional compensation until further documentation was received from Attorney Gebo. Deputy President Astafan asked the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the December 7, 2015 regular meeting and further to calculate the difference between the additional compensation the Chief is requesting and the compensation received by a part-time officer.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve CDBG Draw #10 payable to Eric Lawton and Painting Etc Inc \$13,941.00; Hrabchak & Gebo \$120.00; and Avalon Associates \$800.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve CDBG Draw #11 payable to Lori Spear and Panting Etc Inc \$15,345.00; Jaramie Palladino and P&M Construction \$13,290.00; and Avalon Associates \$5,200.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer authorizing President McIlroy to sign to extend the fixed lump sum snow and ice agreement with NYSDOT in the amount of \$54,675.39. Trustee Latremore asked if the amount increased from last year and the Clerk/Treasurer responded no. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer authorizing President McIlroy to sign the NYS Teamsters Council Health and Hospital Fund monthly participation agreements for Police and Village of Carthage DPW non-bargaining. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing the Tax Collector to return unpaid taxes to Jefferson County in the base amount of \$52,956.67; penalty amount \$4,236.51; for a total of \$57,193.18. Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy President Astafan read the memo received from Chief Huber requesting part-time officers be paid time and a half if they work on holidays. Deputy President Astafan requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the December 7, 2015 regular meeting.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to set a public hearing on December 21, 2015 at 7:10 p.m. to discuss implementing a Fund Balance policy. Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy President Astafan accepted the resignation of Patricia Bush from the Planning Board and encouraged Trustees to forward names to President McIlroy of persons interested in serving on the Planning Board.

The Board reviewed the water shut off list as of November 3, 2015.

Deputy President Astafan requested Attorney Gebo to issue a request from the NYS Teamsters Union regarding the Police contract which expires May 31, 2016.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing the Clerk's office to close on Friday, November 27, 2015 and for employees to use vacation or personal time to account for the day. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to attend the quarterly North Country Clerk/Treasurer Association training in Pulaski on Friday, December 11, 2015 to include mileage reimbursement. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Trustee Smith-Spencer reviewed the monthly bills and bank statements including reconciliations prior to the meeting. The documents were also available at the meeting.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve payment of payrolls and bills as follows: General Fund \$266,361.38; Special Grant Fund \$198.74; Water Fund \$54,974.26; Sewer Fund \$90,929.35; Joint General Fund \$95,623.90; and Joint Capital Fund \$128,916.00. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT MCILROY UPDATE:

None.

Deputy President Astafan stated there is a Joint Utility meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. at the Village of West Carthage and President McIlroy and Trustee Smith-Spencer are unable to attend.

LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Trustee Latremore stated she spoke with the DPW Superintendent regarding placing pedestrian signs at the crosswalk in front of the St. James Church. Mr. Countryman stated he will check with NYSDOT.

The Clerk/Treasurer thanked Trustee Latremore for partaking in the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign during the Holiday Parade on November 21, 2015. President McIlroy was unable to participate in the event and Trustee Latremore agreed to represent the Village.

ATTORNEY GEBO UPDATE:

Attorney Gebo requested an Executive Session to discuss a legal claim.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to enter Executive Session at 7:28 p.m. to discuss a legal claim. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to resume Regular Session at 7:44 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Latremore to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy O'Shaughnessy
Village Clerk/Treasurer