

**TOWN OF CANTON REGULAR  
BOARD MEETING  
6:30 PM Executive Session  
7:00 PM Regular Meeting  
July 11, 2019  
Minutes**

Present: Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley, Deputy Supervisor Bob Washo, Council members James Smith, Phil LaMarche and Tim Danehy

Also, in Attendance: Attorney Dan Ramsey, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Lisa Hammond, Code Enforcement Officer Jeff Murray, Historian Linda Casserly, Economic Development Director Leigh Rodriguez, Assessor Cindy Brand, Recreation Director Jim Putman, John Gray, Toby Irven, Klaus Proem, John & Bonnie Danis, Phil & Lisa Burnett, Kenneth Moore of Argent Developments and Sue Mende

Absent: Highway Superintendent Terry Billings

- A. Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley called meeting to order
- B. 6:35 p.m. went into executive session for the purpose of discussing issues identified as proper by Public Officers Law 105 (F). Motion was made by Council member Phil LaMarche, seconded by Council member Tim Danehy. All voted in favor. Motion carries.  
  
6:57 p.m. came out of executive session. Motion was made by Council member Jim Smith, seconded by Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley. All voted in favor. Motion carries.
- C. Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley continued on with regular monthly board meeting stating that she is adding two items under the Supervisors report.  
  
Under new business Supervisor Ashley added CFA application resolution
- D. Public Comment: John Danis of Front Street, Rensselaer Falls was present and spoke against the possibility of an overlay district being proposed in the Comprehensive Plan on Front Street in the Village of Rensselaer Falls, Town of Canton. Phil Burnett concurred with Danis and added that he is concerned about his property value. Both Danis and Burnett live in the Town of Canton. Danis stated the property in question of Front Street is now residential and if the overlay district goes through it would have the potential to become Commercial and he is very much against it. Letter was submitted for the record from Danis.
- E. County Legislature Representative(s) Updates(s): none
- F. Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2019

Motion was made by Council member Bob Washo to approve minutes, seconded by Council member Tim Danehy. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

G. Supervisor Report:

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley stated that she sent received a statement from Canton Complete Streets Task Force and Canton Trail Committee for review by the board members. Both committees are looking for support for the Judson Street Inventory and Study by Clarkson University, Canton Central to Sullivan Drive – funding application for CFA, Miner Street – Clark Street to Jingleville Rd.

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley stated that the Town has had for a number of years a CNA Surety Bond for \$95,000.00 for the Canton Economic Development Corporation to cover the President of the CEDC on theft, at a cost of \$351.00 a year and that she has cancelled it. This was to cover the USDA revolving loan funds. The Town of Canton is already covered through it own liability policy.

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley stated that the Town received their Foreign Fire Funds in the amount of \$3,394.06, and increase of \$677.29 from 2017.

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley made a motion to pass a resolution transferring unclaimed bail funds of \$960.00 to the A account, seconded by Council member Bob Washo. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

See attached resolution

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley made a motion to pass a resolution closing the Highway Barn Capital Fund account and transfer it to the DA account in the amount of \$19.55, seconded by Council member Phil LaMarche. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

John Gray of Gray and Gray read over the fund balances and provided a written report to the Board members. Questions and answers were received. Supervisor Ashley stated that the Board members receive these reports in advance of the meeting for review.

H. Audit Committee:

A: \$31,599.09	TA: \$12,584.68
DA: \$66,283.10	B: \$1,229.86
SL: \$265.24	SM: \$615.01
DB: \$15,609.60	SF: 64,800.00

Motion was made by Council member Bob Washo to approve expenditures, seconded by Council member Phil LaMarche, all voted in favor. Motion carries.

## I. Acceptance of Department Reports:

Jeff Murray Code Enforcement Officer went over a proposal for Eric Johnson's Impound Lot on Route 11. After discussion it was decided that Murray will consult with Mike Morgan, Planning Board Chair to codify the plan. Murray reminded the board members that Johnsons Impound is not a junk yard and that Johnsons neighbor that has expressed concerns in the past is happy with this proposal/plan.

Council member Bob Washo made a motion to support this site plan if all is in order with the Planning Board, seconded by Council member Tim Danehy. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Leah Rodriquez Economic Developer stated that she is working on the CFA's, Grants which are due on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July. Rodriguez added that there was a DRI presentation held that it went well, now is just waiting to hear if Canton is awarded the grant later this summer.

Motion was made by Council member Phil LaMarche to accept Department reports as presented, seconded by Council member Bob Washo, all voted in favor. Motion carries.

## J. Committee Reports:

Committee member Jim Smith stated that the Comp Plan Committee met and will hold a joint meeting on July 30, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. with both the Village of Canton and the Village of Rensselaer Falls. Smith added that the Town of Canton will take the lead on the SEQR. (State Environmental Quality Review) process for itself and the two Villages.

Committee member Jim Smith reported that he will reach out to the facilitator to try to move the Fire Task Force along. Supervisor Mary Ashley added that this is a large part of the upcoming budget process and hopes this can be placed on the August regular board meeting.

## K. Old Business:

### 1. Draft Solar Law Discussion/Set Public Hearing

Attorney Dan Ramsey made the modifications to the Solar Law and sent the final draft to the board members.

Motion made by Council member Tim Danehy to hold a Public Hearing on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m. seconded by Council member Mary Ann Ashley. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Council member Phil LaMarche abstained from voting on the matter.



2. Rensselaer Falls Highway Project Discussion:

Council member Bob Washo stated that he spoke with Mayor Michael Hammond and found out that Sheehan Construction is on hold at this time, and that Hammond will continue talks with both Sheehan and Canton Highway Superintendent Terry Billings along with the Highway Committee to hopefully go forward with a plan. Council member Bob Washo stated that the Town will provide trucking support to Sheehan. The Canton Town Board is in support of working with the Village of Rensselaer Falls.

3. Argent Developments, LLC Annexation Petition Joint Public Hearing:

Kenny Moore of Argent Developments was present and spoke about the project allowing Argent to run Village Water and Sewer lines past the 6-unit apartment building that is already located on Sullivan Drive so that the Developers can build houses on the site. Two years ago, the Village allowed water and sewer to these apartments with a outside user rate, which is higher than inside rate. The proposed houses to be built would also be in an outside usage area. After discussion it was decided to hold a joint Village and Town Public Hearing for the possibility of annexing the property into the Village of Canton

Council member Bob Washo held discussion with Moore about the Complete Street and Canton Trail Committee on going developments. Moore stated he will be more available for the future meetings to be kept abreast of developments in this area.

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley stated that the Legal Notice for the Public Hearing has been sent to the Newspaper along with letters to all surrounding property owners.

4. Discuss Proposed Cannabis Resolution:

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley stated that the Village of Canton passed a resolution in support of the legally regulated cultivation and sale of cannabis in St. Lawrence County. Ashley added that the Town Board has not held discussion on the matter. Council member Bob Washo suggested holding off on the matter for now as the Town missed the legislative session. Washo stated he is in support of the Village's resolution but the Senate is not back in session until next year. Washo wants to revisit this matter when its back on the table. In ending, Washo wants to see a task force created between the Town and Village board members, law enforcement and university members and possibly a health care professional. Washo wants more homework done on the matter and be prepared of what impact this will have on this College Town. This matter will be added to the July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Special meeting.

5. Ethics Code Update:

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley stated that she, Council member Bob Washo, Village Mayor Mike Dalton and Trustee Carol Pynchon met and discussed the disclosure statement which attached to the Ethics Code. Washo stated that he would like to see more of a blanket form and that he has a copy of Woodstock's form and wants to make it fit our needs. Village Trustee Klaus Proem was present and agreed with Washo that he should talk the Village of Canton Board members about creating a blanket form. Board members to review Woodstock's form and bring it back to the board in the future to move on it.

L. New Business

1. Town Credit Card Approval:

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley requested support to apply for a Credit Card for Town use. After discussion it was decided that Ashley create a draft policy and bring it back to the board for further discussion.

2. Town of Russell Northwoods Road Agreement/Hold Harmless Resolution:

Discussion was held on the current agreement between the Town of Canton and the Town of Russell. Attorney Dan Ramsey stated that he thinks there should be more detail in the agreement. Ramsey wants to see the Town of Canton more protected in the agreement. Supervisor Ashley to contact Supervisor White of Russell and bring it back to the board.

3. Miner St/Rd Engineering Study Transfer of Funds:

Council member Jim Smith made a motion to transfer \$9,000.00 from the fund balance to a newly created account DB1900-1990-4 Special items, seconded by Council member Phil LaMarche. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

See attached resolution

This transfer will cover the study of Miner Street Road by Brooks Washburn Architect P.C. of Potsdam.

4. BCA Architects Municipal Building Assessment Transfer of Funds:

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley made to amend the budget transferring \$17,000.00 in funds from the B Fund to SM Joint fund, and allow Ashley to sign a MOU with the Village of Canton for fifty percent of the cost to conduct a Municipal Building needs assessment study. Seconded by Council member Tim Danehy. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

5. Town Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals Recording Secretary Appreciation:

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley informed the Board members that Ginger Thomas, Planning/Zoning Board Secretary of twelve years has resigned from her position. Ashley will invite Thomas to attend the August regular board meeting to show the board appreciation for her commitment.

6. CFA Application Resolution:

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley and Economic Developer Leigh Rodriguez discussed the workmanship of the Waterfront Revitalization Program.

Motion to approve and endorse an application to NYS Department of State for Funding by Council member Bob Washo, seconded by Council member Jim Smith. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

See attached resolution

Discussion was held on property owners along the State Street Trail willing to give the Village permission to make adjustments to their property to improve this venue. Council member Bob Washo added that he, Toby Irven and Brooks Washburn met on the Miner Street proposal and there will be another meeting with all members on Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. along with St. Lawrence University.

Council member Bob Washo made a motion that the Town Board will be in full support of the Village making an application for the State Street Trail System improvements, seconded by Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

8:54 p.m. Council member Tim Danehy made motion to go into executive session, seconded by Council member Jim Smith, all voted in favor. Motion carries.

Upon a majority vote upon a motion that identifies the subject to be considered, the Council may conduct an executive session to discuss any of the issues identified as proper by Public Officers Law 105 (1) H and F

10:10 p.m. Council member Bob Washo made a motion to come out of executive session, seconded by Council member Phil LaMarche, all vote in favor. Motion carries.

10:10 p.m. Council member Bob Washo made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council member Phil L LaMarche. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted

Lisa A. Hammond





**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_**  
**July 11, 2019**

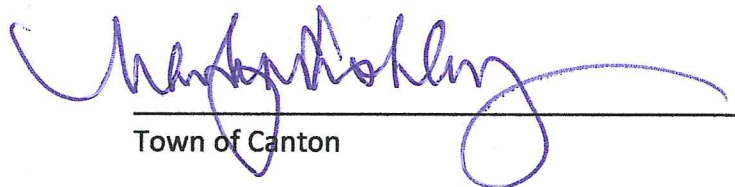
**Approval of transferring unclaimed bail funds**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Canton has had \$960 of unclaimed bail funds from 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a seven (7) year window to hold the bail funds ending in November 2019 and no one has collected it;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board approves transferring \$960 from the Unclaimed Bail Funds Account to the General A account.

7/11/19  
Date

  
Town of Canton

**RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_**  
**July 11, 2019**  
**Budget Amendment**  
**Miner Street Road Engineering Study**

**WHEREAS**, the Miner Street Road Rehabilitation is part of the Town and Village Master Trails Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the complexity of the project, a professional engineering study needs to be conducted; and

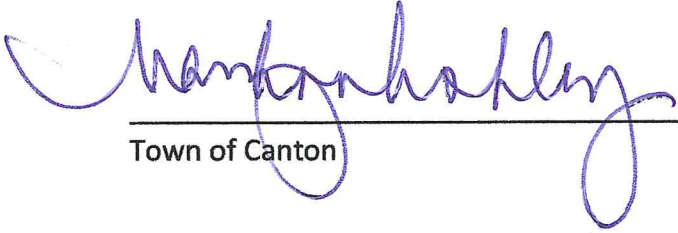
**WHEREAS**, the Town of Canton solicited RFQs and selected Brooks Washburn, LLC to conduct the study;

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Canton has agreed to contribute \$1,000, through a MOU, towards the assessment due to the fact that the Village is recognizing the need to rehabilitate a portion of Miner Street before the bridge;

**WHEREAS**, a budget amendment by full approval of the Town Board to transfer \$9,000 from the fund balance to a newly created line account-DB-1900-1990-4 Special Item(s)

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Canton Town Board approves the budget amendment of transferring \$9,000 from the fund balance to the newly created highway special items revenue line to cover the costs of the assessment and authorize the Town Supervisor to sign a MOU with the Village of Canton to contribute \$1,000 towards the engineering study.

7/11/19  
Date

  
Town of Canton



**RESOLUTION BY THE TOWN OF CANTON  
APPROVING AND ENDORSING AN APPLICATION TO  
NYS DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR FUNDING  
UNDER THE 2019 LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PROGRAM**

Motion By:  
Seconded By:

**WHEREAS**, \$15,000,000 in Environmental Protection Fund funding is available in 2019 through the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) to advance the preparation or implementation of strategies for community and waterfront revitalization; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of State is soliciting applications through the web-based New York state Consolidated Funding Application from eligible villages, towns, cities and counties located along New York's coasts or designated inland waterways; and

**WHEREAS**, a Canton Grasse River Waterfront Revitalization Plan was completed in 2010 and updated in 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Canton intends be the lead in an application to the Department of State LWRP to implement components of the Canton Grasse River Waterfront Revitalization Plan including 1) creation of a bike/pedestrian trail along Miner Street Road from the Village to Jingleville Road connecting the municipal recreation area at Taylor Park, and 2) enhancement of Willow Island to create an art focused park including features such as an outdoor performance space, natural playscape, and landscaping; and

**WHEREAS**, the Canton Office of Economic Development is able to provide necessary administrative services for the work to be performed as part of this grant initiative to both prepare the application and administer the grant program, upon award, for the duration of the project; and

**WHEREAS**, the grant application requires that the applicant obtain the endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in which the project will be located.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town of Canton:


1. That the Supervisor, is the representative authorized to act in behalf of all applicants in all matters related to State assistance for the project. The representative is also authorized to: sign and submit the application; execute the contract; request payment advances and reimbursements; redistribute contract reimbursements as appropriate; submit project documentation; and otherwise act for all applicants in all matters related to the project and to State assistance;
2. That the Town of Canton agrees that it will complete the project in a timely manner;
3. That the Town of Canton agrees that it will fund its portion of the 25% share of the project through a collaboration with the Village of Canton, the terms of which will be outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding; and
4. That this authorization take effect immediately.

Passed by the following vote of all Town Council members voting in favor thereof:

Affirmative Board Members:

Affirmative:     —  
Negative:        —  
Abstain:         —  
Absent:          —

I, Lisa Hammond, do hereby certify that this resolution was passed at a meeting of the Town of Canton Council members held on July 11, 2019 and is incorporated on file and of record in my office, that said resolution has not been altered, amended or revoked and is in full force and effect, and that this is a true and correct copy of the resolution.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Hammond, Clerk

7-11-2019  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

[Official Seal]