

# *Village of Canton, New York*

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## **VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

Meeting Minutes: September 27, 2023

### ***Board Present:***

Michael Dalton, Mayor  
Anna Sorensen, Trustee  
Barbara Beekman, Trustee

Beth Larrabee, Trustee  
Klaus Proemm, Trustee

### ***Others Present:***

Sally Noble, Clerk/Treasurer  
Cindy Brand, Assessor  
Tim Bacon, Superintendent  
Tim Nolan, Code Enforcement

James Santimaw, Chief  
Scott Goldie, Attorney  
Meghan Richardson, Rec. Dir.

The Mayor opened the regular meeting at 6:30 PM.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

The Mayor made a few changes to the agenda. He moved item 6B up on the agenda. He also added the approval of hiring Bradley Frank and a petition for composting services.

The Mayor, Chief and Trustee Larrabee had positive words for Josh Vine prior to the swearing in. Clerk Noble swore Josh Vine is as permanent Police Sergeant. The Board congratulated Josh and thanked all those that were there to support him.

A petition was presented to the Mayor and Board from the Green Team of McKinney Middle School member Li Lin and teacher Megan Smith. Li Lin prepared an informative composting slideshow presentation for the Board.

**Approve minutes of 08/16 and 08/23/2023** – Trustee Beekman made a motion to accept the minutes with a correction of the spelling of Trustee Sorensen's name on the 8/23/23 minutes. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**Village Superintendent** – A written report was submitted. We received the new used Vac Truck. We are using CHIPS money to help pay for it. A new one would have been \$525,000.00. DPW crew are working on sidewalks. He spoke about a demo on a new type of truck to pick up brush. The Complete Street project did not work out well. The paint washed out quicker than expected.

**Police Chief Report-** A written report was submitted. The Chief said our newest officer is doing well at the Potsdam police academy. The police department received a grant to purchase the fingerprinting computer system called Livescan. The grant is for \$30,200 and will cover the entire cost including 2 years of maintenance and service. We will be able to tie in with the Sheriff.

Trustee Sorensen received an email from someone that started with I got pulled over. They want to let her know that they were quite appreciative of the professionalism, the demeanor and the intelligence and the words that were used by the officer. She wanted to share that with

everyone. She also wanted to ask if Spillman could do an aggregate of a particular type of incident over time. The Chief will look into that.

Trustee Beekman asked about the meeting he attended on elder abuse. Chief replied the group will give them a lot of new tools.

**Treasurer** – Clerk Noble submitted a written report. She informed the Board the health insurance rates are increasing 14.1% and we don't even have the Medicare rates yet. That is on the calendar year. She has been working with the Chief on updating routers for the Police cars.

**Code Enforcement** – Code Enforcement submitted his report. He has been busy with permits and fire inspections. Trustee Sorensen asked if he had a recommendation for the new software. Tim responded he would like to go with Civic Plus. The grant was for \$125,000. Civic Plus already has our information so the implementation will only take 2 to 4 weeks. Trustee Sorensen asked for the price are you getting all the modules you need? Tim answered yes. Trustee Sorensen made a motion to allow Code Enforcement Officer Nolan to move forward with Civic Plus. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

**Assessor** – A written report was submitted. Cindy said the Star Credit checks were mailed last week. There is a difference between the Star Credit Check and the tax exemption. The checks are \$1,368 and the credit is only \$1264. She is looking for help getting this information out. Trustee Sorensen mentioned maybe partnering with the school.

**Recreation Director** – Meghan submitted her written report. The Rock and Mineral show tied their attendance record from last year. Taylor Park is closed for the season. They started making ice on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Should be able to open next week. Grasse River Real Estate is sponsoring open skate on Sunday's this year.

**Economic Development** – A written report was not submitted. Leigh was not present.

**Golf** – Neither Kevin nor Scott was at the meeting. Trustee Beekman said she spoke to Kevin for about an hour today. She said a contract will be competed soon.

**Historian** – A written report was submitted. She was not in attendance.

**Animal Control** – Not in attendance.

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

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Golf** – Trustee Beekman said she met with Kevin this week. The contract is in the works. The goal is to have something for next meeting.

**Economic Development Committee** – Trustee Sorensen most of the work has been on the DRI and NY Forward. They have had some public sessions. They have been revising the Vision Statement. They have been trying to gather input from the community. The Department of State

consultant was very helpful. They will be moving forward with NY Forward only not DRI. NY Forward is up to \$5 million to each region.

**Communications and Technology** – Trustee Sorensen said we are waiting on the designers for our next step. We are waiting for a draft of a sitemap at which point our committee will decide what moves over to the new site and how it will be presented.

We received the audio-visual quote for updating the courtroom downstairs. Those quotes were high. The original quote was \$70,000. That was not something that we budgeted for. So, in light of that we are sitting in the boardroom. So, this is on the back burner.

**Infrastructure** – Trustee Sorensen reported there are a few things on the agenda. She did mention that the most information we have about Cleavland is that to address the issues it will cost about \$1.2 million. However, if we were to add some sidewalks that would connect to Judson, Farmer, Goodrich. It would put us in a potential for funding through Pro Transportation Alternative Program (TAP). That would put us in the range of probably being able to do the work much closer to a half million dollars. We have some direction of getting that application started. We also need to start talking to the community about sidewalks on those streets.

**Complete Streets** – Trustee Proemm said we should be hearing in about 2 weeks on CCA with pricing information. Potentially if the price is right, we will have a chance to discuss it and see what we think with advice from Joule on what they think we should do. Also, the State Comptroller has put a hold on the DEC grants on the fast charger. As soon as the money is received, we can move forward.

**Recreation** – Trustee Beekman said they were doing interviews tomorrow. They had a meeting this week.

**Police Committee** – Trustee Larrabee said the negotiation team has met several times.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION:**

- a. **County Legislator Update**- legislator was not present. No update.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **64 Main Street** – The Mayor said the RFP's are out. Thinking about what might be possible over there.
- b. **19 Miner Street Update** – There is a meeting set up for tomorrow.
- c. **Community Choice Aggregation** – was already discussed. Trustee Sorensen mentioned that we did have our required meeting last week.
- d. **Composting Discussion** - Trustee Proemm said he was recommending going with the basic plan listed in the proposal. We can discuss the other options but to keep the cost down he recommends the basic. That is \$796.24/month. He is investigation funding options such as Canton Community Fund and North County Community Foundation. He has not found anything within our budget. The Mayor said he will find something in our

budget to fund it for 3 months. The Mayor said he would really like to see who is using it. That is not in the basic. That is more money. The only way to get the data is the container lockdown. Trustee Proemm said he would recommend the basic plus the lockdown. That is at a cost of \$2,870.75. The Mayor said he can only commit to 3 months. Trustee Larrabee mentioned maybe the school cafeteria or SLU could help.

Casella is delivering 6 new containers next week. The data we collect will be very telling. Trustee Beekman made a motion to move ahead with the 3-month trial. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. 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 4 of 2023-2024. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

General Fund	\$179,390.09	Sewer Fund	\$30,700.10
Water Fund	\$ 33,133.43	Golf Course	\$62,173.95

- b. Swear in Permanent Police Seargent Josh Vine** – done earlier in the meeting.
- c. Discuss and Approve moving Jason Robert to the title of Light Equipment Operator** – Trustee Larrabee made a motion to move Jason Robert to Light Equipment Operator on the recommendation of Superintendent Bacon effective 9/28/2023. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- d. Discuss and Approve Leon Anson to the title of Working Foreman II** – Trustee Sorensen made a motion to move Leon Anson to the title of Working Foreman II as of 9/28/23 on the recommendation of Superintendent Bacon. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- e. Approve issuing an RFQ for Engineering Services for Sewer Project** – The Mayor had a draft he shared. Trustee Sorensen asked that the due date could be changed to the 16<sup>th</sup> which would give the infrastructure committee a chance to look at it before the Board meeting. This is one of the required steps for funding. Trustee Sorensen made a motion to issue the RFQ with the return date of 10/16/23. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- f. Sale of excess equipment** – we have a vac truck and a few golf items to be sold. They are surplus. Trustee Larrabee made a motion to approve the sale of surplus equipment. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- g. Chamber of Commerce Agreement** – The draft was circulated. Trustee Sorensen stated we need to say how much the dollar amount is and say when the agreement ends. It is tied to our fiscal year. Please pay attention to exhibit A which are the services they will provide. The only thing the Chamber is waiting for is the official word from the Department of State. They are doing interviews next week for the Canton representative. They are moving ahead with events that would be planned for this year. We would begin October 1. Trustee

Beekman made a motion to approve moving forward. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

- h. Petition for Composting services** – received earlier
- i. Approve B & L for SEQR for drinking water projects** – We are on a different track right now for this. We are back on track with Tisdell. The Mayor met with Aaron this morning. We are working towards finalizing things for the secondary source. Timing is so that we plan to go out to bid by February. We will be getting 2-week updates.
- j. Accept Resignation of Recreation Employee Robert Helms** – Trustee Larrabee made a motion to accept Robert Helms resignation. Trustee Beekman seconded the resignation. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- k. Approve purchase of a Vac Truck** – We need to formalize the purchase of the vac truck. We need to make a change to the budget. The money is allocated to CHIPs. Trustee Proemm made the motion to approve the purchase of the vac truck and budget amendment. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- l. Approve hire of Bradley Frank for Recreation Laborer** – Trustee Beekman made a motion to approve the hiring of Bradley Frank at \$16/hour effective immediately as a recreation laborer. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-** Trustee Larrabee made a motion to enter executive session at 8:15 PM. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

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

Trustee Beekman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 PM. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Noble  
Village Clerk