

1Regular meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees
Held in the Carthage Municipal Building Board Room
May 7, 2007 – 7P.M.

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

Excused: Trustee Rebecca Vary.

Guests: Alexandria Street Residents, Bob and Emily Blaschke and Scott Cummings; Kathy Amyot, Tug Hill Commission; Debi Atkins, WCTA; Jeremiah Papineau, CRT; Robert Brauchle, WDT; and 26 Participation in Government students.

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

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2007 meeting as presented by the Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr. Blaschke asked members what the status of the Braman's property was. President McIlroy explained that demolition of the building will hopefully begin within 2 weeks. Mrs. Blaschke asked about the previous thought that the Corpe of Engineers could assist the Village with this project. President McIlroy said the National Guard, about five years ago, had shown an interest in assisting the Village, but would only demolish the building. The Board feels the building needs to be demolished, taken away and the site filled. There is a possibility that the Board will approve the work following an Executive Session to discuss cost figures.

Megan Cole, a CCS student, asked the Board for permission to plant flowers at the site of the 911 Memorial by Turning Point Park and paint the Gazebo. The flowers will be donated by Grays Flower Shop and the paint by Aubuchon Hardware. Megan, along with Kaitlyn Mulvaney and Michelle Amann hope to have the work done in the next couple of weeks.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Bernard Frezza to accept the proposal, with thanks, from the CCS students to plant flowers at Turning Point Park and paint the Gazebo. Adult Supervision will be provided by either parents or Mr. McHale. Motion carried unanimously.

Kathy Amyot reminded members of the RACOG recreation committee meeting tomorrow night at 6:30PM at the Carthage Municipal Building; this will be the last meeting until September or October. The RACOG committee is reviewing zoning law and should be completed shortly. Once completed, the committee will need to meet with their respective Boards. Kathy also reported that she and Trustee Vary are working on the Long Falls Park project. President McIlroy asked if there is any news on an Industrial Archeologist Study and Kathy responded, not yet and therefore the project probably will not be completed this summer.

OLD BUSINESS:

President McIlroy reported that the Board is awaiting a report from the Chief of Police before making a decision on the handicapped parking space requested by Barb Harris.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to approve the request of Town of Wilna Supervisor Paul H. Smith for the Town to provide a new water hookup at 37073 State Route #3 in District #1 providing that the Town does not exceed its allowable water usage. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Bernard Frezza to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, New York State has been considering changing rules to require local Judges to be lawyers and also to change to a regional court system;

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Carthage, New York supports keeping the local Justice Court Systems as it has been for many years with talented, dedicated, local people elected and trained to enforce all laws;

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Carthage, New York does not support a Regional System of Enforcement since service of local violations and zoning laws would not be enforced by a local person and travel could make attending court cost prohibitive:

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Carthage, New York requests that you not make either of the above mentioned changes in the Court System.

Motion carried unanimously . 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Bernard Frezza to approve the request of CCS 12 Honors Students, Charles Walck, Kevin Cross, and Rebecca Cleary to hold a 5K run on June 2nd at 11AM in the Village of Carthage. The run will begin at Turning Point Park and cover the following Streets, Canal, South Mechanic, Cemetery, South Washington, South Clinton, West, Thorpe, South James, and a portion of State, ending at the Carthage Park. The Carthage Police Department and Ambulance Squad have been contacted. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Bernard Frezza to approve the request of Carthage Area Hospital to hold a 5K run throughout the Village on Saturday, May 12th. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Proof of Notice having been furnished, the Public Hearing on the Village Budgets was called to order by President McIlroy at 7:15PM. Handouts were provided to those in attendance at the beginning of the meeting.

President McIlroy opened the hearing to the Public and asked if there were any comments or questions.

No one wished to address the Board during the Hearing.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:17PM.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Bernard Frezza to adopt the Village Budget as presented. The Village tax rate will remain at \$12.30; the water rate will increase thirty (\$.30) cents per 100 cubic feet of water used and the sewer rate will decrease to 90% (from 100%) of the water rate. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS CONT'D:

After reviewing the Agreement with the WCTA as prepared by Attorney Mark Gebo, Trustee Astafan said he has no issues with the Agreement and Board members agreed that the Agreement covered their requests.

Debi Atkins, representing the WCTA, noted that the date of the Contract needs to be changed to 2007 and requested one change in the agreement. One night a week the bus is used to take residents to Bingo. Ms. Atkins requested that the operator of the bus be allowed to park his/her private vehicle in front of the Municipal Building rather than having to leave his/her private vehicle in the parking lot out back of the building. Members agreed stating that parking in the back parking lot would be necessary only during regular, daytime hours of operation of the Village Clerks Office.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to approve the Agreement with the WCTA as prepared by Village Attorney Mark Gebo with the one addition of parking by the bus operator in the evening hours as noted above. President McIlroy is hereby authorized to sign the Agreement once it is presented to, approved and signed by the WCTA. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore that all future, non-union new hires, be required to pay 10% towards the cost of their health insurance effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bernard Frezza and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to hire Scott Benson as Recreation Supervisor at a yearly salary of \$20,800, contingent upon a satisfactory physical and background check. Mr. Benson will also be required to pay 10% towards the cost of his health insurance. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to approve the two Change orders for the improvements to the public restrooms in the amount of \$11,301.00 authorizing the Clerk to sign same. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Bernard Frezza to approve payment of Payrolls #A58,59,60 & 61, \$37,655.27; #F58,59,60 & 61, \$4,689.16; #G58,59 & 61, \$3,217.52 and #J24,\$6,947.29. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT MCILROY'S UPDATE:

President McIlroy presented members with two meeting dates; May 15th there is a RACOG meeting and the Joint Utility meetings are on the 16th at West Carthage.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Trustee Astafan stated that he and Trustee Vary have been working on the Outside Boilers and should have new information for members at our next meeting. Also, a motion is needed for the advertisement of trees sales on property owned by the Village in Croghan.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to authorize Forester Erik Hirschey to advertise for bids on the sale of trees on property owned by the Village in the Town of Croghan. Sealed bids must be received by 3PM, Friday, May 18, 2007 and will be publicly opened at that time. Bids will be reviewed and buyer awarded at the Village Boards meeting of May 21, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Frezza reminded the public that the speed limit on Park Drive is 20 MPH and persons must abide by that. There are many children at the Park using the facility and/or fields and persons caught speeding will be prosecuted.

Trustee Latremore informed the public that there will be a free scrap metal pickup in the Village June 1st to June 13th. More information will be forthcoming.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Bernard Frezza to enter Executive Session at 7:35P.M. for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations that if discussed in public session could jeopardize the outcome. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular session resumed at 8:20P.M.

Motion by Bernard Frezza and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to approve the 2005-2010 PBA Contract, pending approval and signing by the Carthage PBA, as presented by Attorney Gebo with the exception of one change. That change being in the dry cleaning allowance. A sentence needs to be added explaining that receipts will be required in order to be paid for this benefit as previously agreed. President McIlroy is hereby authorized to sign the Contract on behalf of the Village upon the receipt of the signed Contract from the PBA. Motion carried 3 – 1 with Trustee Astafan voting Nay.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Bernard Frezza that the Clerk notify Bill Plante, GYMO, to proceed with the drawing of Contracts for the work to be done to secure the “Bramans site” as recommended by Mr. Plante in his April 10, 2007 letter to the Village Board. President McIlroy is hereby authorized to sign said Contracts after satisfactory review by Attorney Mark Gebo. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion carried to adjourn at 8:22 P.M.

Linda M. Weir, Village Clerk