

Regular meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees  
Held in the Carthage Municipal Building Board Room  
July 16, 2007 – 7P.M.

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

Absent: Trustee Bernard Frezza.

Guests: Residents: Sue Swartout, and Lani Yearicks; Baldwin Real Estate Representatives Bill Durdel and Peter Pike; Kathy Amyot, Tug Hill Commission; Carthage Water Superintendent, Ernest Prievo; Jeremiah Papineau, CRT; and Robert Brauchle, WDT.

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 18, 2007 meeting as presented by the Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Resident Lani Yearick attended the meeting to request permission for a 5K race on Saturday, August 25, 2007 beginning at 9:00a.m. The race will begin and end at the Carthage Park with the route turning left out of the Park onto Route 3 to a point approximately 1.5 miles from the park. Funds raised from the run will go to critical cancer research; the last race had 32 participants and netted \$342 for this purpose.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to approve the request of Lani Yearick to hold a 5K race on Saturday, August 25, 2007, beginning and ending at the Carthage Park. Motion carried unanimously.

William Durdel, Baldwin Real Estate President, attended the meeting to discuss with members the issue of individual water metering and billing of the Warwick Place – 801 – apartments. Mr. Durdel explained that the 20 year lease with the army expires on December 1<sup>st</sup> and he is converting the apartments to market rate housing. His group will be undertaking some improvements and as such will require separate metering for the water. He would like to see individual accounts set up for the apartments. As landlord, his firm would ultimately be responsible for paying the water and sewer if payment is not made by the tenants.

President McIlroy explained that the current Village Policy calls for separate shut offs on every metered service. One of the reasons for this is to be able to shut a person's water if they do not pay their bill. Mr. Durdel explained that if he is notified that the person is delinquent he would pay the bill in the amount of time requested by the Village.

Trustee Astafan added that the proposal to bill tenants is against our policy. The Village bills the owner of the property. If Mr. Durdel installs the meters perhaps the Village could read them and give him the readings so that you could bill the tenants and receive the payment. Then it would be up to Mr. Durdel to pay the Village.

Water Superintendent Ernie Prievo added that part of the reason for the 2002 policy was homes with more than 1 tenant. The tenant leaves town and the property owner is responsible to pay the bill. The owner is the Villages only legal connection. Mr. Prievo asked why the new 40 units being proposed by Mr. Durdel will have just a master meter without the tenants being billed separately. Mr. Durdel responded that the new units are rent structured and water and sewer must be included; it's a government controlled rent. Mr. Prievo said as Superintendent of Water he feels the new metering will generate more time and work for his department.

President McIlroy said he believes the Board needs a list of advantages and disadvantages of the new meters and more discussion on the request. President McIlroy also asked Mr. Durdel if he would be willing to pay any past due bill within 10 days of our request to which he responded, absolutely. Also, when asked if he would be purchasing and installing the meters, Mr. Durdel said yes. Mr. Durdel suggested that perhaps Attorney Gebo could draft a resolution changing the current policy for housing with greater than 100 units. President McIlroy said the Board will needs to look at this further.

Kathy Amyot asked the Board to consider an action to appoint an advisory committee for the Quality Communities Grant on a water front plan with West Carthage. President McIlroy recommended Trustees Vary and Frezza as the two best people to work on this project.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to appoint Rebecca Vary and Bernard Frezza to the Quality Communities advisory committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Just for info, Kathy reported that the Emergency Response Plan will be forthcoming to Clerks and needs to be reviewed by members and comments made.

The RACOG planning board has worked on updating the zoning laws as the State Mandated and would like to present them to respective Boards in August.

President McIlroy mention that a map of recreational walking trails was received today and asked Kathy if we needed to do anything with it. Kathy will email Wayne if he does need to respond. Kathy also noted that Mark Fenton, an expert on walking trails will be the holding discussions on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Motion by Rebecca Vary and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to approve the request of Pastor Robert Sly to hold his 9<sup>th</sup> annual all day gospel sing at the Village Gazebo on August 4<sup>th</sup> from 10AM to 9PM. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

President McIlroy stated that the Board has the recommendation of Superintendent Dan Trembley on the no parking for Church Street and asked if anyone has any changes. Resident Sue Swartout was agreeable to the recommendations. President McIlroy and Trustee Astafan voiced concerns over the Budd/Church Street section.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to hold a public hearing on Monday, August 20, 2007 at 7:10P.M. for the purpose of discussing propose Local Law #6 of 2007, No Parking/Parking spaces on Church Street. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to accept the recommendation of the Joint Water Board to approve the Village of West Carthage establishment of a joint reserve fund for the needs of the water towers in the Villages of Carthage and West Carthage with the surplus funds from the Water tank project. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore and carried unanimously; 3-1 with Trustee Vary voting nay;

WHEREAS, the Village of Carthage desires to provide its residents with recreational facilities and activities;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees expresses its full support for re-opening of the "Twin Village Swimming Pool" for the summer of 2008 season.

Attorney Gebo responding to the question by President McIlroy said he believes the Domestic Violence Policy presented by Police Chief Reeve Rockhill is okay as is.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Michael Astafan to adopt the Domestic Violence Policy as presented by Police Chief Reeve Rockhill. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Rebecca Vary informed members that she and Kathy Amyot have met with the two archeologist that submitted quotes for the work on the Long Falls Park Project. While both were very qualified, Hartgen Associates has been selected. They are able to start phase 1A of the quote in a couple of days and part 1B hopefully by October.

Motion by Rebecca Vary and Seconded by Michael Astafan to accept the quote of Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. for the study on Long Falls Park, in the amount of \$4,661.94 for Phase 1A and \$7,972.37 for Phase 1B; for a total of \$12,634.31. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to approve payment of Payrolls #A4, 5, 6, 7 & 8, \$58,107.85; #F4, 5, 6, 7, & 8, \$8,205.23; #G4, 5, 6, 7, & 8, \$2,741.84 and #J2,\$8,221.85; Abstracts #A2, \$76,764.08; #F2, \$7,827.94; #G2, \$1,264.72; #J2, \$94,782.26 . Motion carried unanimously.

**ATTORNEY GEBO'S UPDATE:**

Attorney Gebo asked the Board if they had reviewed the proposed Local Law that he prepared at the request of Police Chief Reeve Rockhill, on background checks for new employees. Members have read and approve of the proposed law.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to hold a public hearing, following the conclusion of the 7:10P.M. public hearing, Monday, August 20, 2007, on proposed Local law #7 of 2007, a law proposing background checks on all new employees at the time of hiring.

Attorney Gebo requested that the Board amend its motion of May 17, 2004 on the transfer of the Buckley Building to the Save the Buckley group to make it clearer.

Motion by Michael Astafan and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to authorize the Village President to transfer the Buckley property to the Save the Buckley group for one dollar for the public purpose of eliminating blight in the Village. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Gebo has a collective bargaining issue; contract that involves negotiations; and a contractual agreement on the fire site for executive session.

**PRESIDENT MCILROY'S UPDATE:**

President McIlroy presented members with upcoming meeting dates and reminded members that there is no Utility Board meetings this month.

President McIlroy also reported that just one quote was received on the repairs/re-pointing of the bricks and repairs to the chimney on the municipal building. Due to only one quote being received, it is apparent that bid specifications are needed in order to get good quality bids for the work. Therefore the Clerk will be asking for a quote to prepare the specifications and the project will be re-bid with the specs.

**LIAISON REPORTS:**

Trustee Astafan needs an Executive Session to discuss negotiations with the Board.

Trustee Latremore informed the Board that Superintendent Dan Trembley has provided her with a list of streets that will be paved this summer: South Washington Street from State Street to the railroad tracts and a section beyond the tracks and the 600 and 700 block of West Street. Trustee Latremore also reported on a couple properties that have been served notices by the Code Enforcement Officer.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion by Kathleen Latremore and Seconded by Rebecca Vary to enter Executive Session at 8:10P.M. for the purpose of discussing personnel issues; a collective bargaining issue and negotiations that if discussed publicly could jeopardize the outcome. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular session resumed at 9:20P.M.

Motion by Rebecca Vary and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to approve an agreement with the CCDG whereby the Village will partner with them on improvements to the fire site property, whereby the site will become a public park in exchange for the CCDG providing the Village use of the site for a public parking lot. President McIlroy is hereby authorized to sign the agreement for same as prepared by Village Attorney Mark Gebo. Motion carried 3 – 0 with Trustee Astafan abstaining.

Motion by Rebecca Vary and Seconded by Kathleen Latremore to approve an agreement with the CIDC whereby in view of the investment the CIDC is making to remove blight in the Buckley Building the Village is agreeable to waiving the responsibility of the CIDC to provide yearly reserve payments to assist with the paving of the public parking lot behind the Village Municipal Building. President McIlroy is hereby authorized to sign the agreement for same as prepared by Village Attorney Mark Gebo. Motion carried 3 – 0 with Trustee Astafan abstaining.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion carried to adjourn at 9:22 P.M.

*Linda M. Weir*, Village Clerk