

Village of Canton, New York

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING Meeting Minutes: February 15, 2023

Board Present:

Michael Dalton, Mayor
Anna Sorensen, Trustee
Barbara Beekman, Trustee (attended by zoom)

Beth Larrabee, Trustee
Klaus Proemm, Trustee

Others Present:

Sally Noble, Clerk/Treasurer
James Santimaw, Chief
Meghan Richardson, Rec. Dir.

Tim Nolan, Code Enforcement
Cindy Brand, Assessor
Tim Bacon, Superintendent

6:00 PM

Community Choice Aggregation informational meeting. Peggy Kurtz and Glenn Weinberg attended by Zoom to answer any questions regarding CCA. Peggy shared her screen to show a power point presentation. The Village of Canton would be exploring the option to participate in an upcoming bid to consider an electricity supply contract through a program that would be called the Village of Canton Community Power program. That program would provide their eligible residents and small businesses with the benefits of renewable or standard electrical supply. This allows municipalities to aggregate energy demand and negotiate bulk purchases. The aggregate is with 10 other communities.

The information is available on-line @ www.joulecommunitypower.com/cantonvillage.

The Mayor opened the regular meeting at 6:34 PM.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- a. **Approve minutes of December 21, 2022, January 11, 2023, and January 18, 2023** – Trustee Proemm made a motion to accept the December 21, 2022, January 11, 2023, and the January 18, 2023 minutes. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

The Mayor added 2 items 6g. Appoint Joseph Mastro as a Police Officer and 6h. discussions of budget sessions.

ACCEPTANCE OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Historian – A written report was submitted. There has been lots of foot traffic in the new office. Renice and Rachel have been doing a great job. She has been talking to family members of Dwight Church. She has been speaking to Richard Phillips who has written 3 books on white slavery.

Recreation Director – Meghan submitted her written report. The new ice resurfacers are here. The representative stayed for 2 days for training and to make sure it was running correctly. We have about a month of ice time left. They have had a lot of private rentals, such as birthday parties.

Treasurer – Clerk Noble submitted a written report. She had a couple of things to add. On March 7 both Megan and Melinda will be attending a Notary class at BOCES in Canton. They are taking this class before they take the test. She asked if the Board could let her know what days they will be out of town so a budget calendar can be completed.

Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement submitted his report. He said it has been very quiet. He attended the planning board meeting for 2 Main Street.

Police Chief Report- Chief Santimaw added to his written report that for the last couple of months he has been participating with the SLC Crisis Intervention Committee. The Committee is working on better ways to deal with mental health issues.

Village Superintendent – A written report was submitted. He did want to change an amount on his report under water and sewer. On the report the correct amount for the engineering evaluation is \$15,000 not the \$12,500. The club house is looking good. Dave Ragan and Kyle Ames have been working on that. We are putting out a lot of door hangers for water meter replacements.

Assessor – Cindy Brand explained there was a mandated mailing geared towards low income. The new equalization rate will be 74% down from 86%.

Animal Control Officer - A written report was submitted

Economic Development – A written report was submitted.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Recreation Committee – The Mayor reported there was not a rec meeting due to illness.

Economic Development Committee – Trustee Beekman reported that they are almost done with the first draft of the CGI script. She feels everyone is feeling good about where that is. Barb, Anna and the Mayor attended the NYCOM conference where the big talk was housing which they have been talking about in economic development. The Governor has proposed a very far-reaching proposal. It will let the state override our local zoning code. It is vague on how it will affect us. Anna added that Leigh continues to work on grants. They are also working on grant debriefs to see what we can do better or differently.

Communications and Technology – Trustee Sorensen said we are going to continue to work on the social media policy. We are still having website problems.

Infrastructure – Trustee Sorensen reported there a couple of items on the agenda. Our secondary water source project, we do have funding for that in the amount of \$1,917,000. Our remaining water projects have to do with our water towers, transmission lines and the loop are going to run us between \$14,000,000 and \$16,400,000 depending on some decisions yet to be made. In terms of sewer, we are looking at a vac truck we need that is about \$525,000. We also need a generator and tonight we are discussing an agreement for design and engineering. We are looking at some significant numbers.

We have the grant for the Stiles Avenue and the sand / salt storage. The grant is a town grant.

Complete Streets – Trustee Proemm reported they are meeting with the Clarkson crew that helped with the Court Street study next week.

Sustainability – Trustee Proemm reported they are working on our Climate Smart Community Certification. He feels that should be complete in a couple of months.

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION:

- a. **County Legislator Update**- legislator was not present. No update.
- b. **Fast charger** – We did receive a complaint the fast charger is still not working. We should know in another month if we get grant funding for a new fast charger. We are going to fix the one we have. It will not communicate with Chargepoint but we would be still be able to use it.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **64 Main Street** – The Mayor said we extended the purchase agreement on it so Eric could work out some of the final details.
- b. **19 Miner Street Update** – We applied for two Restore NY grants. Now we wait. There are still some negotiations going on that we must wrap up for the purchase. We have a couple of things to finalize.
- c. **Discuss Attorney to represent the Village in Solar negotiations** – We were able to work those issues out with the Town. There were a couple of questions that came up about him representing both the town and village. There are no conflicts or ethics problems.
- d. **Discuss Community Choice Aggregation** – Trustee Proemm said he felt it was already covered earlier.
- e. **Discuss Social Media Policy** – Trustee Sorensen asked this to be tabled until next month.
- f. **Authorize Comp Plan Update** – The update will be at a cost of \$8,900 to be split equally with the Town. Rensselaer Falls with not be participating. A motion was made by Trustee Sorensen and seconded by Trustee Proemm to split the cost with the Town. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

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 9 of 2022-2023. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

General Fund	\$334,355.80	Sewer Fund	\$28,795.39
Water Fund	\$57,816.01	Golf Course	\$20,358.76

- b. **Approve Fire Department member David Witherhead** – Trustee Sorensen made a motion to approve David Witherhead for membership. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- c. **Discuss Story Walk Proposal** – They have done a temporary Story Walk each year and would like it to be a permanent one. Supt Bacon said they have already started working on trimming. They can't be right on the edge of the trail. They need to be set back and will need to build up gravel. The Board members were all in agreement to move forward.
- d. **Secondary Water Source Engineering Agreement** – This is the final piece on the secondary source. The numbers are a little flexible depending on which way we go. \$157,000 includes a 40 hr/wk on site inspector. We have this virtually 100% funded. The money will be partially funded by grants and ARPA funds. Trustee Sorensen made a motion to approve the agreement. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- e. **Waste Water Treatment Plant Evaluation** – This is a Barton and Loguidice agreement for \$15,000. This is the beginning of planning for the liners. This is for an evaluation of what is there now. Then they will give us some type of path to choose. This would start immediately Trustee Beekman made the motion to approve the agreement. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- f. **Discuss Judson Street Drainage Analysis** – The Mayor said this is the next step in the evaluation of Cleaveland and then the ongoing drainage problems we're having associated with Cleaveland coming down Judson down to Court. This will give us a sense of what we are up against and will allow us to do some planning. This contract is for \$30,000. We do not have the funds for this right now. We can move contingency funds to cover this and then a motion to approve this contract. Trustee Sorensen made a motion to move the contingency funds. Trustee Proemm seconded moving the contingency funds. All voted in favor. The motion carries. Trustee Sorensen made a motion to approve the contract and Trustee Larrabee seconded the contract approval. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- g. **Approve Joseph Mastro for hire as a police officer.** He is currently in the academy. His start date will depend on the when the Chief can line up the rest of his background check. Trustee Larrabee moved hiring probationally Joseph Mastro. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries. Basil Cheney is leaving in March we will be scheduling Sergeant interviews for next week.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- Trustee Larrabee made a motion to enter executive session at 7:48 PM for the purpose of property acquisition. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Proemm made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:40 PM. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Proemm made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 PM. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Noble
Village Clerk