

# *Village of Canton, New York*

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## **VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

Meeting Minutes: August 16, 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  
Leigh Rodríguez, Ec. Developer

James Santimaw, Chief  
Scott Goldie, Attorney  
Tim Bacon, Superintendent

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

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

The Mayor moved item 6B up on the agenda, It was moved up after approval of minutes.

**Approve minutes of 07/19, 07/24 & 07/26, 2023** – Trustee Sorensen made a motion to accept the minutes of 07/19, 07/24 & 07/26, 2023. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

**6. B. Discuss and take action on hiring a Village Electrician** – The Mayor reported last week he, David Ragan, Supt. Bacon and Trustee Beekman held interviews for the position. Their recommendation is Scott Dean. Scott will be Dave Ragan's replacement. Scott's first day will be 8/28/23. Trustee Beekman made a motion to hire Scott Dean as Village Electrician effective 8/28/23. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

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

**Village Superintendent** – A written report was submitted. He has received complaints about State Street not being paved yet. The Mayor added there is a problem that has cropped up. We have been informed there are some 90-ton beams coming in up State Street. This would be when we would be paving. The Mayor said he and Tim have been having some conversations about that with the school. He has been in touch with Scott Sanderson and Sue Todd.

**Police Chief Report-** A written report was submitted. The Chief said our newest officer has started the police academy. He added that around July 31 he heard from the high school principal that Canton School is considering, because of the construction, they may be shutting down any student parking on campus. That means they will be parking on Village streets. It has not been confirmed yet. They may be trying to push them down to the ball field. The Mayor said we should plan on a public hearing to adjust parking at our next meeting.

**Treasurer** – Clerk Noble submitted a written report. She gave an update on tax collections. She mentioned there is an item on the agenda regarding the second notice fee.

**Code Enforcement** – Code Enforcement submitted his report. He was not present.

**Assessor** – A written report was submitted. Cindy said the Star Credit checks will be going out this month. The SLC foreclosure auction is coming up.

**Recreation Director** – Meghan submitted her written report. She was unable to be at the meeting tonight.

**Economic Development** – A written report was not submitted. Next week CGI video will be here doing some filming. DRI has been announced. The deadline will be 9/29/23. Today they finalized a tree grant application for tree management. Hopefully we can do some replacement planting as part of that. The Chamber merger is moving ahead. With Willow Island we are probably looking at a spring project at this point.

**Golf** – Neither Kevin nor Scott was at the meeting.

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

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

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Golf** – Trustee Beekman said they have met a few times and are working on a 5-year plan and contract renewals.

**Economic Development Committee** – Trustee Sorensen mention the CGI visit. People should not be alarmed. In terms of the DRI we will get the information out to the press as soon as possible. We really want to hear from the community.

**Communications and Technology** – Trustee Sorensen said our committee met today to approve some revisions. We will be meeting again soon to begin work on the site map. We continue to wait for the quote from the audio-visual consultant.

**Infrastructure** – Trustee Sorensen reported they meet next week.

**Complete Streets** – Trustee Proemm said they are ready to move ahead with the fast charger for Hodskin Street. They are just waiting for the DEC to send some guidance on how to proceed. We were hoping to put a level 2 charger in by this building but it got too complicated because of the age of the building. We will not be using all of the grant money.

**Tree Committee** – Trustee Larrabee said the tree committee did have a meeting.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION:**

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

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **64 Main Street** – The Mayor said we opened bids for demolition and asbestos abatement. There was a couple of questions about possible reuse of that structure by the

town. The building committee met and discussed the concerns the other day. We decided that after one of the members questions were discussed that the committee was comfortable. We are going to schedule a joint meeting to take care of that piece of the business. That is later on the agenda.

- b. **19 Miner Street Update** – The Mayor has been talking to Attorney Goldie but there is nothing new.
- c. **Community Choice Aggregation** – They are hoping to have good prices in the fall. They need to have another public information meeting in September because of the time lapse.
- d. **Community Based Projects** – The Mayor said he and Trustee Sorensen met today to review the policy. They made a few tweaks to the policy but nothing major. He sent it back out to the Board. There is also the form people will need to complete. Trustee Beekman made a motion to approve the policy with the changes. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- e. **CDP Funding Request** – The Mayor sent some information out to the Board. We have not budgeted for this. Trustee Sorensen thought it would be useful to communicate to CDP that when CBDG monies get released or other money that would be appropriate for the services they provide that the municipality could help with in terms of sponsorship. That would be a resource for them. The Mayor will get back to CDP.
- f. **Composting Discussion** - Trustee Proemm said the Board has a proposal and a cost breakdown. We have Greg Todd here today to answer questions. They are encouraging keeping the Bend In The River site open. North County Compost is willing to pick that up. There have been issues in the past but by picking it up every week we can minimize some of those problems. We would switch to the Casella 60-gallon totes which would enable pickup without heavy equipment. Casella has donated 6 totes.

By making available at the Farmer's market on Friday we are trying to get more people to compost. It would be taken to Cory Vineyards farm. The Farmer's market are eager to help. They will have volunteers to monitor. We could go beyond Farmer's market time maybe into December. The proposal is for 3 months right now.

The Mayor appreciates the efforts but is not sure where the money is going to come from. He also doesn't have a good feeling about our original site. Trustee Sorensen appreciates the effort and creativity. It seems like it would make more sense to have the volunteers staffing in the space we have the problem. It seems like the funding is really not going towards compost but really towards public education about compost.

Greg Todd said his opinion is that it is not a contamination issue but a pick-up issue. By having a regular weekly pick up you could keep it open all week. After much Board discussion Supt. Bacon asked if the Town is paying half. The Mayor said no they are not interested in participating. Trustee Proemm will take these concerns back to the sustainability committee before we agree to a trial period. There needs to be some revisions to the plan.

- g. Court Street Popup** – Jennifer Henry distributed a hand-out. This is just temporary to see how this is going to work. They have a potential budget of about \$600.00. This will be about a 2 week period, weather dependent.

**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 3 of 2023-2024. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

General Fund	\$115,923.71	Sewer Fund	\$39,127.48
Water Fund	\$ 55,466.29	Golf Course	\$30,858.03

- b. Discuss and take action on hiring a Village Electrician** – done earlier in the meeting.
- c. Second Notice for Taxes Resolution** – Trustee Larrabee made a motion to set the second notice fee at \$0.00. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- d. Approve Fire Dept Member Kilee McCluskey** – Trustee Larrabee made a motion to approve Kilee McCluskey as a Fire Department Member. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- e. Set a date for a joint Town/Village Board meeting (8/23/23 @ 6 PM)** – it was agreed to set a special meeting for August 23, 3023 at 6:00 PM to take action on the bids for 64 Main.
- f. Discuss a change of the September Village Board Meeting** – There will be a CCA information meeting on September 20 at 6:00 PM. The Village Board meeting will be on September 27, 2023 with a public hearing at 6:15 PM for parking.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-** Trustee Larrabee made a motion to enter into executive session at 7:46 PM. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Sorensen made a motion to come out of executive session at 7:59 PM. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Beekman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 PM. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Noble  
Village Clerk