

**Village of Canton
Joint Village/Town Board Meeting
Wednesday, July 26, 2023
Minutes**

VILLAGE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Dalton, Mayor
Anna Sorensen, Trustee
Barbara Beekman, Trustee
Klaus Proemm, Trustee
Elizabeth Larrabee, Trustee

TOWN MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mary Ann Ashley, Town Supervisor
James Smith, Council Member
Robert Santamoor, Council Member
John Taillon, Council Member
Randy Brown, Council Member

Also Present:

Sally Noble Village Clerk

Mayor Mike Dalton called the Joint Town/Village meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

A. Special Presentation – ECOADAPT Workshop Final Report –

Cathy Shrady presented a power point on the EcoAdapt Workshop. The power point is available on the website in the public folder. She wanted everyone to know that these tools exist and are available to anyone.

The Mayor asked if there was a reason 1980-2009 was chosen as the base-line? Cathy responded she was not sure other than they needed to choose a time period. The Mayor also asked how does an El Nino effect these numbers. Cathy responded that the effects are averaged in the time period. Trustee Larrabee asked how many people attended the workshop. Cathy answered 19. Trustee Sorensen asked if the website houses all the tools and the report. Cathy answered yes.

Councilperson Santamoor asked if by using the website you generate a report. Cathy answered no but by using the tools on the website you can create a report. Trustee Proemm added that you would use the tools as a guide to create your report. Supervisor Ashley said that the University is going to be doing a follow-up meeting.

B. Old Business –

1. 64 Main Street- The Mayor reported the request for bids has gone out. The bids are due back by August 7 at 1:00 PM.

C. New Business -

1. Discuss St. Lawrence County Chamber Agreement –

The Mayor stated we do not have an agreement yet. Randy Brown asked that this be put on the agenda as more of a Town question. He wanted to know if he and Bob can move forward with SLC Chamber to work on an agreement. They were given the go ahead.

2. Discuss Composting Project –

The Mayor said this is becoming a problem. There is currently no one that wants to take the compost that is collected. The Village is now paying to get rid of it in Gouverneur. The public is not following the rules that are posted. People are starting to bring other junk to the area. One day there was a full overhead door left there. It was an experiment. It is not working. We do not have the manpower to monitor it.

Supervisor Ashley added the intent was good but it is not working. She feels we should not invest in it anymore. The Mayor said Trustee Sorensen suggested sending this back to the sustainability committee. Trustee Proemm said the committee has a meeting next week and they will definitely take another look at it and try to come up with some solutions.

3. Discuss Next Steps for a New Municipal Building –

Supervisor Ashley said she asked for this to be on the agenda to see if everyone is still interested in trying to move ahead with a new building. She would like to hear from everyone. Mayor Dalton responded that \$25M is beyond what the Village is willing to do. We are working on getting McDonalds taken down now. The parking lot is in better condition.

Trustees Larrabee and Sorensen both agreed that funding is an issue. Trustee Proemm wondered about alternate locations for some departments similar to the Historian. Councilperson Taillon agreed. Trustee Beekman said a large portion of the new plan is for the Court system. Are there grants available for Courts? Councilperson Santamoor said maybe for the court and the police department as stand alones. Councilperson Smith said our issues with this building are parking, accessibility and space. Maybe if the court and police were out then maybe we could reconfigure this building. Councilperson Brown added he felt the court and the police wanted to stay together.

Supervisor Ashley reported she and the Mayor met with state representatives and talked about funding. They have asked for our request in writing. After discussion it will be sent back to the building committee.

4. **Discuss SLC Request for 250th Anniversary Committee -**

The letter was circulated at both the Village and Town regular meeting. This will be a celebration on July 4, 2026. There was a discussion on what the letter was asking. The County is planning on a meeting in August. Trustee Larrabee was interested in being on the committee. Jim Regan is the Chair of the 250th Commission. This will be on the October joint meeting for more discussion.

5. **LWRP Board Resolutions** – Councilperson Taillon made a motion to approve the resolution by the Town of Canton approving and endorsing an application to NYS Department of State for funding under the 2023 Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Santamoor. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Councilperson Santamoor made a motion to approve the 2023 Local Waterfront Revitalization Program memorandum of agreement between the Town of Canton and the Village of Canton. Councilperson Taillon seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Larrabee made a motion to approve the resolution by the Village of Canton endorsing an application to NYS Department of State for funding under the 2023 Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sorensen. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Sorensen made a motion to approve the 2023 Local Waterfront Revitalization Program memorandum of agreement between the Town of Canton and the Village of Canton. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

A motion was made by Trustee Beekman and seconded by Trustee Anna Sorenson to adjourn the Joint Town/Village meeting for the Village at 7:05 PM. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Town Supervisor Ashley and seconded by Town Councilperson Santamoor to adjourn the Joint Town/Village meeting for the Town at 7:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Noble
Village Clerk