

Village of Canton, New York

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING Meeting Minutes: February 20, 2018

Board Present:

Michael Dalton, Mayor
Sean O'Brien, Trustee
Klaus Proemm, Trustee

Carol Pynchon, Trustee
Beth Larrabee, Trustee

Others Present:

Gerald Ducharme, Village Attorney
Linda Casserly, Historian
Cara Adams, Deputy Clerk

Sally Noble, Clerk/Treasurer
James Santimaw, Police Chief
Brien Hallahan, Superintendent

ORDER OF BUSINESS: The Mayor opened the regular meeting at 6:30pm.

Mayor Dalton called for a Moment of Silence for the tragedy that happened at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

- a. **Approve minutes of January 16, 2018-** Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the minutes of January 16th; seconded by Trustee Proemm. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Mayor added the following under **New Business:**

- k. **Term of Office for Board Members**
- l. **Town/Village Joint Meeting**

ACCEPTANCE OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Trustee O'Brien made a motion to accept the Department Head Reports; seconded by Trustee Larrabee. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Clerk Noble stated that there is currently one person in the Village that qualifies for the Cold War Veteran's exemption.

Mayor Dalton informed the Board that he would like to move forward on the Cold War Veteran's Exemption. Attorney Ducharme stated that they have to hold a Public Hearing for a Local Law. Discussion will be held at a later meeting.

Mayor Dalton highlighted from Economic Development Rodriguez that they are currently working on the SAM Grant for the Golf Course Clubhouse.

Chief Santimaw stated that our Investigator is contacting the School for video footage on the break-ins that occurred near the school and that they have been dealing with incidents at the School, they are working with the State Police and other agencies.

Mayor Dalton stated that the interviews to fill the Code Enforcement Officer begins February 21, 2018.

Superintendent Hallahan stated at the Tree Committee Meeting the closing summary will be done to complete the grant.

Mayor Dalton stated that they have received complaints on the condition of Miner St. and Park St. Parts of the streets will be repaved in the late spring/early summer.

Superintendent Hallahan stated the Main Street Bridge will be re-decked this Summer. Two lanes will be closed off during the construction. The Board discussed the issues that this will cause. Superintendent Hallahan is going to contact DOT to see if there is something that can be sent to the four colleges regarding the traffic issues. The contract should be awarded mid-March and they will be starting soon after that.

Trustee O'Brien asked if the sidewalks will be redone? Superintendent Hallahan stated that in the plans he has they are redoing the curbs and sidewalks. The project should be completed in the fall.

Mayor Dalton highlighted that the Recreation Department received a donation from Backus & Sons in honor of Jack Smith who passed away.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Website Committee- Trustee Pynchon asked the Board to think about posting the reports before they are approved during the meeting? She stated that the draft minutes will be posted 10 days after the meeting. This is creating transparency.

Sustainability Committee- Trustee Pynchon stated that the Climate Smart Communities meeting is on Saturday March 10th in Potsdam.

Comprehensive Plan- Trustee Larrabee stated that the focus groups on the Comp Plan are doing a great job.

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION:

Mayor Dalton stated that they received the following:

- Information from the Winter NYCOM meeting that he attended in Albany.
- Letter from the Grace Episcopal Church.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment

Mayor Dalton moved the following item:

New Business

- a. Hogan Dwyer- NY Renews Presentation-** Hogan Dwyer a student from St. Lawrence University did a presentation on carbon fee and dividend and climate change. He is looking for support through a resolution

Trustee Pynchon supports passing a resolution in support of carbon fee and dividend plan.

Mayor Dalton stated that he would like to dig into it a little more before passing a resolution.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Ethics Code-** Trustee O'Brien stated that they have had a productive meeting. He would like to discuss it at the Joint Town/Village meeting to see if the committee wants to work together to build it and what the relationship is. The topic will be added to the Joint Agenda.

- b. **30 Riverside Drive/MR. Bell's- Agreements with Town, County, The Fund and Project Monitoring with ATL -** Mayor Dalton stated that they are progressing and at the point of moving forward. The Town of Canton approved the agreement between Town and Village at their February meeting. The Agreements include an Agreement between Town and Village; St. Lawrence County and Village and St. Lawrence County and The Fund. Attorney Ducharme summarized the history of this project. The property at 30 Riverside Drive is known to have been and continues to be contaminated as a result of discharges of petroleum on the property. St. Lawrence County is owed delinquent real property taxes on the property. The County has commenced a tax foreclosure action on the property. The agreements intend to provide a way to transfer the property to the Village, and secure DEC clean up on the property, without liability to the County or the Village. Attorney Ducharme explained the expected timeline relative to the transfers of the title. He advised that there is no firm timeline for the cleanup to occur, but this is a priority with the DEC and the Fund. Attorney Ducharme advised that the DEC will perform the clean up on the property, with the extent of the clean up to be at the DEC's discretion. After the cleanup is complete the Village will receive a case is closed letter. The Board discussed the benefits of cleaning up the property as part of redevelopment of the Riverside Drive area.

Trustee Pynchon made a motion to authorize Mayor Dalton to sign the both the Town/Village and the Village/County agreements. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Trustee Larrabee made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Project Monitoring with Atlantic Testing Laboratories. Trustee O'Brien seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

- c. **Solar Update & Set a Public Hearing for SEQRA for the Project-** Mayor Dalton stated that the Village Planning Board has to set the Public Hearing for the SEQRA for site plan review. He informed that Board that the PPA rates will change to approximately .075 due to paying prevailing wage rate on the job.

- d. **Housing and Planning Board Openings-** Mayor Dalton asked the Board for thoughts/recommendation for the one opening on the Housing Authority Board and one opening for an alternative on the Planning Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

- b. Authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds** – Trustee O’Brien made a motion to authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds for abstract #9 of 2017-2018. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

General Fund	\$176,278.57	Golf Course	\$4,871.82
Water Fund	\$33,015.63	Joint Activity	\$23,814.03
Sewer Fund	\$26,402.90		

- c. Approve Engineering Agreement with Tisdal Associates for Waste Water Blower Replacement.** Trustee Proemm made a motion to approve the Engineering Agreement with Tisdal Associates for the Waste Water Blower replacement. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.
- d. Approve March 15, 2018 for a Civil Service Section 75 Hearing-** Moved to executive session.
- e. Approve a Designate Hearing Office for a Civil Service Section 75 Hearing-** Moved to executive session.
- f. Approve hiring a Stenographer for a Civil Service Section 75 Hearing-** Moved to executive session.
- g. Approve St. Lawrence County Hold Harmless Resolution-** Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the St. Lawrence County Hold Harmless Resolution. Trustee O’Brien seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.
- h. Approve Fire Department Member- Tyler VanBrocklin-** Trustee Larrabee made a motion to approve Tyler VanBrocklin as a Fire Department Member. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.
- i. Review and Approve Updated Harassment & Discrimination Policy-** Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the Harassment and Discrimination Policy. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.
- j. Court Street Parking Complaints-** Mayor Dalton stated that the No Parking signs are missing on Court St. to in front of the Community Bank building. Superintendent Hallahan informed the Board that the signs will be going up. Chief Santimaw shared photos of Court Street and gave a recommendation for a commercial/loading/unloading zone. He stated that the signage would have to be clear what it is for and vehicles would be towed.

Attorney Ducharme stated that they will look at the current local law for parking.

Trustee Pynchon asked the Board if they have given much thought to a yearly parking permit.

Mayor Dalton stated that the parking meters development movement in front of businesses.

- k. Term of Office-** Mayor Dalton discussed moving the term of office from a 2-year to a 4-year term. He stated that there is a process/procedure into doing it.

Attorney Ducharme stated that a resolution and local law would have to be completed. It would be a permissive referendum. He recommended taking action by the summer due to the upcoming elections. Further discussion will be held at the March meeting.

- l. Town Joint Meeting-** A Town/Village Joint Meeting will be held on Monday, March 19th at 5:30pm.

Topics for the agenda include:

- a. Ethics Committee
- b. 350 Alliance
- c. Canton Cap. Res. Corp
- d. Shared Services

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comment

Executive Session -Trustee Larrabee made a motion to enter into executive session at 8:15 PM for a purpose as identified in Public Officers Law §105(1) (f.). Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee O'Brien made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:25 PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Larrabee. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Proemm made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30PM. Trustee Pynchon seconded the motion. Everyone voted in favor. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Cara Adams
Deputy Clerk