

Village of Canton, New York

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes: June 15, 2022

Board Present:

Michael Dalton, Mayor
Anna Sorensen, Trustee

Beth Larrabee, Trustee
Klaus Proemm, Trustee

Others Present:

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

Sally Noble, Clerk/Treasurer
Meghan Richardson, Rec Director
Leigh Rodriguez, ED

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- a. **Approve minutes of April 27 & May 31, 2022-** Trustee Larrabee made a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was seconded by Trustee Proemm. All voted in favor. The motion passes.

- a. The Mayor said Code Officer Tim Nolan had to leave so he moved the **Color Palette for Historic District** item up on the agenda. The proposed palette was the Benjamin Moore Historical Collection. Barry Walsh, Planning Board Chair attended by zoom. There was not a meeting of the Planning Board. He felt the palette that was chosen was a good choice for Canton. Trustee Sorensen is in agreement with the color palette but wanted to make sure that the code officer and the planning board have the authority to approve colors that may not be exactly those and yet are consistent. Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the palette as recommended by Code Officer and the Chair of the Planning Board giving them discretion to approve similar colors. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries. Tim left at this point.

ACCEPTANCE OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Recreation Director – Meghan reported that Taylor Park did not open as planned. There was a lot of high water. They did open on June 4th. There are over 100 registered for swim lessons. They are currently doing a lot of mowing.

Police Chief Report- Chief Santimaw said he has a couple of officers that will be helping with bike safety with recreation. Chief expressed his concern to the School Superintendent that there has been no discussion about an SRO. He has offered his assistance.

Economic Development – Leigh said they are looking at LWRP and Green Innovation Grant (for water meter replacement). The Northern Regional Border Commission is a grant application for a secondary water source in the amount of \$1,000,000. CDBG Cares Act funding may now be available. They are not interested in any capital projects. They came back to us

with some more questions. The Village Green project is wrapping up now. The DRI and NY Forward programs will be announced sometime in July. There will be 2 rounds of the Restore NY program.

Trustee Larrabee left at this point in the meeting.

Treasurer Report – Clerk Noble attended a NYCOM conference on changes to video conferencing meetings. This is on the agenda for later.

Superintendent – Harrison Street paving will be done next week now. There were some equipment issues. There was a sewer line failure over the weekend. The Mayor reported added that we had someone come in the municipal building for a duct cleaning quote. The bid was sadly under understated. It is recommended that we do nothing. It will probably make things worse. The bid was around \$5,000.

Historian – submitted a written report.

Golf Course – A written report was received.

Animal control officer – No written report. He is in the hospital.

Assessor – Assessor submitted her written report. She is on vacation.

Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement submitted his report. It looks like he spent some time on people not mowing their grass.

Fire – The Chief did contact Clerk Noble and to let the Board know he was unable to submit a written report. They have some new equipment that is not up and running yet.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Sustainability – Trustee Pynchon said she went to the Village compost site with Tim and Rick this morning. They are going to rebuild when they can. She also met with Jen Perry. There is a lot of money out there right now for composting. She had a request for recycling bins in our parks. She gave a reminder that tomorrow is the second of the information sessions on the Community Choice Aggregation. We had a small turnout for the first meeting.

Finance Committee – Trustee Pynchon report there have been essentially no responses to our posting for our treasurer. We are going to leave the posting up for now.

Complete Streets – Trustee Proemm said the Court Street study has started. We should have a preliminary meeting at our July meeting. We are going to be doing some road painting, Judson Street will be restriped, we are going to do some additional painting around the raised crossing. Also, possibly some additional stripping on Riverside Dr and State Street. We are getting ready to put up 2 flashing signals on State Street, one on each side of the school.

Infrastructure Committee – Trustee Sorensen reported the committee met with the Town highway to talk about the Stiles Ave dedication. Once the survey is done, we will just be waiting for the Town.

Communications and Technology – Trustee Sorensen reported that we talked about internet connectivity which continues to be a problem. We may be able to work with the Town to simplify that. We also decided to investigate getting a handheld mic.

Recreation – The Mayor said that committee meets monthly. The LWRP is moving forward. We came to an understanding what was involved in the last grant application. We will be spending some time on that with Leigh at our next meeting. The committee also talked about where the lifeguard shack should be. They talked about building something that is elevated.

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION:

- a. **County Legislator Update**- legislator was not present.
- b. The Mayor was asked last month about minutes for the Housing Authority. He has asked Amanda about making sure we get that. The Mayor asked Amanda to visit and she does not feel inclined to do so. She offered to go to lunch with the Mayor.

OLD BUSINESS:

- b. **64 Main Street** – Nothing more to report right now.
- c. **Verizon Tower Lease** – This is the lease for the Judson Street water tower. We are currently in a lease that is paying about \$1,500 and goes up 3% each year. We are negotiating the contract beginning 2024. She proposed \$2,000 per month and a 2% increase each year with 3 five-year renewals. They were agreeable to that. They will be getting an amendment to us. Trustee Pynchon made a motion to accept the terms of the amendment with Attorney Ducharme’s approval. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- d. **Appraisal for Riverside Drive Property** – The Mayor distributed that late this afternoon. There were a few errors that needed to be corrected.
- e. **Broadband Update** – The committee brought their recommendations to their respective Boards. The recommendations being first that we issue an RFP for the already existing vendors to meet with us to see what it would take to provide services to the 245 unserved addresses. The second piece is that we would proceed with a feasibility study/business plan to identify whether a municipal broadband is feasible and desirable.

This was on the Town agenda. They did not discuss the first part of this. They referred the second piece of that to their attorney. Given that the 245 addresses are in the town and given that we do not know where they are at with municipal broadband Trustee Sorensen said she didn’t have a lot to ask for. She hopes that this Board would agree to move ahead with the RFP if this is something the Town is willing to do. The Mayor would be interested in the cost of the feasibility study and who would be involved.

- f. **Discuss Grievance Procedure for Non-Contract Employees** – The Mayor had distributed after some edits. The last thing to decide on the last page is a time frame. The Mayor felt 30 days is a good number. Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the procedure. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds** – Trustee Sorensen made a motion to authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds for abstract # **1 of 2022-2023**. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

General Fund	\$160,910.98	Golf Course	\$ 44,722.40
Water Fund	\$58,651.26	Joint Activity	\$5,046.88
Sewer Fund	\$52,590.48		

- b. **Approve Members for the Tree Committee** – The Mayor read the names of the proposed new members; John Casserly and Rick Delorme. There was a question about Rick being an employee. Trustee Pynchon asked what capacity would Rick be acting in, as employee? She felt if it was as a member of his company that would be a conflict. The Mayor answered that it would be as a Village employee and that he would not have authority to commit the Village of anything. That would come from the Village Superintendent. The tree committee is advisory only. Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the new members. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- c. **Discuss Grant for Water Meters** – Trustee Sorensen explained the Green Innovation Grant program is through EFC. It is a water efficiency program to pay for the replacement of water meters. This grant would reimburse up to either 50 or 75% of eligible water meter costs. This piece would be \$778,800. This grant is due July 29th. The Board was supportive of the grant application.
- d. **Change to Open Meeting Law, Video Conferencing** – Attorney Ducharme sent an information packet out. We will require a local law. Clerk Noble gave a summary of what she learned on the NYCOM webinar. There was Board discussion. If we do this the public would also be able to participate by zoom. Attorney Ducharme will draft a proposed local law for the Board’s review at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Toby said there has been some damage to the bear on the Remington Trail. He is not sure if it is Recreation or DPW. He is planning on talking to the sculptor and some varnishing needs to get done.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- Trustee Pynchon made a motion to enter executive session at 8:07 PM for the purposes (H) the proposed acquisition, sale of lease of real property. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Larrabee made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:25 PM. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Sorensen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Noble
Village Clerk