

1 Regular meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building
July 20, 2009

Present: Trustees, Michael Astafan, Rebecca Vary, Kathleen Latremore,
Also, Village Attorney Mark Gebo

Excused: President G. Wayne McIlroy, Trustee Bernard Frezza

Guests: CRT and WDT Reporter, Kara Clark; Tug Hill Commission, Kathy Amyot; Village Police Chief, Reeve Rockhill and Village Recreation Assistant, Joanne Lazore, Resident Lonn Covey and Business owner Stefano Magro.

Deputy President Michael Astafan called the meeting to order at 7:00P.M with a moment of silence for the Mayor's younger brother who passed away, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Motion by Rebecca Vary and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2009 meeting as presented by the Clerk with the following two corrections: With regards to Gary Trombley he feels not fees this building is a hazard to the public and the building owned by Mr. Trombley has deteriorated not deterred and caved in. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Village resident Lonn Covey explained to the Board how his property parcel number 77.73.-1-2 on Alexandria Street is in the Village limits but feels he does not receive any Village services for the taxes he pays on that property. Mr. Covey explained that water, sewer and street lighting are currently not available on that location. Deputy President Michal Astafan said he would discuss this situation with the Mayor and to have the clerk put this on the agenda for the next board meeting.

Kathy Amyot of Tug Hill Commission informed the board that the Jefferson County Planning Board passed the Comprehensive Plan. The Jefferson County Planning board would be attending the West Carthage board meeting on July 28 at 4:00pm to discuss the West Carthage Comprehensive Plan and invited the Carthage board tot attend. Mrs. Amyot also updated the Board on the joint infrastructure management efforts that are taking place between boarding villages and towns that would share resources, such as water, sewer and highway. She later announced there would be a Shared Police Study meeting at the end of July, due to West Carthage receiving information from New York State.

Joanne Lazore, Recreation Assistant for the Village of Carthage informed the board of the high number of children who attend the recreation program. Two hundred and fifteen children have registered for the recreation program thus far. Mrs. Lazore explained that the daily attendance of children varies between a low of eighty and high of one hundred and twenty three. The children live in various areas across the county, one hundred thirteen children live in the Village Carthage, forty two registered children live in the Town of Wilna, fifty two children live in the Town of Champion, two children live in Croghan, three children live in Town of Leray, four children from the Town of Rutland, and one child from Town of Pitcairn. Mrs. Lazore explained that she felt the Carthage Recreation program was wonderful and asked the board to increase the number of summer helpers hired for the recreation program in 2010, due to the high number of children attending the recreation program this year. Board members agreed that the Carthage Recreation program is a success because of Joanne's hard work and dedication to the children and advised Joanne that her request for additional staff would be considered at budget time.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Village Justice, Lucille Shettleton first request of allowing a temporary handicap parking sign to be placed in the upper parking lot on court night was denied due to already having handicap parking in front of the Municipal building.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to approve Justice Shettleton's second request that upon agreement with the Town of Wilna, to allow the installation of the requested safety system for a cost of \$150.00 to be provided by Stat Security Systems and to have the clerk take this amount from the existing judicial budget. Motion carried unanimously

The last paragraph of Village Justice, Lucille Shettleton's letter informed the board about her need to hire an interpreter for a court case, which Deputy President Michael Astafan replied he agreed with her decision and she needed to follow the law as she did.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to approve the request of the Chamber of Commerce to have a window kit installed in the Chamber office door by a qualified contractor with all expenses to be paid by the Chamber. Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy President Michael Astafan asked the clerk to include, on the next agenda, the prescription coverage information provided by RACOG and NYCOM that might allow the Village residents to receive a discount on prescriptions. Village Attorney Mark Gebo explained that Medco Health prescription plan might provide better coverage for Village residents because Medco is the prescription plan used by most of NYS employees.

Motion by Rebecca Vary and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Stefano Magro owner of Stefano's Pizzeria and Restaurant asked the board to grant his request to serve alcoholic beverages in the fenced in area in front of his restaurant starting in 2010. Mr. Magro explained to the board that this would not only increase his business but also improve future development of the Carthage area. Deputy President Michael Astafan asked the clerk to include this on the next agenda, to be discussed when a full board is present and invited Mr. Magro to attend the next board meeting when this will be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to authorize Justice Lucille Shettleton to submit a grant application to the Justice Court Assistance Program. Deputy President Michael Astafan is hereby authorized to sign the grant application. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Rebecca Vary and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to hold a public hearing to amend Chapter 135 of the Village Code on August 17, 2009 immediately following the Comprehensive Plan public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy President Michael Astafan asked the clerk to include on the next agenda, Nationwide Payment Solutions MunicIPAY which is payment processing company that would allow credit and debit cards to be accepted as payment at the Village clerk's office. Village Attorney Mark asked the clerk to call NYCOM and see what NYCOM's opinion on MunicPAY is.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore, and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to approve payment to Avalon Associates LLC in the amount of \$1,208.51 for general administrative services performed from

May 3, 2009 to May 30, 2009 that qualified for the 2008 Community Development Block Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore, and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to approve payment to Painting Etc. in the amount of \$12,050.00 for house repairs that qualified for the 2008 community Development Block Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore, Seconded by Rebecca Vary to approve payment of payrolls and abstracts as follows: General Fund P/R #A4A, 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9 \$54,505.61; Water Fund, #F5, 6, 7, 8, & 9 \$6,024.34 Sewer Fund, #G5, 7, 8, & 9 \$2,891.96; and Joint Fund, #J1,2 &3 \$26,537.75; General Fund Abstracts, \$73,283.30; Water Fund Abstracts, \$2,408.42; Sewer Fund Abstracts, \$43,382.74; Joint Fund Abstracts, \$116,255.66. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY GEBO:

Attorney Gebo explained that he would need to have an Executive Session to discuss an acquisition of real estate property.

Attorney Gebo briefly discussed the subject of carbon credits and is waiting on Eric Hirschey, Forester for the Village of Carthage to obtain more information on this matter.

Attorney Gebo explained to the board that there might be an error on the Jefferson County trail map and has not yet been able to find or view a trail map to verify this.

PRESIDENT MCILROY'S UPDATE:

LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Trustee Kathleen Latremore informed the Board that she will be out of town and therefore unable to attend the next Village Board meeting on August 17. Trustee Latremore requested an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter

Deputy President Michael Astafan also asked for an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and requested Village Police Chief Reeve Rockhill to stay for the executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Rebecca Vary, Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to enter Executive Session at 8:22 P.M. for an acquisition of real estate matter and two personnel issues. Police Chief Reeve Rockhill was invited to attend the Executive Session.

Regular session resumed at 8:51P.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion carried to adjourn at 8:52P.M.

Sherry L. Sears, Village Clerk