

# Village of Canton, New York

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## VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes: October 21, 2019

### **Board Present:**

Michael Dalton, Mayor  
Beth Larrabee, Trustee  
Klaus Proemm, Trustee

Sean O'Brien, Trustee  
Carol Pynchon, Trustee

### **Others Present:**

Gerald Ducharme, Village Attorney  
Brien Hallahan, Superintendent  
Jeff Murray, Code Officer  
Jim Putman, Rec. Director

Sally Noble, Clerk/Treasurer  
Jim Santimaw, Police Chief  
Cara Adams, Deputy Clerk

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

- a. **Approve minutes of September 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>** – Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the minutes of September 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>; seconded by Trustee Proemm. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

**Mayor Dalton moved the following:**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Complete Street Presentation by Eric Backus-** Mayor Dalton introduced Eric Backus to present the Judson Street Concept Design. Mr. Eric Backus introduced Karen Bage from the Health Initiative. Ms. Bage stated that the Health Initiative helped with funding to hire Mr. Backus and students to conduct the study. She informed the Board that there will be a North Country Active & Healthy Transportations Network Workshop held on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at Clarkson University. Also present was Frank Doldo of SLC Department of Public Transportation.

Mr. Backus introduced Autumn Lennon who is a Sophomore at Clarkson University in Civil Engineering. Ms. Lennon helped with the study.

Mr. Backus presented the Judson Street Concept Design for Complete Streets. Presentation is on file in the Village Clerk's Office.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

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

Superintendent Hallahan asked the Board if they authorize him to take the surplus equipment to auction. Trustee Larrabee made a motion to authorize Superintendent Hallahan to take the equipment to auction. Trustee Pynchon seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Trustee Pynchon asked Superintendent Hallahan about the trees on Miner Street by Appleton Arena. Superintendent Hallahan stated that the trees have to come down but it

has been too busy in that area. He stated that the trees could be taken down in the winter.

Trustee Pynchon asked Superintendent Hallahan if there has been communication with St. Lawrence University about widening the road on Miner Street from Clark Street to the Bridge? Superintendent Hallahan stated that they will keep the conversation going between the Village and St. Lawrence University. The work is planned for the Spring. Mayor Dalton said we need to get the parties together again.

Superintendent Hallahan informed the Board about the crossing sign and light on East Main Street by Hillside and Crescent Street. DOT responded that it did not meet the number of pedestrians of 20 people crossing in an hour or 36 people in the 2 hours. Superintendent Hallahan will speak with Mr. Backus and Complete Streets, as he was thinking about Judson Street.

Recreation Director Putman informed the Board that the Ice Calendar is now working and posted on the website.

Trustee O'Brien asked Superintendent Hallahan about the crosswalk flashing light on Park Street with the resident that has health issues. Superintendent Hallahan stated that he has a screen to try to help with a solution but has not been put up. The screen would help with only one side. Superintendent Hallahan has not heard back from the resident. Trustee O'Brien and Trustee Pynchon suggested following up with the resident.

Code Officer Murray did not have anything to add to his report.

Trustee O'Brien asked Code Officer Murray about his report with the ways to deal with people in R1 that are renting to 3 or more people?

Code Officer Murray stated that he knows there are more than three people living in the houses but how does he prove this?

Trustee Pynchon stated that there is a really good way, with Rental Registration.

Police Chief Report- Mayor Dalton informed the Board that Police Chief Santimaw is currently out but should return on Wednesday.

Trustee Larrabee stated she appreciates the Police Staff for dealing with the vandalism of mailboxes and pumpkin smashing in the Farmer St. area.

Assessor Report- Trustee Pynchon suggested pursuing the Tax Exemption for Capital Improvements for Residential Properties. After further Board discussion the Board decided to increase the exemption. Attorney Ducharme will draft the language for the increase for the November meeting. A Public Hearing will need to be set after the draft is reviewed. Trustee Pynchon is interested in hearing what the Town is going to do.

Economic Developer Report- Trustee Pynchon informed the Board that the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual North County Symposium will be held on Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Golf Course Committee- Trustee Pynchon informed the Board that the Golf Committee held the end of the season meeting. They discussed some issues with the building regarding doors that lock and do not lock and the request for covered gutters in some areas where the water drips and makes the ground slippery. Trustee Pynchon stated that Bacon Brothers have until December 1<sup>st</sup> to make a decision about next year.

Solar Committee- Mayor Dalton showed a graph showing how many KWHs are being produced by Solar and showed an example of a Niagara Mohawk bill with the credits that are being applied. The Mayor did a Solar presentation for the SOAR program.

Sustainability Committee- Trustee Pynchon informed the Board that on November 12<sup>th</sup> Larry Legault, County Solid Waste Manager and Kyle Miller, DANC Recycling Coordinator will be attending the Sustainability Meeting. Anyone interested is welcome to come.

Trustee Pynchon thanked Superintendent Hallahan and DPW for the modifications to the compost pilot. They will be contacting the Canton Community Fund to ask for help in funding the compost bags.

Recreation Committee- Trustee Pynchon stated that Samuel Haenel will be leaving and he was a great asset and will be missed.

Technology- Trustee Pynchon stated that staff will be looking for help on website updates.

Leadership- Trustee Pynchon stated that Mayor Dalton, Supervisor Ashley and Councilperson Washo discussed looking for someone to contract with to do minutes for the ZBA and Planning Boards. If anyone has any suggestions to let them know.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION:**

Mayor Dalton shared with the Board that Josh Parker and Tarek Makdoui are interested in a Sister City with Tunisia. After further discussion the Board agreed they learn more.

Mayor Dalton informed the Board that Harley Tanner from the firm that is doing the building assessment needs will be here on Wednesday. Mayor Dalton will let the Board know when the time is firmed up.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Toby Irven stated that in the planning process of Miner Street Road Brookes Washburn would be another participant to be involved in the redesign.

Trustee Pynchon asked if a ribbon cutting could be set up for the solar site? Mayor Dalton agreed to set up a ribbon cutting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **EV Charger Update-** Trustee Proemm stated that they are real close. The guy that they were working with was fired from the company and they have a new person to work with. The project should move along soon.

Trustee Pynchon asked what the charge would be? Trustee Proemm stated that they would have to discuss what to charge or not charge? He will have a discussion with APEX.

- b. Set Public Hearing for Ethics Code-** The Board set the Public Hearing for the Ethics Code for November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm. We will need to repeal the current code.
- c. Update on Zoning Audit-** Trustee Pynchon spoke with Monica. Monica stated that the code is in rough shape and it lacks definitions and modern zoning. Monica will prepare a memo, that will be reviewed by Attorney Ducharme, Code Officer Murray, Economic Developer Rodriguez and others. The code will take a substantial overhaul of our code.

Attorney Ducharme and Monica spoke about the following:

- Inconsistencies within the codes.
- Special Exception Uses
- Rethink and firm-up ZBA and Planning Board Duties
- Move signage chapter to the zoning chapter
- Subdivisions and sign variances still being approved by Trustees

Trustee Proemm suggested adding the Complete Streets to the Code.

Board discussed about available dates and times to meet with Monica. Trustee Pynchon is going to reach out to everyone regarding what date/time works.

- d. Update on East Main Street Crossing Sign and Light-** Discussed during Superintendent Hallahan's Department Head Report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- b. Authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds-** Trustee Larrabee made a motion to authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds # 5 of 2019-2020. Trustee O'Brien seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

General Fund	\$105,433.74	Golf Course	\$59,542.59
Water Fund	\$36,470.90	Joint Activity	\$9,774.25
Sewer Fund	\$42,617.07		

- c. Approve New Fire Department Member: Cody Bournival-** Trustee Larrabee made motion to approve new fire department member: Cody Bournival. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.
- d. Discuss Taylor Park Fencing-** Trustee Pynchon informed the Board that Mr. Filippi is threatening to change the locks and close Taylor Park down if the fencing that was completed by the Town of Canton was not fixed. The work the Village did on their half of the fence was liked by Mr. Filippi but the work completed by the Town needed to be fixed. The Town is fixing the fence now. Trustee Pynchon made a suggestion that the Village of Canton would do all the work going forward and bill the Town. All Board Members agreed.

- e. **Discuss and Possible Take Action on Golf Cart Lease Proposal-** The Board decided to table the topic until the November meeting. There was question about the price of the agreement. Clerk Noble will reach out to Golf Pro Maginn for explanation.
- f. **Discuss and Take Action on the Dairy Queen Project SEQRA-** Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the 51 Gouverneur Street Reconstruction Resolution-Type II Action. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

**51 GOUVERNEUR STREET RECONSTRUCTION  
RESOLUTION – TYPE II ACTION  
OCTOBER 21, 2019**

The following resolution is hereby adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Canton, New York, held on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of October 2019, to wit:

*THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE COMMERCIAL FACILITY AT  
51 GOUVERNEUR STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF CANTON, NEW  
YORK IS NOT SUBJECT TO SEQRA REVIEW.*

da        *WHEREAS*, the property at 51 Gouverneur Street In the Village of Canton is a commercial  
ne property, on which was located a 1,886 square foot commercial building constructed in 1967 that housed  
Ac an operating Dairy Queen restaurant; and

*WHEREAS*, the said commercial building was destroyed by fire on August 4, 2018, resulting in  
the loss of 17 jobs. Plans are underway for the removal of the damaged structure and rebuilding in-kind in  
order to reopen the restaurant; and

*WHEREAS*, the Village of Canton’s Office of Economic Development has worked to secure  
Community Development Block Grant (*CDBG*) funds which will be assist in the cost of purchasing  
equipment for the new structure; and

*WHEREAS*, the State Environmental Quality Review Act (*SEQRA*), at 6 *NYCRR* §617.5, identifies  
Ca1 certain actions or classes of action which are not subject to *SEQRA* review. These actions are referred to  
Da as Type II actions, and have been determined not to have a significant impact on the environment or are  
otherwise precluded from environmental review under Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law.  
Said Type II actions include the following actions listed at §617.5(c)(2): “replacement, rehabilitation or  
reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet  
building or fire codes”;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, it is hereby

*RESOLVED*, by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Canton, New York, that the removal of the damaged structure at 51 Gouverneur Street in the Village of Canton, New York, and the rebuilding of a new structure in kind on the same site, is a Type II action as described by 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(2).

Accordingly, said project is deemed not to be subject to *SEORA* review.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was put to a vote as follows:

Mayor Michael Dalton	<i>VOTING</i>	<u>Yes</u>
Trustee Carol Pynchon	<i>VOTING</i>	<u>Yes</u>
Trustee Elizabeth Larrabee	<i>VOTING</i>	<u>Yes</u>
Trustee Sean O'Brien	<i>VOTING</i>	<u>Yes</u>
Trustee Klaus Proemm	<i>VOTING</i>	<u>Yes</u>

The foregoing Resolution was voted upon and approved by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Canton, New York on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of October 2019.

Date: October 21, 2019



Sally Noble, Village Clerk

**g. Discuss and Ratify the PBA/Village MOA-** Trustee Larrabee made a motion to ratify the PBA/Village MOA. Trustee O'Brien seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

The new contract is for June 1, 2019 for four years.

**h. Discuss Draft Information Resources and Technology Use Policy-** Trustee Pynchon stated that the draft was sent to the attorneys for the Village and Town. Attorney Ducharme will provide feedback.

**i. Approval to Send Unpaid Property Taxes for SLC for Collection-** Trustee Larrabee made a motion to approve sending the unpaid property taxes in the amount of \$59,993.96 to St. Lawrence County. Trustee Pynchon seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Trustee Proemm stated that he is going to arrange a Compete Streets meeting to discuss Eric Backus's proposal. Discussion on the suggestions will be discussed at the November meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-** Trustee Pynchon made a motion to enter into executive session at 8:279PM for a purpose as identified in Public Officers Law §105(1) (h). Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee O'Brien made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:02PM. The motion was seconded by Trustee Proemm. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Proemm made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03PM. Trustee O'Brien seconded the motion All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Cara Adams  
Deputy Clerk