

Regular meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees 1  
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building  
June 20, 2011

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

Guests: Mark Gebo, Village Attorney; Kathy Amyot, Tug Hill Commission; Paul Smith, Town of Wilna Supervisor; and Reena Singh, *Carthage Republican Tribune / Watertown Daily Times* reporter.

President McIlroy called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2011 meeting as presented by the Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Kathy Amyot of the Tug Hill Commission asked the board to review the *Destination: Blueway, A Waterfront Plan* for the Villages of Carthage and West Carthage, New York and to consider formally adopting the plan. She stated that the Village of West Carthage formally adopted the Plan at their last meeting. The Plan can be viewed by accessing a link on the Village of West Carthage website at [villageofwestcarthage.org](http://villageofwestcarthage.org). Ms. Amyot was contacted by Juanita Weller from the Jefferson County Cornell Cooperative Extension regarding her interest in obtaining funds to provide signage for our park trails to encourage physical activity. President McIlroy expressed the funds would be better spent improving sections of the Blue Trail which are excessively wet because he feels the trails are well marked. Ms. Amyot will relay the message to Ms. Weller when she meets with her this week.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Open House registration for the Carthage Recreation Summer program is Wednesday, June 22 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Carthage Park. The Summer Recreation program begins Monday, June 27 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and runs for eight weeks.

The Carthage Free Library is having an Open House June 21 at 4:00 p.m. at the Carthage Free Library, 412 Budd Street.

The Twin Village Swimming Pool is opening Tuesday, July 5. Pool Hours are Monday through Friday 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., closed 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for dinner; Saturday 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., closed 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. for dinner; and Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Chief Rockhill submitted a report that one of his patrolmen was in a motor vehicle accident while responding to provide back-up assistance to another Law Enforcement Agency. The patrolman's lights were flashing and his siren sounding therefore, he was not at fault. The estimate of repairs totaled \$1,131.50.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Sigrid DeRosia submitted a request for signage to be placed on Budd Street for cars to slow down due to children playing. Motion by Michael Astafan, and seconded by Rebecca Vary to have the Village Police distribute pamphlets to area homes regarding the safety of the children due to increased traffic in the area. Motion carried 4 to 1 with President McIlroy opposed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Michael Astafan to approve the payment to DLO Contracting in the amount of \$14,432.00 for the 2009 CDBG home preservation program.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to approve the Treasurers Report as presented General fund is \$662,944.43 with Reserves of \$140,878.38. Water Fund cash balance is \$117,067.45 with Reserves of \$46,716.19 and the Sewer Fund cash balance is \$853.55 with Reserves of \$30,405.45. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Linda Smith-Spencer and Seconded by Michael Astafan to approve payment of payrolls and bills after they are reviewed with Clerk/Treasurer as follows: General Fund P/R #A 2, \$11,062.48; Water Fund, #F 2, \$2,413.35; Sewer Fund, #G 2 \$1,470.90; Joint Fund, #J1B, and 2, \$9,697.37 and General Fund Abstracts, \$34,304.91; Water Fund Abstracts, \$1,240.21; Sewer Fund Abstracts, \$1,057.21; and Joint Fund Abstracts, \$40,160.52. Motion carried unanimously.

**VILLAGE ATTORNEY GEBO UPDATE:**

Attorney Gebo sent the contract regarding the parking lot agreement to HSBC twice and has had no response from them. He will continue his efforts.

Attorney Gebo discussed correspondence received from Jefferson County Industrial Development Agency (JCIDA) regarding an omission relating to a lease and PILOT agreement between JCIDA and the Mohawk, Adirondack and Northern Railroad Corporation (Railroad) which expired in December of 2006. The agreement states the Railroad will provide quarterly financial within 30 days from the end of each quarter. The board was unclear which railroad properties this agreement applies to therefore, Kathleen Latremore is seeking clarification. Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to table the discussion until the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Mark Gebo stated he would need an executive session to discuss collective bargaining with the DPW/Teamsters and two personnel issues.

**PRESIDENT MCILROY'S UPDATE:**

President McIlroy reported he is waiting to receive information from Justice Shettleton regarding the replacement of Acting Justice. Attorney Gebo stated we are required to have a second Justice and the candidate needs to be qualified but not necessarily a Village resident. President McIlroy asked the clerk to contact Justice Shettleton for suggestions for an Acting Justice; possibly from another county. President McIlroy stated he has some concerns regarding the river banks on Guyots Island. He feels large boulders would correct the erosion issue and we should actively seek grant funding to repair it before it gets worse. President McIlroy stated the DPW did a great job fixing the damage at Turning Stone Park which was caused by vandals. President McIlroy is awaiting a call back from Kenneth Blankenbush regarding the possibility of funds to clear debris which is blocking water outlets at the state dam. Finally, President McIlroy stated there is a RACOG meeting Tuesday, June 21 at 7:00 p.m. and a CIDC meeting Wednesday, June 22 at 4:15.

Motion by Rebecca Vary and Seconded by Michael Astafan to change the signs in front of the clerk's office from "Village Clerk's Employee Parking" to "Village Officials Parking". Motion carried unanimously.

**LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:**

Deputy President Astafan stated that there were no issues stated during the floor drain dye test at the DPW and the floor drain appears to be draining properly, but we are awaiting a written report.

**MEDIA QUESTIONS:**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

President McIlroy requested Paul Smith, Town of Wilna Supervisor to be present during Executive Session. Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to enter Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining with the DPW/Teamsters and two personnel issues.

Regular session resumed at 9:27 p.m.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to create a Special Projects Consultant position for a maximum of six months, without exceeding \$15,000, and to appoint Sherry L. Sears to the position effective July 16. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore for President McIlroy to sign the DPW Teamsters contract after it has been reviewed by Attorney Gebo. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion carried to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy L. O'Shaughnessy  
Village Clerk