

# *Village of Canton, New York*

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## **VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

Meeting Minutes: August 17, 2021

### ***Board Present:***

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

Carol Pynchon, Trustee  
Anna Sorensen, Trustee

### ***Others Present:***

Gerald Ducharme, Village Attorney  
Tim Nolan, Code Enforcement  
James Santimaw, Chief  
Linda Casserly, Historian

Sally Noble, Clerk/Treasurer  
Marty Miller, Superintendent  
Meghan Richardson, Rec Director  
Leigh Rodriguez, Ec. Dev.

The meeting was held on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 6:30pm in the Court Room of the Municipal Building at 60 Main Street Canton, NY 13617. The meeting was also made available to the public via the use of Zoom video-conference.

Mayor Dalton removed the following under New Business because of the uptick in COVID cases:

- g. Swear in Police Officer Joshua Vine

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

- a. **Approve minutes of July 21, 2021-** Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the minutes of July 21, 2021; seconded by Trustee Sorensen. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

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

**Golf Course** – Kevin has been working hard on a fair rate increase. He has been working with the committee. We had a lot of rain in July.

**Police Chief Report-** Chief Santimaw added that the block dance and Dairy Princess Parade went well as far as law enforcement is concerned. Also new Officer Vine is doing well and is getting acclimated. Trustee Sorensen added it is nice to see the bike safety events are so well attended, with over 150 attendees.

**Code Officer-** Code Officer Nolan reported McDonald got their CO on August 6. Parkway is ongoing. They were doing some roofing. A permit was issued for the Rock & Mineral Show.

**Economic Developer Report-** Economic Developer Rodriguez said they are pretty busy. We've got the second tree grant contract in place with the state so they are getting an RFP prepared for that project.

Brownfield Opportunity Area step two nomination document is now available. There's going to be two public hearings on that. They are both on August 25. They are also working away on the CDBG Cares Act applications. They have requested input from small businesses. Also, the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) contest. Those applications are due September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Superintendent Report-** Trustee Sorensen asked about the Harrison crossing. Supt. Miller said that CSX is moving in by the Town Barn getting ready to put some tables together for 310 so he feels it is looming very soon. He does not know when that might be and no one can give a definite answer to that. The Mayor added that one reason we asked that to be closed was damage to vehicles.

Trustee Sorensen asked about the IWORQs program. Marty said he is setting a timeline of October 1<sup>st</sup> for all purchases to need a P.O. Marty will be sending a memo to all departments, giving them plenty of notice. This should help immensely with budgeting. If anyone would like to sit down and look at the program, he would be glad to show them what it can do.

He added that we are doing more than the three streets budgeted for. So, he is asking for a resolution to amend the budget. We are going to be reimbursed for it.

Another issue is he feels the Tallman /Remington Road should be taken over by the Village. The owners have reached out to him regarding this. He feels that should be a good move for the Village. He could then get it on his road inventory. The Mayor said Attorney Ducharme will be consulted and we will need to hold a public hearing.

**Recreation Director** – This past Sunday we concluded the Cub Scout camp at Taylor Park. That went very well. The newly finished floors in the Riley room look great. The plan is to close Taylor Park on September 7 for the season. This past weekend the southern end of the bleachers was cleaned and resealed.

The kayaking new launch at Taylor Park has been set up for donations at the Village Office. Meghan has also been working with Marty on projects such as replacement of the rubber floor mats in the lobby, offices and restroom areas at the pavilion. They have also been discussing a Zamboni for the upcoming season. There was also discussion about a shared calendar with the Village office so we can coordinate rentals and payments.

**Treasurer Report** – Clerk Noble reported that Sales Tax receipts were up \$87,000 from the same time period last year. We only have \$51,000 left to collect in property taxes.

**Historian Report-** Historian Casserly reported the Pomeroy marker will be up in the next couple of weeks. She will be starting on another one soon. Linda has been talking to Meghan about some nice big photos for the Riley room. Stephen Sauter is back working with her remotely.

Trustee Sorensen made a motion to accept the Department Head reports. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Recreation Committee-** Trustee Pynchon reported that they will be having their second Recreation Advisory meeting, the first one with Meghan at the helm. That will be September 7<sup>th</sup>. Things are moving along on the outdoor rink. They have been working on plans to get it taken apart and possibly donating pieces keeping it out of the landfill. As Meghan mentioned Mark McKenna continues to lead the charge on the ADA kayak new launch. The Wycoff has made a very generous commitment as a great kickoff for the funding.

**Sustainability Committee** – Trustee Pynchon informed the Board Katie Metcalf at Canton Central School applied for a \$250 grant from the Canton Community Foundation for a program she started to encourage home composting. She is doing an awareness raising project among students in her grade. The money will help her buy home composting receptacles to give to the families who were interested. She took all the initiative herself. This also dovetails with a project the Village is hoping to work on with cooperative extension. They would provide a half-time community educator who will work on residential food waste diversion and composting projects.

**Communication and Technology Committee-** Trustee Pynchon stated that the committee is going to move to quarterly meetings unless we need to meet. Once we have a new Deputy Clerk, we will set up training on the website with North Shore. We also approved the purchase of a media cart. Trustee Sorensen added that we spoke again about the benefits of having a staff only internal page.

**Economic Development** – Trustee Pynchon said we are launching an effort to create a housing strategic plan. A housing analysis is part of our BOA. We know there is a lot of infrastructure and a lot of other kinds of funding that will be coming down in the next few years. We feel we have the date we need. Ellen Pembroke that worked on this with us through the BOA was very helpful. So, we are going to set up a working group that is going to try to pull this together. We hope to have something by the end of this year or early 2022 for public comment.

Trustee Sorensen added that there are multiple projects that we are working on where we are looking for Community input. The BOA, CDBG Cares the requests for projects and ideas and anybody that might be interested in the grant application. There is a short timeline on that. We would love to hear from folks particularly our businesses who might benefit from those funds.

**Public Safety** – Trustee Sorensen said one of the recommendations in terms of the Advisory Committee in regards to the Executive Order 203 one of the recommendations was the formation of a community engagement committee that would work with our chief and our board and to provide sort of an advisory board as well as to come up with and host barbecues and other kinds of events that would bring out Community and our police together with an eye towards strengthening that relationship. We have launched an interest form for people who might be in serving in that capacity. The form is on the website. They are looking for broad representation.

**Complete Streets** – Trustee Proemm reported that they have taken another look at Park Street, particularly the stretch from Main to the railroad tracks for pedestrian and bike safety. He spoke to Eric Backus at Clarkson about putting together a proposal for us to look at. He is thinking we could include Court Street between Main and State Street. This would probably be in the spring semester. They are also looking at a couple more EV charges and possible locations.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION:**

- a. **County Legislator Update-** was not in attendance.
- b. The Mayor received and circulated a letter of resignation from Tricia Pethic from the Canton Housing Authority Board. She said she felt she did not have the knowledge that she needed. The Village Board will be looking for a replacement for her.
- c. The Mayor received some census information. Our population has increased by 13%.
- d. The McDonald's contract has been received. He feels it is going to be approved by both Attorney's. It looks like we will be able to proceed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **Zoning Revision Update-** Mayor Dalton said it looks like we have a pretty good version. We have a meeting planned for the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August. He thinks that will be one of the final meetings before we go public. He thanked Trustee for putting a tremendous effort into editing. Carol added that Gerry and Monica put a huge amount of time into it. We are now looking for our ZBA and Planning Board review. We need our ED and Code office to look at it with their eyes.
- b. **American Rescue Plan Act -** Mayor Dalton kept this on here just to remind us we need to decide how to use the money.
- c. **E-Scooters -** Trustee Pynchon had a few questions. How was the number 75 arrived at? Do you have any communities our size? Jeremy responded that Oswego and Olean are New York programs in New York. 75 is the number of scooters that are available. We would probably start out with 25. As demand increase so would the number of scooters. It is a seasonal program. Trustee Pynchon asked if an assessment had been done of the area. Jeremy said they feel that they will have enough users to make sufficient income for the manager.

Trustee Sorensen was concerned about the scooters being ridden on the road. She has traffic safety concerns. Should this go to complete streets. Klaus said he informally has run it by complete streets with no real response. He will formally ask the committee. Anna is not opposed to it but just wants our community to be ready for it.

- d. **Single Use Plastics** – The Mayor stated that the sustainability committee asked us to look at the possibility of us looking at some sort of ordinance requiring restaurants to supply plastic straws only when asked by a customer and eliminate or ban the use of plastic stirrers altogether. The Mayor did receive an email from John Tenbush who is involved in the SLC environmental management council and he supports the efforts by the Village to move in this direction. Trustee Pynchon will share his email with the sustainability committee. We should have that conversation with our local eateries. Trustee Pynchon will contact Kathy Stein to see if she will come and do a short presentation for the board.

- e. **Community Choice Aggregation** – Trustee Proemm said we are all set to go. The Mayor will make sure the agreement is sent to Louise.
- f. **Discuss the Marijuana Laws in NYS-** Mayor Dalton reminded the Board we have a public hearing set for 6:00 pm on 9/22/21.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds** – Trustee Larrabee made a motion to authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds for abstract # **3 of 2021-2022**. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

General Fund	\$80,252.21	Golf Course	\$35,298.42
Water Fund	\$44,682.59	Joint Activity	\$4,631.03
Sewer Fund	\$ 5,118.18		

- b. **DRI update** – Leigh said we have decided to work with C & S. We have worked with them before and they have worked with a lot of other of DRI communities. We have a committee in place. We have been looking at what your boundary is going to be, what our potential projects are going to be and started doing some outreach to those groups. We are looking at a public hearing. That will be published soon. Narrowing in on what our boundary is going to be. Application is due September 15. This year the pool has doubled. So the money is either \$20 million or two \$10 million.
- c. **Pandemic Safety** – The Mayor gave an update on building safety. We will adjust according to what is happening in our community. There have been some conversations about Vaccine mandate. There will be a discussion with our labor attorney.
- d. **Discuss Head Start Lease Contract** – Mayor Dalton said the lease needs to be renewed. It is a three-year lease but they would like it to be a five-year lease. Attorney Ducharme will review.
- e. **Appoint Megan Mousaw as Deputy Registrar** – Trustee Pynchon made a motion to appoint Megan Mousaw as Deputy Registrar for the remainder of the term. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- f. **Second notice fee for taxes Resolution** - Trustee Proemm made a motion to set the second notice fee at zero. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sorensen. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- g. **Swear in Police Officer Joshua Vine** – This has been tabled to allow his family to attend.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Chief Santimaw wanted to thank some people and groups for assistance for the Dairy Princess event and the block dance. A thank you to Marty Miller, David Ragan, DPW, Town Highway,

SLC Highway, Canton Fire Department. This year West Stockholm fire department came to help with some of the side streets. Also his own staff.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**- No executive session was held.

Trustee Pynchon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Noble  
Village Clerk