

Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees  
Held in the Board Room of the Village of Carthage Municipal Building  
May 20, 2019

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**Others:** Edgar Countryman, DPW Superintendent; and Mickey Dietrich, Tug Hill Commissions. Joseph Russell, Village Attorney was excused.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President McIlroy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Trustee Franchini and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2019 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Mr. Dietrich reviewed the monthly announcements for RACOG and forwarded a copy of the announcements to the Clerk/Treasurer. Mr. Dietrich said he spoke with the Ft. Drum liaison regarding assistance with the monument and will update the Board when he hears back from her.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

President McIlroy stated he spoke with representatives at the Carthage Area Rescue Squad regarding their request to conduct a urinal/bedpan fundraising drive on State Street in front of Jreck Subs on May 25, 2019 or June 1, 2019. President McIlroy expressed his concerns about the traffic congestion the event will cause in that area.

Motion by Trustee Franchini and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to deny the request of the Carthage Area Rescue Squad to conduct their urinal/bedpan fundraising drive on State Street in front of Jreck Subs due to the traffic congestion it may cause. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve the request of the Carthage Area Rescue Squad to use the parking area at the Carthage Park for EVOC training class on Saturday, June 8, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. contingent upon a certificate of insurance being provided for the event. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Franchini and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to permit the VFW Dionne Rumble Post #7227 to conduct a Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 27, 2019 to commence in West Carthage at 10:00 a.m. and proceed through Carthage to Monument Park and further request the Police Department to close State Street at North and South Washington Streets during the parade and services at Monument Park. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Franchini to permit the Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce to host a Fireworks Festival on Saturday, July 13, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. at Turning Point Park to include the assistance of the DPW and Police Departments and further, permit them to place a banner for the Fireworks Festival by the gazebo at the corner of State Street and Water Street providing the banner is removed after the event. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy read the letter received from the Town of Wilna terminating the Code Enforcement Officer agreement effective June 16, 2019. President McIlroy stated the position was advertised and

two applications were received and requested Trustee Vary and the Clerk/Treasurer to serve on the interview committee with him.

President McIlroy stated the Town of Wilna Joint Planning Board minutes for May 1, 2019 are included for the Boards information.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

At the December 17, 2018 meeting, President McIlroy read the correspondence received from National Grid regarding replacing existing HID National Grid-owned roadway street lights to efficient LED roadway street lights at minimal cost as part of National Grid's Outdoor Street Lighting LED Conversion Program stated he will set up a meeting with National Grid to discuss our options and further requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the January 22, 2019 meeting.

Update 1/22/19: President McIlroy and the Clerk/Treasurer met with Ms. Egeberg from National Grid regarding their street lighting conversion program. President McIlroy stated if the Village has National Grid convert our non-ornamental street lighting, it will cost approximately \$10,000 and National Grid has a first come, first serve incentive program which will pay approximately \$20,000 after the conversion is complete; therefore the Village will net \$10,000. If the Village chose to convert, the delivery fees on the bill will increase and energy usage will decrease; which should provide minimal savings. President McIlroy asked the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the February 19, 2019 meeting as RACOG is looking at a different option for LED street lighting.

Update 2/19/19: President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the March 18, 2019 meeting.

Update 3/18/19: President McIlroy stated that he has participated in RACOG meetings with the New York Power Authority who is offering an option for the Village to convert to LED lighting and own their street lights. The New York Power Authority projects if the Village converts to LED lighting and buys out National Grid, the Village will save approximately 75% for street lighting after the debt is repaid which they project will be ten years. President McIlroy asked the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the April 15, 2019 meeting to allow more time to gather information.

Update 4/15/19: The Board authorized President McIlroy to sign the Energy Services Program Master Cost Recovery Agreement Between Power Authority of the State of New York and Village of Carthage to facilitate the design phase of the LED street light project.

Update 5/20/19: President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this over until the June 17, 2019 meeting.

At the March 18, 2019 meeting the Board authorized President McIlroy to sign the agreement with Teamsters Local 687 and Village of Carthage DPW contingent upon Article 3 being revised to reflect the current state of the law following the Supreme Court decision on non union employees.

Update 04/15/19: President McIlroy read the letter submitted by members of the Department of Public Works (DPW) stating the union agreement presented and approved by the Village Board on March 18, 2019 was not viewed by DPW members prior to being submitted to the Village Board. The DPW expressed there is language in the contract which was written differently than what they discussed with their union representatives. The Board requested the Clerk/Treasurer to send a response to DPW members informing them that the contract approved by the Village Board was drafted and received by Teamsters Local 687 representative Mickey Smith; the Village Board assumed the contract was shared with DPW employees prior to sending it to the Village Board as it should have been; and further they are willing to meet with union representatives to discuss this issue.

Update 05/20/19: President McIlroy stated he met with Mr. Smith and Mr. Roberts and agreed to keep the contract language as written but a Memorandum of Understanding was written.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing President McIlroy to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with Teamsters Local 687 on behalf of the DPW with respect to promotion from Laborer to MEO for this contract only. Motion carried unanimously.

At the February 19, 2019 meeting, the Board approved the Carthage Revolution Football Team to use the fields at the Carthage Park for practice on Tuesday and Thursday 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. from March through September 2019.

Update 05/20/19: In addition to using the fields, the Carthage Revolution requested keys to the Recreation Building for meetings and keys to the lights on the fields.

Motion by Trustee Franchini and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve the request of the Carthage Revolution Football team to use the lights on the fields, as needed, and the Recreation Building at the Carthage Park from March through September 2019 on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. for practice and meetings providing it does not conflict with any other previously scheduled events. Motion carried unanimously.

At the March 18, 2019 meeting, the Board approved an agreement with the Town of Wilna on behalf of Water District #1 from April 1, 2019 – April 1, 2039.

Update 05/20/19: The town had their attorney review the agreement and returned it with his comments. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to send the agreement with revisions to Attorney Russell to incorporate his comments.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve the Workplace Violence Prevention Policy Statement as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Franchini and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to formally approve sending a letter of support, previously approved via email, for Thousand Islands Habitat for Humanity to continue their development of the Braman’s Block Project. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to formally approve sending a letter to the adjacent property owner on the Besha Road in Croghan regarding remarking boundary lines on village property. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Franchini authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to post the 2018-2019 Draft MSU Annual Report to the Village website. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Franchini to hold a public meeting on May 28, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building and further authorize the Town of Wilna to submit a Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant of behalf of the Village. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to accept Officer Nathan Eisel’s letter of resignation as a full time police officer with regrets. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to approve Officer Nathan Eisel’s request to work as a part time police officer. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve budget transfers for account balancing as follows:

AA.4020.1000	Registrar of Vital Statistics	1,000.00	
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AA.1255	Clerk Fees		1,000.00
AA.5010.4320	Street Admin Contracts/Maint Agreements	100.00	
AA.5010.4410	Street Admin Utilities		100.00
AA.5142.4600	Snow Removal Vehicle/Equip Maint/Repair	1,000.00	
AA.5142.4710	Snow Removal Ice Control, Sand Salt		1,000.00
GG.8120.4730	Job Related Reimbursements	40.00	
GG.8120.4700	Job Supplies		40.00

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Franchini and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to make budgeted transfers to reserve accounts as follows:

Police Car Reserve	\$ 10,000.00
Court Room Reserves	\$ 1,000.00
Water Equipment Reserves	\$ 10,000.00
Water Repair Reserves	\$130,000.00
Sewer Repair Reserves	\$100,000.00

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Franchini authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to make year-end budget transfers for account balancing. Motion carried unanimously.

President McIlroy read the memo from the Clerk/Treasurer requesting to purchase a new file server for the Clerk's Office at a cost not to exceed \$1,000 which is available in AA.1325.2001 Equipment Under \$2,500.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer authorizing the Clerk's Office to close on Friday, May 24, 2019 and for employees to use a personal and/or vacation time to account for the day. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to accept the monthly Departmental Reports as presented by the Court, DPW, Police, Treasurer, and Water. Motion carried unanimously. The CEO report was not submitted.

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 Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Franchini to approve payment of payrolls and bills as follows: General Fund \$147,870.77; Special Grant Fund \$198.74; Water Fund \$23,580.41; and Sewer Fund \$14,390.57. Motion carried unanimously.

**ATTORNEY RUSSELL:**

None.

**LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:**

Trustee Vary stated she attended the dinner meeting sponsored by Carthage Area Hospital regarding the Carthage Area Walk Audit conducted earlier that day. Trustee Vary expressed the meeting was very informative.

**PRESIDENT McILROY UPDATE:**

President McIlroy stated there is a RACOG meeting at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building on May 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.; CIDC meeting at the Town of Wilna Municipal Building on May 22, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.; Police Mediation May 30, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. and the next regular board meeting is June 17, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Vary stated she will not be there.

President McIlroy stated the new CEO approved a fence to be installed one foot from the sidewalk on the corner of Fulton Street and North James Street. Village Code states the fence needs to be no less than three feet from the sidewalk therefore President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to forward it to the Joint ZBA for their consideration.

President McIlroy stated the draft of the Carthage Inflow and Infiltration Study Preliminary Engineering Report was distributed and encouraged the Board to review it. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to coordinate a meeting with BCA Architects & Engineers to include Trustee Smith-Spencer, DPW Superintendent, Clerk/Treasurer, and himself to review the report.

Motion by Trustee Franchini and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to permit the Sons of the American Legion Post #787 to have alcohol at their outdoor event on Saturday, June 9, 2019 from 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. providing it is not served in glass containers and further is kept in a contained area behind the American Legion. Motion carried unanimously.

**MEDIA QUESTIONS:**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Vary to adjourn at 6:46 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy O'Shaughnessy  
Village Clerk/Treasurer