

1 Regular meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees  
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building  
February 15, 2010

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

Guests: Village property owner, Tina O'Neill; and Four Participation in Government Students

President McIlroy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with a moment of silence in memory of a past Village employee and dedicated fireman, Richard Gaebel.

Motion by Rebecca Vary, and Seconded by Michael Astafan to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2010 meeting as presented by the Clerk with the following correction: the RACOG meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> was for RACOG Recreation. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to approve Carthage Little Leagues request to use the athletic fields at their requested time from May 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30, 2010 with the Clerk obtaining more information on the potential liability issue of the Little League's second request of allowing a volunteer to use the Village's equipment to prepare the fields before the baseball games. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Proof of notice having been provided, the public hearing to amend Chapter 135, Section 135-58 and Section 135-60 of the Village Code, which would change the "no parking" sign in front of the HSBC building and change the two designated parking spots from fifteen minute parking to one hour parking in front of Instant Imprints, was called to order at 7:10P.M.

President McIlroy explained both parking amendments to the law and opened the hearing to the public for comment. No one wished to address the Board regarding the parking amendments.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the public hearing was closed at 7:12P.M.

Trustee Astafan explained to the board that the DPW Superintendant recommended that the parking spot in front of HSBC remain as a "no parking", due to the difficulty of the Village plows trying to round the corner and the armored vehicles that currently park in that spot to pickup or drop off currency to HSBC bank.

The amendment to change Section 135-58, Schedule XI of the Village Code that would allow parking in front of the HSBC building was denied.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to adopt the amendment to Section 135-60 that would change the designation of two fifteen minutes parking spaces to two one hour spaces from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, which is currently in front of Instant Imprints. Motion carried unanimously.

Proof of notice having been furnished the first Public Hearing on the Village of Carthage and West Carthage, small cities Community Block Development Grant Program was called to order at 7:15P.M. by President McIlroy.

President McIlroy explained the CDBG program. The Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) provides fund to municipalities that can be used in three categories: housing rehabilitation or homeownership; public facilities (infrastructure improvements or service related projects) and Economic Development (creation/retention of jobs or micro enterprise). The grants are awarded on an annual basis, except for Economic Development where applications can be submitted at any time. A single municipality can apply for \$400,000 - \$600,000 depending on the activity and up to \$750,000 for Economic Development projects. Municipalities can also submit joint applications for public infrastructure (water/sewer only) for up to \$900,000. Projects must: benefit low and moderate income families; prevent or eliminate slums or blight; or meet other urgent community development needs. To meet the first criteria, at least 51% of the persons benefiting must be low and moderate-income persons according to the HUD income limits. These limits adjust based on household size. This is the primary objective of the Community Development Block Grant Program. At least 70% of the grant funds must be allocated to activities that meet the primary objective of benefit to low and moderate-income persons.

President McIlroy also explained the state process for applying for these funds requires that it must be a unit of local government in New York in compliance with all HUD regulations. Two public hearings must also be held. The first hearing today is to explain the program and gather citizen input on community development needs. A second hearing will be held to obtain citizen comments on the proposed activity that will be undertaken using these funds. The application, in this case, will be prepared quickly so the timeline is fairly short. The Village Board encourage everyone to give them comments by providing written comments to the Village Clerk, Village of Carthage, 120 S. Mechanic Street, Carthage, N.Y. 13619.

President McIlroy then discussed the requirements of the plan to minimize displacement. The Small Cities program encourages communities to minimize displacement of persons benefiting from the program. Depending on the activity proposed, the village would not expect displacement to be a problem. For housing activities, homeowners should not encounter displacement unless the home to be renovated contains extensive lead based paint that would require the family to be out of the home while it is being removed.

Information was made available on the possibility of submitting a \$400,000 joint application with the Village of West Carthage to continue and expand the existing local scattered site housing rehabilitation program into the Village of West Carthage. The Village of Carthage program was started with a 2008 CDBG award and was expanded to include West Carthage when the twin villages were awarded a CDBG grant in 2009.

President McIlroy explained that assistance is available to groups representing low to moderate income persons who are seeking to develop proposals by contacting the NYS Office of Community Renewal at (518) 474-2057. Interested property owners should contact the Chamber of Commerce at 493-3590 if they are interested in receiving a grant to rehabilitate their homes.

President McIlroy opened the floor for comments and suggestions.

Village property owner Tina O'Neill asked President McIlroy why the grant money is not available to property owners, when that property owner does not live in the residence, but is within the income guidelines. Tina further explained that the Chamber of Commerce secretary Edie Roggie explained that the program was based on the biggest need. President McIlroy then

explained he was not sure why the program was structured that way but would get back to here after he finds out the answer. Mrs. O'Neil then gave her phone number to President McIlroy so he could contact her after the CDBG committee meeting on Tuesday. Then Mrs. O'Neil thanked the Board for helping her in this matter.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the Public Hearing closed at 7:27 P.M.

Motions by Rebecca Vary and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to have the Village's of Carthage and West Carthage jointly apply for the CDBG grant.

#### CORRESPONDENCE CONTINUED:

Motion by Rebecca Vary and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to accept the EDCC Annual Report as presented by EDCC/CIDC member John McHugh.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Attorney Gebo informed the Board that the library project is underway and has wrote to Attorney Hasseler on information needed regarding the parking lot. Further, Attorney Gebo said he has not received any further correspondence on the property located at 358 South James Street and called their attorney in January. At that time Attorney King was waiting on a response from the homeowner at 358 South James Street regarding the proposed sanitary and storm sewer agreements.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to authorize the Clerk to sign the bond financing contract with Municipal Solutions Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Rebecca Vary Rebecca Vary to approve payment to Painting Etc. Inc. in the amount of \$6,624.00 for house repairs that qualified for the 2008 Community Block Development Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Michael Astafan to approve payment to Angus Construction Inc. in the amount of \$15,120.00 for house repairs that qualified for the 2008 Community Block Development Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Michael Astafan to authorize the clerk to transfer of funds as needed to balance accounts within the budget of the Village. The list is on file in the official minute folder of the Board of Trustees. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Linda Smith-Spencer to approve payment of payrolls as follows: General Fund P/R #A45, 46, & 47 \$32,162.73; Water Fund, #F 45, 46 & 47 \$2,782.38; Sewer Fund, #G45, 46, & 47 \$4,355.82; Joint Fund, #J18, \$8,048.00 and General Fund Abstracts, \$72,602.5; Water Fund Abstracts, \$20,846.19; Sewer Fund Abstracts, \$13,575.33; Joint Fund Abstracts, \$60,914.08. Motion carried unanimously.

#### ATTORNEY GEBO UPDATE:

Attorney Gebo reported that the annexation of the Water Filtration property on West Street Road will be discussed at the Water Pollution Control Facility meeting on Wednesday, which he would be attending. Attorney Gebo stated he would need an executive session to discuss a collective bargaining issue.

#### PRESIDENT MCILROY'S UPDATE:

President McIlroy informed the board that Trustee Michael Astafan and himself would be attending the CDBG committee meeting tomorrow at 4:00P.M. Wednesday February 17, 2010 at

4:15 p.m. will be the Joint Waste Water Treatment Facility meeting at the Carthage Municipal building. The Village's new website is <http://villageofcarthageny.com> and encouraged everyone to view the new website.

#### LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Trustee Michael Astafan suggested that members read the excellent Annual Report prepared by Department of Public Works Superintendent Danny Trembley and if there were any questions please contact him. Trustee Astafan further commended Mr. Trembley for the Annual Report being prepared excellently every year.

Trustee Kathleen Latremore stated that the RACOG recreation meeting would be at the Town of Wilna meeting hall on Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 P.M. and they are looking for parents of teen and toddler aged children to become members of the RACOG recreation committee.

#### MEDIA QUESTIONS:

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to enter into Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining issue. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular session resumed at 8:34 p.m.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

Motion carried to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

**Sherry L. Sears, Village Clerk**