

# Village of Canton, New York

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## VILLAGE/TOWN JOINT BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes: May 04, 2023

### TOWN MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mary Ann Ashley	----	Town Supervisor
Jim Smith	----	Council Member
Bob Santamoor	----	Council Member
John Taillon	----	Council Member
Randy Brown	----	Council Member

### VILLAGE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Dalton	----	Mayor
Anna Sorensen	----	Trustee
Barbara Beekman	----	Trustee
Klaus Proemm	----	Trustee
Beth Larrabee	----	Trustee

**Also Present:** Town Clerk Heidi L. Smith, Village Attorney Scott Goldie, Economic Developer Leigh Rodríguez

**Zoom Attendance:** Assessor Cindy Brand, Code Officer Mike McQuade, Watertown Daily Times Tom Graser, Sue Huntley, D. Whitton

#### A. Call Meeting to Order/Welcome

Supervisor Ashley called the joint meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

#### B. Old Business

##### 64 Main Street -

Council Member John Taillon stated the building committee met at 64 Main Street with the Village Superintendent and the Town Highway Superintendent and asked them about an inexpensive way to resurface the parking lot temporarily. After taking measurements the cost estimate was roughly \$10,000. They went into the building to see if there was any equipment that they would want. The answer was no. Both Superintendents believe a professional company should do the demolition.

Mayor Dalton stated that the parking lot needs to be stabilized and we need to figure out how we are going to remove the building. Dalton believes the best route would be to work with someone who can take the building down and recycle what can be recycled. Mayor Dalton stated when we redo the parking there needs to be handicap parking.

It was discussed having the County do the paving when they are doing Village paving.

Both boards are in support of doing a new parking lot and get bids on the removal of the McDonalds building.

**Shared Service Agreements -**

Supervisor Ashley read off the Shared Intermunicipal Service Agreements between the Town and Village:

**Assessor** – the Village pays 1/3 of the cost. The Assessor is a Town Department.

**Canton Town Court** - \$1,000 payment from the Village to the Town for those services. The Court is a Town Department.

**Office of Economic Development** – the Town pays \$20,000 for that service. ED is a Village Department.

**Historian** – is a Town Department. Expenses are shared equally between the Town and Village.

**Municipal Buildings & Grounds** – The Village does the majority of the work and the Town and Village split the cost.

**Recreation** – Invoicing will continue to be the same this year. In 2024 the structure will change regarding the payment. This will come in line with the sales tax payment.

A motion was made by Town Council Member John Taillon and seconded by Town Council Member Bob Santamoor to approve the shared service agreements between the Town and Village for the Assessor, Court, Economic Development, Historian, Municipal Building & Grounds, and Recreation.

All in favor. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Village Trustee Beth Larrabee and seconded by Village Trustee Klaus Proemm to approve the shared service agreements between the Village and the Town for the Assessor, Court, Economic Development, Historian, Municipal Building & Grounds, and Recreation.

All in favor. Motion Carried.

**Website -**

The Communication and Technology Committee made a recommendation to both boards that the Town and Village change their current website provider. The Committee met with three different governmental website providers. The recommendation is to use Revize as a new website provider. There were two quotes given to both boards to review prior to the meeting. The recommendation is to go with the higher quote to allow for more than 200 pages to be moved from our current website to the new one. If we go with the lower quote and we need to move over 200 pages, it is an additional cost per page. Revize also offers a five-year agreement to

spread the cost out over five years.

The Village has agreed to continue to take the lead on the website. The Village will pay for the services and invoice the Town for 50%.

A motion was made by Village Trustee Anna Sorensen and seconded by Village Trustee Barbara Beekman to enter into a five-year agreement with Revize for \$17,150.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Town Council Member Bob Santamoor and seconded by Town Council Member Randy Brown to enter into a five-year agreement with Revize for \$17,150.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

### **C. New Business**

#### **Social Media Policy -**

The Communication and Technology Committee presented both boards with a social media policy prior to the meeting and asked that both boards accept what was presented. The goal of the policy is to give guidance to department heads and committees that would use social media to communicate with the public and how to manage it. These are broad and general guidelines.

A motion was made by Village Trustee Barbara Beekman and seconded by Village Trustee Beth Larrabee to accept the social media policy. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Town Council Member Bob Santamoor and seconded by Town Council Member Randy Brown to accept social media policy. All in favor. Motion carried.

#### **Town Revaluation -**

Village Trustee Barbara Beekman asked with the equalization rate plummeting can the State impose a revaluation on the Town if the equalization rate reaches a certain level.

Assessor Cindy Brand responded no. The State mandates the rules and regulations of how to do it but it is up to the Town Board if they want to do a revaluation.

Supervisor Mary Ann Ashley stated the Town has 3,900 parcels and data needs to be updated. Cindy has been working hard collecting data and trying to update the files.

Town Council Member Jim Smith stated that the equalization rate is down to 74 for this year. The Town's that surround Canton also have similar equalization rates. Smith doesn't think that a revaluation should happen with the major school project that will increase school taxes by 3%, the solar projects and with a possible

new municipal building coming. Smith would like to see what these projects bring in for revenues and wait for the projects to play out before doing a revaluation.

Assessor Brand stated that she ran a pre-analysis for next year's roll and it has already dropped another 7 points. This number is not confirmed until all the other sales have come in. Cindy's concerns with doing a revaluation at this time is the commercial base. There are over 1,000 commercial parcels out there. You need to look at the bordering Towns that aren't doing a revaluation at the same time. Another concern is with the new constructions coming in.

A motion was made by Town Council Member John Taillon and seconded by Town Council Member Jim Smith to adjourn the joint meeting for the Town at 7:16 PM.

All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Village Trustee Klaus Proemm and seconded by Village Trustee Barbara Beekman to adjourn the joint meeting for the Village at 7:16 PM.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Noble  
Village Clerk