

Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees
Held in the Board Room of the Village of Carthage Municipal Building
October 16, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Members: President G. Wayne McIlroy; Deputy President Michael Astafan and Trustees Linda Smith-Spencer and Rebecca Vary. Trustee Marco Franchini was excused.

Others: Mark Gebo, Village Attorney; Elaine Avallone, Johnson Newspapers; Mickey Dietrich, Tug Hill Commissions; Rachael Vary and twelve Boy Scouts/Leaders.

CALL TO ORDER:

President McIlroy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. President McIlroy asked the Boy Scouts to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2017 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr. Dietrich reviewed the monthly announcements for RACOG and forwarded a copy to the Clerk/Treasurer.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to permit the Carthage 12 Honors Class along with Carthage Key Club and PIG students to host their annual Spook Trail on October 28, 2017 at the Carthage Park to include the use of the Recreational Building and waive the \$50.00 rental fee. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to permit the Augustinian Academy to host their second Annual Jingle Bell Run on December 9, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. to commence at the Augustinian Academy, proceed down West Street to Emjay Way, to South Washington Street, ending back at the Augustinian Academy. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Vary to permit wagon rides to occur during the Twin Villages Christmas event on Saturday, December 9, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to deny the request of JaQuan Spears who resides at 460 South Clinton Street for a credit on his water/sewer bill as the water was processed through the sewer system due to a leak in the toilet. The Board suggested the occupants should contact their insurance company and/or property management company for assistance. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING:

President McIlroy called the public hearing to order at 6:10 p.m. to discuss the CDBG 2012 and 2013 programs. President McIlroy explained that it was discovered during a program audit that the Village should have conducted public hearings for each CDBG program while the programs were being administered as they have both ended. President McIlroy asked if there was anyone who wished to speak for or against the programs. One of the Boy Scout leaders asked for clarification of the programs. Attorney Gebo explained the programs were to assist low income families with home repairs

but have since ended. President McIlroy asked a second time if there was anyone who wished to speak for or against the programs.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to close the hearing at 6:12 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to inform the Community Development Director to submit written correspondence to the Office of Community Renewal that the public hearing was conducted which should address their concerns during the program audit.

CORRESPONDENCE:

President McIlroy read the Legal Services Proposal received from Joseph Russell, Esq., MRT, P.C. and asked Attorney Gebo when he is closing his office. Attorney Gebo stated he intends to close his office at the end of June 2018 but will be available to address any outstanding items. Attorney Gebo suggested interviewing Attorneys to find the right fit for the Village.

President McIlroy read the thank you note received from the Carthage Honor Flight.

President McIlroy stated the Town of Wilna Planning Board minutes and the RACOG Board minutes are included for the Board's information.

OLD BUSINESS:

At the December 19, 2016 meeting, the Board declared an emergency to remove the building at 302-306 North Mechanic Street as the structure is severely damaged and unsafe.

Update 01/17/17: President McIlroy stated the building has been knocked down and the debris is currently being removed.

Update 02/21/17: President McIlroy stated we are still waiting for the bill from GYMO for the removal of 302-306 North Mechanic Street. Deputy President Astafan stated the vacant property maybe marketable to the surrounding property owners. Attorney Gebo expressed if the costs to remove the building were re-levied on the Village taxes; the new owner would need to negotiate with the Village to remove the lien on the property.

Update 03/20/17: President McIlroy stated all of the expenses have been received and paid for this property in the amount of \$60,932.00. President McIlroy asked Attorney Gebo if he spoke with Jefferson County about the Village acquiring the property and Attorney Gebo stated he will check with the County and report back to the Board. The Board authorized the Clerk/Treasurer to transfer funds from the Village Blight Fund in the amount of \$60,932.00 and further set up a repayment schedule of five years.

Update 04/17/17: Attorney Gebo stated he spoke with the County attorney and a letter was sent requesting the property be turned over to the Village. Since the last meeting, a bill was received from DANC to dispose of the construction debris at the Rodman Landfill in the amount of \$9,743.97 and the Board revised the previous resolution for 302-306 North Mechanic Street to include the additional \$9,743.97 for a total of \$70,675.97 and further authorizes the Clerk/Treasurer to transfer funds from the Village Blight Fund to the General Fund and further set up a repayment schedule of five years.

Update 05/15/17: Attorney Gebo stated Jefferson County removed the property from the tax auction with the intent of turning the property over to the Village. Attorney Gebo further stated that any proceeds received over what the Village spent to remove the buildings on the property need to be turned over to the County.

Update 06/20/17: Attorney Gebo expressed that he is waiting for the paperwork from the County attorney for the property transfer.

Update 07/17/17: Attorney Gebo stated he is still waiting for the paperwork from the County attorney.

Update 08/21/17: Attorney Gebo state he will contact the County attorney regarding the status of this property.

Update 09/18/17: Attorney Gebo stated the County is willing to turn over 302-306 North Mechanic Street providing the Village forwards 10% of the proceeds received for the sale of the property, up to \$1,000.00 of which the Board agreed to do.

Update 10/16/17: Attorney Gebo stated President McIlroy signed the agreement with Jefferson County and he is awaiting an executed contract from Jefferson County.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to set hours for Trick or Treat from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on October 31, 2017.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to support the Village of West Carthage's resolution regarding Termination of Wastewater Service to Carthage Specialty Paperboard, Inc. with the understanding if a written agreement with acceptable payment terms is received by the Village of West Carthage in the time period specified by the Village, service will not be terminated. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to accept the Monthly Departmental Reports as presented by the CEO, DPW, Treasurer, and Water. Motion carried unanimously. The Community Development, Court and Police reports were not submitted.

Deputy President Astafan and Trustee Smith-Spencer reviewed the monthly bills and bank statements including reconciliations prior to the meeting. The documents were available at the meeting.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve payment of payrolls and bills as follows: General Fund \$144,707.13; Special Grant Fund \$198.75; Water Fund \$42,025.60; and Sewer Fund \$18,049.54. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTORNEY GEBO:

Attorney Gebo requested an Executive Session to discuss a pending litigation.

PRESIDENT MCILROY UPDATE:

President McIlroy stated there will be a Joint Utility meeting October 18, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building; Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner on October 24, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Sahara Restaurant; and a CIDC meeting on October 25, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the Town of Wilna offices. President McIlroy reminded everyone that Election Day is November 7, 2017 and encouraged everyone to vote

LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

None.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to enter Executive Session at 6:28 p.m. to discuss a pending litigation. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to resume Regular Session at 6:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy O'Shaughnessy
Village Clerk/Treasurer