

Regular Meeting of the Village of Carthage Board of Trustees
Held in the Board Room of the Carthage Municipal Building
November 4, 2013

ATTENDANCE:

Members: President G. Wayne McIlroy, Deputy President Astafan, and Trustees Rebecca Vary, Kathleen Latremore and Linda Smith-Spencer.

Others: Robert Ball, CEO; Kathy Amyot, Tug Hill Commissions; Lorna Swan, VFW Auxiliary; Charles Hoffman; Randy Hoffman; Amanda Gump, Secret Window Photos; two parents; and eight Participation in Government Students.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2013 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Ms. Gump requested permission to release paper lanterns at Guyot's Island as a memorial for lost pregnancies and infant deaths which is recognized in the month of October. President McIlroy and Deputy President Astafan expressed concerns regarding the potential fire hazard. Deputy President Astafan stated the memorial was a great idea and has seen the release of lanterns on television. Ms. Gump stated she has a one million dollar liability insurance policy; the lanterns only burn for six to eight minutes; and further stated she spoke with the Clerk's office, fire department and police department and they were not aware of any laws prohibiting the release of the lanterns. Trustee Latremore suggested having the ceremony at the boat launch near the Waste Water Treatment Facility because the river is wider there. President McIlroy requested Ms. Gump to present letters from the police and fire departments stating their approvals. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to contact Attorney Gebo for his opinion on this matter.

Lorna Swan presented President McIlroy with a flag from the VFW to hang at his home.

Chuck Hoffman requested the Village to review their records regarding his prior employment with the Village. Mr. Hoffman was employed at the Village on two separate occasions and feels his retirement is incorrect. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to research the issue.

Mr. Hoffman further stated that his former property at 771 West End Avenue was connected to the Village sewer system. President McIlroy stated the DPW completed the connections at 771 and 773 West End Avenue a few weeks ago. Mr. Hoffman stated he is aware of other properties within the Village that are not connected to the sewer system. President McIlroy stated the property on West End Avenue which is not connected to the sewer system will not be able to turn their water on until they connect to the sewer system.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve the Carthage Lions Club and Carthage Elks Lodge request for a \$100.00 contribution toward the Fifth Annual Community Thanksgiving Feast Celebration which will take place on Thursday, November 28, 2012 at the Carthage Elks Lodge. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

On June 3, 2013, President McIlroy read the letter from NYSDEC regarding the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Automatic Designation which requires a response from the Village by November 18, 2013. President McIlroy hopes to learn more about the designation at the Watershed Conference on June 4, 2013 and requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue until the June 17, 2013 regular meeting.

Update 06/17/13: President McIlroy stated the response to the Separate Storm System Automatic Designation needs to include how the Village will notify the public of the Storm Sewers to include marking the storm drains and mapping the system using the GPS. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue until the next regular meeting to allow time to learn more information regarding this requirement.

Update 07/15/13: President McIlroy and possibly Deputy President Astafan will attend an information session regarding the Village's participation in the new MS4 program on July 17, 2013 at the Town of Brownville Offices.

Update 08/19/13: President McIlroy attended the informational session on July 17, 2013 which outlined how specific communities could obtain a waiver from the MS4 program. The Village of Carthage is not eligible for the waiver and President McIlroy stated Scott Burto, West Carthage Mayor offered to obtain more information regarding the program.

Update 09/03/13: There will be a meeting on September 5, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Village of West Carthage Board Room to discuss opportunities to partner as a cooperative group in the new MS4 program.

Update 09/16/13: There will be a follow up meeting regarding the new MS4 program at the Village of West Carthage Board room on September 18, 2013 and President McIlroy encouraged board members to attend.

Update 10/07/13: The board adopted a resolution to partake in NYS DEC Water Quality Improvement Program Grant and hired Bernier, Carr & Associates to assist with the Notice of Intent application by NYSDEC.

Update 10/21/13: There will be a follow up meeting regarding the new MS4 program at the Village of Black River on October 22, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

Update 11/05/13: President McIlroy stated Bernier, Carr & Associates have completed the Notice of Intent and will set up an appointment with the Clerk/Treasurer and himself at the end of this week to review.

At the October 7, 2013 meeting the board accepted the resignation letter from Samuel Lundy from the position of Bailiff for the Village of Carthage Justice Court with regrets.

Update 10/21/13: Judge Shettleton stated that Chief Huber has been supplying her with a Police Officer while her court is in session but stated she is unsure how long Chief Huber can continue supplying an Officer due to possible staffing issues. Chief Huber stated he is working on a solution but will continue to provide an Officer in the interim.

Update 11/04/13: No action was taken therefore President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to hold this issue until the November 18, 2013 meeting.

At the October 7, 2013 meeting, based on the recommendation of Chief Huber, the board made a motion to accept the highest bid of \$2,550.00 from Andrew Hall for the 2006 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo Police vehicle providing he complies with the specifications of the bid. Motion carried unanimously.

Update: Mr. Hall did not pick up the 2006 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo Police vehicle.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Latremore to rebid the 2006 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo Police vehicle to include the stipulation of a minimum bid of \$2,500.00. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Latremore to approve CDBG 2011 Draw #25 payable to Brian Kaufmann & P&M Construction Co. \$12,637.80; and Jeffrey Jones & John Scoville SJS Builders \$13,500.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve CDBG 2011 Program Income Draw #1 payable to Candy Martin & John Scoville SJS Builders \$6,527.50; and Jeffrey Jones & John Scoville SJS Builders \$4,500.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Deputy President Astafan and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve CDBG 2012 Draw #4 payable to R-Factor Spray Foam Insulation 2012-13 \$250.00; Almon & Marjorie Mix & Painting Etc. Inc. \$12,465.00; and Avalon Associates, Inc. \$2,296.50. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to approve CDBG 2012 Draw #5 payable to Jeanne Kenwell & Painting Etc. Inc. \$10,323.00; and Almon & Marjorie Mix & Painting Etc. Inc. \$5,785.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Latremore authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to return unpaid taxes to Jefferson County in the amount base amount of \$36,598.80; penalty \$2,927.89; for a total of \$39,526.69. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Vary and seconded by Trustee Latremore to authorize President McIlroy to sign the agreement with Niagara Power Corporation to attach holiday decorations to their utility poles. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Latremore authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer, Deputy Clerk, President McIlroy, and Deputy President Astafan to sign the updated agreement and signature cards with First Niagara. Motion carried unanimously.

Ernie Prievo, Water Superintendent submitted a memo to the board regarding a fire hydrant which was damaged by an individual who ran into it with their vehicle on October 23, 2013. President McIlroy requested the Clerk/Treasurer to gather the information regarding the damage and submit a bill to their insurance company.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Vary authorizing the Clerk's Office to close on Friday, November 29, 2013 and for the employees to use Personal and/or Vacation time to account for the day. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Trustee Smith-Spencer to approve payment of payrolls and bills as follows: General Fund P/R 10/24/13 and 10/31/13 \$28,400.98; Water Fund P/R 10/24/13 and 10/31/13 \$4,512.19; Sewer Fund P/R 10/24/13 and 10/31/13 \$3,552.12; Joint Fund P/R 10/31/13 \$9,346.12. General Fund Abstracts \$1,819.11; Water Fund Abstracts \$76.33; Sewer Fund Abstracts \$0; and Joint Fund Abstracts \$0. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT McILROY UPDATE:

President McIlroy stated he is meeting with Don Alexander regarding the Railroad to attempt to work out an agreement for the Railroad to be responsible for paying for the repairs to the Railroad Crossings and asked Deputy President Astafan to attend on Tuesday, November 5, 2013 at 9:00 p.m. The Christmas parade will be Saturday, November 9, 2013 to begin in West Carthage. President McIlroy stated there will be a FEMA risk map meeting at Cornell Cooperative Extension on November 14, 2013. Mr. Ball stated that flood insurance rates are expected to double.

LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Trustee Latremore stated she received a complaint regarding a temporary sign placed at the corner of State Street and Church Street. The complainant stated the sign blocks pedestrian traffic so she contacted Mr. Ball and requested that he look into it. Mr. Ball called Attorney Gebo and the Village Police and they stated the sign does portray any Village Code Violation. Chief Huber looked into it and stated the sign does not block pedestrian traffic and Mr. Ball and President McIlroy agree. Trustee Latremore requested for Mr. Ball to call the complainant who stated they read in the laws that it can not be there. Mr. Ball will follow up and send a letter to the complainant with his findings.

Trustee Latremore requested an Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular board member.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to enter Executive Session at 7:46 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular board member. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Trustee Latremore and seconded by Deputy President Astafan to resume Regular Session at 8:06 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Smith-Spencer and seconded by Trustee Latremore to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy L. O'Shaughnessy
Village Clerk/Treasurer