

Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building
April 1, 2013

ATTENDANCE:

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

Others: Kathy Amyot, Tug Hill Commissions; Jude Astafan and Mike Fisher.

BUDGET WORKSHOPS:

March 25, 2013 @ 3:00 p.m.

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 March 18, 2013 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Jude Astafan stated he received his new property assessment in the mail which significantly increased. His property is located between South Mechanic Street and South James Street and a natural drainage ditch runs through it. He was told in the past by a previous Code Enforcement Officer that he was unable to improve the property due to the natural drainage ditch because it would cause flooding to surrounding properties. He spoke to the Town Assessor and requested his assessment be decreased due to the reasons explained above. The Town Assessor told him to get a letter from the Village stating that he is unable to improve the property and the Town Assessor will consider decreasing the assessment. President McIlroy stated he would look into it and speak with the Village Attorney and call Mr. Astafan later this week.

Mike Fisher requested an exception to the Village Code §135-20 D. No individual shall park in a manner which shall obstruct a crosswalk, a driveway or a sidewalk. Mr. Fisher expressed he does not have enough parking at his residence at 413 Budd Street. President McIlroy stated that they were unable to make an exception. The Trustees told him of area parking lots in which Mr. Fisher may be able to make an arrangement with the owners to grant him more parking.

Kathy Amyot stated that the Government Conference at Jefferson Community College was a huge success and thanked those who attended. Ms. Amyot stated RACOG will be hosting a meeting on Monday, April 8, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. at the Town of Champion for area Planning Board members to discuss ways to streamline the planning process.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to approve the request of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 789 to conduct their annual Poppy Days and distribute poppies at various businesses within the Village during the month of May, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy read the letter received from Dawn Paige requesting CDBG grant forgiveness for her mother, Edie Martin. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to forward the request to the CDBG Grant Committee for their consideration.

President McIlroy read the letter received from Linda Martin, Girl Scouts of nypenn pathways, regarding award recognition for three area Girl Scouts. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to request more information from Ms. Martin and hold until the April 15, 2013 regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

On January 7, 2012, President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to add the Water Superintendent Report regarding Village forest property.

Update 01/22/13: President McIlroy requested that the Trustees review the material and decide if they are interested in leasing the property.

Update 02/19/13: After considerable discussion regarding the potential liability to the Village of Carthage regarding leasing the Village forest property;

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to have Mr. Prievo proceed with his research of the pros and cons to leasing the Village forest property. Motion carried unanimously.

Update 03/04/13: No action was taken therefore President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this until the March 18, 2013 regular meeting.

Update 03/18/13: Deputy President Astafan showed the board members the maps of the Village forest property and requested the Clerk/Treasurer to email the directions provided by Mr. Prievo to all of the board members. No action was taken therefore President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this until the April 1, 2013 regular meeting.

Update 04/01/13: No action was taken therefore President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this until the April 15, 2013 regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve CDBG Draw #12 for the final payment for Donald Hallenbeck and Panting Etc \$7,620.00; Lead Safe, LLC \$800.00 and Avalon Associates, Inc. \$2,239.04. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve the Property Tax Cap Form for Fiscal Year 2014 which commences on June 1, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to set the public hearing date on April 15, 2013 at 7:10 p.m. for the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2014 which commences on June 1, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Latremore to adopt Resolution 6 of 2013 as follows:

**Re-Adopt
Intermunicipal Agreement
To Form the
River Area
Council of Governments**

WHEREAS, the undersigned communities of the Village of Carthage, the Village of West Carthage, the Town of Wilna and the Town of Champion believe that efficiencies and economies of scale which will benefit residents of all communities participating in this agreement can be uncovered through close communication and council with each other and;

WHEREAS, these communities believe that often, community development initiatives should be considered and reviewed on a cooperative basis toward the end of uncovering these efficiencies and economies and;

WHEREAS, these communities believe that regular meetings of representatives from participating towns and villages will encourage communication and research on opportunities that might exist for cooperative action between communities in such areas as land use planning and zoning administration, park and recreation development, staffing, highway management, and all other areas of general municipal management and;

WHEREAS, such communication can assist in setting priorities for action and in leveraging assistance from outside sources such as the Tug Hill Commission, the Development Authority of the North Country, Jefferson County, the State of New York and the federal government;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the undersigned communities do hereby form a council to be known as River Area Council of Governments herein after referred to as the council to perform activities as will be determined by the council according to agreed upon by-laws. By-laws shall include provision for fiscal responsibility prior to the council raising or spending funds and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that membership in the council will be made up of the chief elected official of each participating community and one additional member from each participating town or village to be appointed by the respective boards. It shall be the responsibility of all members to report to their respective town or village boards on council proceedings and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the council will encourage active involvement of all town and village board members from participating communities and interested citizens and will assume that open and active communication between the council and residents is a primary objective of the council and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this agreement can be amended when necessary by approval from the governing boards of all participating communities and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this agreement will take effect upon approval and signing by all interested communities.

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Deputy President Astafan, based on the recommendation of the Carthage/West Carthage Joint Utility Board, to formally authorize President McIlroy to sign the agreement with GHD, Inc. to complete the Carthage Wastewater Engineering Study Project Planning Grant #19410 which was prior approved via email poll. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve Joanne Lazore, Recreation Assistant's request to host the CAPC Summer Food Service Program "Kick Off" at the Carthage Park on June 26, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

The DPW Report stated National Grid will be installing new poles on West Street and West End Avenue. The report included estimates to fix the parking area at Turning Point Park of which the board was not in favor of due to the high cost which was not included in the upcoming budget.

The Treasurers Report was reviewed and there were no questions. The General Fund cash balance is \$1,176,460.48 with Reserves of \$164,055.50; Water Fund cash balance is \$138,937.32

with Reserves of \$172,405.62 and the Sewer Fund cash balance is \$102,956.22 with Reserves of \$74,566.55 the Joint Fund cash balance is \$165,453.86 with Reserves of \$380,933.08.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve payment of payrolls and bills as follows: General Fund P/R 03/21/13 and 03/28/13 \$28,687.08; Water Fund P/R 03/21/13 and 03/28/13 \$4,180.11; Sewer Fund P/R 03/21/13 and 03/28/13 \$4,230.32; Joint Fund P/R 03/21/13 \$8,882.23. General Fund Abstracts \$60,110.30; Water Fund Abstracts \$3,429.87; Sewer Fund Abstracts \$2,176.49; and Joint Fund Abstracts \$72,774.00. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT McILROY UPDATE:

President McIlroy stated there will be Teamsters Union negotiation meeting for the Police Department on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building.

LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Trustee Vary stated she will not be able to attend the regular meeting on April 15, 2013 and the Carthage/West Carthage Joint Utility Board meeting on April 17, 2013.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to enter Executive Session at 8:18 p.m. to discuss the financial history of two particular corporations and one collective bargaining agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary to resume Regular Session at 8:45 p.m. 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 L. O'Shaughnessy
Village Clerk/Treasurer