

1Regular meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees  
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building  
March 3, 2008

Present: President G. Wayne McIlroy, Trustees, Michael Astafan and Kathleen Latremore.

Excused: Trustees Rebecca Vary and Bernard Frezza.

Guests: Kathy Amyot, Tug Hill; Residents Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Bray; and 22 members of the Participation in Government Class.

President McIlroy called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. followed by thirty seconds of silence for Gary Montgomery, a retired WPCF employee who passed away in February. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Michael Astafan to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2008 meeting as presented by the Clerk with one typo correction in the Attorney's update. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Bray, of 260 State Street, attended the meeting to discuss with members a petition they have completed to request one handicapped parking space in front of 260 State Street and one to two handicapped parking spaces in the public parking lot behind the apartment building. Mr. Bray explained that with 6 spaces of parking taken by Stefano's and 20 families in the apartments, there is no place to park most of the time in the public parking lot. Stefano would not sign the petition because he was concerned that it would interfere with his business; nor did the Candy store owner sign the petition. Mrs. Bray added her concerns over the handicapped parking availability also. President McIlroy explained that the parking lot is a public lot and the Village is in compliance with the number of spaces needed for handicapped parking. If the Board was to designate more handicapped parking it would have to be for the public, not just tenants of the apartment building. Since there are only three members attending the meeting tonight and Trustee Astafan is abstaining from the vote, there is not a quorum of the Board to act on a decision tonight. Therefore the Board tabled any decision on this request.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Proof of notice having been furnished the Public Hearing on the CDBG program was called to order at 7:15P.M. by President McIlroy who explained the CDBG program.

The Small Cities CDBG grant provides funds 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 made on an annual basis, except for Economic Development where applications can be submitted at any time. In the past a single municipality could apply for \$400,000 - \$600,000 to perform one of these activities and up to \$750,000 for Economic Development projects and \$650,000 for Comprehensive projects provided these projects 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 person benefiting must be low and moderate-income persons according to the HUD income limits provided in the application. These limits adjust based on household size. This is the primary objective of the CDBG 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.

To apply for these funds, must be a unit of local government in New York in compliance with all HUD regulations, a community must hold two public hearings. The first hearing tonight is to explain the program and gather citizen input on community development needs. A second hearing will be held to obtain citizens 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. We encourage everyone to give us comments. Written comments can be submitted to the Village Clerk, 120 South Mechanic Street, Carthage, New York 13619.

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 using CDBG funds to assist the Village with implementing a scattered site Home Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Also explained was that by contacting the NYS Office for Small Cities at 518-474-2057, assistance is available to groups representing low to moderate income persons who are seeking to develop proposals.

The floor was opened for public comments and suggestions but there was no one wishing to speak.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:20P.M.

**PUBLIC FORUM continued:**

Kathy Amyot explained to members that the Waterfront Plan committee has recommended that the Village's accept the peter j. smith and associates "Complementary Recreation Waterfront Development Plan" and move forward to design a scope of work that will guide the process. Kathy Latremore thanked Kathy for all of her work on the Waterfront project and with Peter J. Smith.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to accept the peter j. smith and associates "Complementary Recreation Waterfront Development Plan and further authorize President McIlroy to sign all agreements regarding same. Motion carried unanimously.

Regarding Guyotts Island, Kathy advised members that Matthew Kirk has submitted a draft copy of his report to Parks and Recreation. The comment period will last 3 or 4 weeks before there is a reply. President McIlroy asked if there is going to be a meeting in April whereby we will meet at Guyotts Island to go over the points of interest. Mrs. Amyot responded yes.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

The 2008 Invitations for application, transportation enhancement program letter, received from the New York Department of Transportation, will be turned over to Trustee Frezza for his attendance at the April 7<sup>th</sup> workshop in Watertown, if possible.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Michael Astafan to send a letter of Congratulations and certificate of accomplishment to Adam Christopher Roll for completing the requirements and obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to authorize Police Chief Reeve Rockhill to sign the letter of support as requested by Marilyn Bish, Director of Grants and Projects, CCS Administrative Offices, for the Safe Schools Healthy Students Grant that CCS is applying for in partnership with county and local agencies and local service providers. The Chief is also authorized to attend “a meeting of minds” a couple of times a year. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to accept the request of the Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce to install a bulletin board and/or pamphlet rack in the Municipal Building hallway on a trial basis as long as the same is attached to the wall and not free standing or jetting out into the hallway from the wall. Further, the request to plant a Memory Tree at the Firesite Park should be sent to John McHugh since the CIDC owns the property. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Michael Astafan to approve the request of Dennis E. Richardson, President, Village Ecumenical Ministries, Inc. to hold the Easter Sunrise Service at Turning Point Park on Sunday, March 23, 2008 at 6:30a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Michael Astafan to authorize a letter of support to be sent to the Carthage Area Hospital in support of their takeover of the fifty-three years’ private medical practice of retiring Dr. Wiley. President McIlroy is hereby authorized to sign the letter on behalf of the Village Board. Motion carried unanimously.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

There are no updates on the Monument Park Kiosk or Little League Billboard proposal.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to accept the low bid of J.P. Morgan Chase Bank in the amount of 2.29% for the BAN on the Court House and Recreation Facility Bonding. Further the Clerk/Treasurer is authorized to sign all necessary paperwork on behalf of the Village and to open both a checking and savings account at the J.P. Morgan Chase Bank for this funding. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to authorize President McIlroy to sign the Negotiation Contract with Bond, Schoeneck & King

for the Contract Negotiations with the Village of Carthage DPW. Further, President McIlroy is authorized to sign the agreement for the Contract Negotiations with the WPCF employees as additionally approved by the West Carthage Village Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Michael Astafan to approve payment of Payroll #A48 & 49, in the amount of \$27,599.62; #F48 & 49, \$3,122.16; #G48 & 49, \$3,102.84, #J19, \$9,388.79. Motion carried unanimously.

#### PRESIDENT MCILROY'S UPDATE:

President McIlroy reported that the normal Planning Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. if there is any business to take place. Also the Chamber will be dedicating the Clock at the firesite prior to the Flag Day Parade.

President McIlroy also reported that the Water Department put in a 24 hour day last week with a major water break on South Clinton Street. West Carthage was asked for help and they did assist.

#### LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Trustee Latremore stated her concerns over the Village residents who are burying the Village fire hydrants. There is a safety issue with these hydrants being buried with snow from the sidewalks. She asked if there is anything the Village can do about this. President McIlroy explained that Village plows also bury hydrants with the road snow. The water department should be using some of their daily work hours to clear the snow from the hydrants where residents don't. The Clerk will ask the Carthage Republican Tribune to add a blurb in the newspaper reminding residents to not throw sidewalk or driveway snow on the hydrants and to help keep them open.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Michael Astafan to enter into Executive session at 7:40 P.M. to discuss contract negotiations. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular session resumed at 8:25P.M.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

Motion carried to adjourn at 8:25P.M.

**Linda M. Weir**, Village Clerk