

Village of Canton
Joint Town/Village Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 23, 2023
In Person and Video Conferencing
Minutes

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: Village Clerk Sally Noble

A. Call Meeting to Order/Welcome

Supervisor Ashley called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Ashley added to the agenda under **New Business #2. Town Highway Expenditures.**

B. Old Business

1. 64 Main Street

Town Council Member Smith said after the last presentation of a new building at a cost of \$25 Million we all knew that was not going to fly. He asked at the last town board meeting if there is a different option for the McDonalds building other than tearing it down. Could it be utilized for the police, court, mayor, or supervisor.

Town Council Member Santamoor looked at the building with Supervisor Ashely and agrees the building could be utilized for something. He feels it would be irresponsible to tear it down if we can use it for something else.

Supervisor Ashley referred to the building study from 2019 that was done on the municipal building. It was determined from that study that the municipal building is a sickly building. Three options were given from the results of the study: 1. Rebuild, 2. Gut building 3. Move to another building. In 2019 it was indicated to gut the building would cost roughly 7-million dollars, and a new building would cost roughly 11-million dollars. We have already invested \$40,000. That does not address our building problems. We received bids to tear down McDonalds and then Council Member Smith brought up using the building for something else.

Trustee Larabee asked what the steps and cost are of refurbishing the McDonalds building. The options are unclear.

Mayor Dalton stated an engineering firm would have to look at everything but

before that someone needs to decide who or what will go over there. Mayor Dalton stated that we need to address the problems that we have here in the municipal building. Mayor Dalton doesn't think that the McDonalds building is a proper space for the court or police station.

Town Council Member Brown thinks that tearing the building down without a plan to move forward is not responsible.

Trustee Larrabee stated if we want to consider another option, we need to come up with a plan on how to better utilize the space. Which will cost money.

Trustee Beekman also stated we need to look at the whole picture. We need to consider this building and the McDonalds building and what choices we have and make a plan.

Town Council Member Taillon stated there was language in the study about using the McDonalds building for something else, but it did not state how much that would cost.

Trustee Sorenson has concerns that the McDonalds building was built specifically for McDonalds and concerns because there is asbestos in the building.

Town Council Member Smith stated before spending any more money we need to try and agree if there is a use for that building. If there is not a use for the building, then it would probably be better if it wasn't there.

Trustee Sorenson stated in order to decide if there is use for it, we need to know what the minimum would be to make that habitable. A lot more information is needed to make a decision.

Mayor Dalton stated the next step would be to issue an RFP to have someone look at the structure.

Both boards agreed to move forward on an RFP for an assessment of the structure of the McDonalds building and if it can be used for other purposes. Supervisor Ashley will take the lead on typing up the RFP and work with the Mayor to get it out.

C. New Business Town Only

1. Rensselaer Falls Road Closure Request

A motion was made by Council Member Taillon and seconded by Council Member Santamoor to approve the Village of Rensselaer Falls request to close to road for the Falls Festival.

All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Town Highway Expenditures

A motion was made by Council Member Smith and seconded by Council Member Taillon to approve Highway Expenditures to repair overlays on Sykes Road and Old Dekalb Road for \$69,000; and the purchase of culvert pipes for \$30,000.
All in favor. Motion carried.

Executive Session: Upon a majority vote upon a motion that identifies the subject to be considered, the Council may conduct an executive session to discuss any of the issues identified as proper by Public Officer Law 105(1)

A motion was made by Council Member Santamoor and by seconded by Council Member Brown to go into executive session at 6:37 p.m. for the purpose of a contract.
All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Sorenson and by seconded by Trustee Proemm to go into executive session at 6:37 p.m. for the purpose of a contract.
All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Member Santamoor to come out of executive session at 6:50 p.m.
All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Larabee and seconded by Trustee Beekman to come out of executive session at 6:50 p.m.
All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Ashley and seconded by Council Member Santamoor to adjourn the Special Joint Meeting at 6:51 p.m.
All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Sorenson and seconded by Trustee Beekman to adjourn the Special Joint Meeting at 6:51 p.m.
All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted.

Sally Noble
Village Clerk