

Village of Canton, New York

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes: November 15, 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 (zoom)
Leigh Rodriguez, Ec. Dev.
Meghan Richardson, Rec. Dir

James Santimaw, Police Chief
Scott Goldie, Attorney
Tim Bacon, Supt.

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

The Mayor made a few changes to the agenda. Recreation hires are recreation attendants not skate guards. Under new business we need to add H: National Grid resolution, I: Fire Contracts and J: Award bid for TPA grant for stormwater engineering.

Approve minutes of 10/18 and 10/25/2023 – Trustee Sorensen asked that a change be made to New Business section E. of the 10/18/23 minutes. She requested it say send out and not to accept the RFQ. This could be confusing later on down the road. Trustee Beekman made a motion to accept the 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. His report said no engineering firm had been chosen for Cleaveland Ave. We will be discussing that tonight. He also noted that Coakley's have donated about \$1,000 in lights for the park. The guys are working on getting those up. We are working on getting a new plan for running some new power in the park. Some of the light fixtures are getting old.

Police Chief Report- A written report was submitted. The Chief reported on the October 14th incident in which 2 of our patrol cars were damaged. He also reminded everyone that no overnight parking starts November 30th and is in effect until March 31 from 2:00 AM to 6:00 AM.

Treasurer – Clerk Noble submitted a written report. She said that there are items on the agenda but reported that Sharon Brunet went to Notary training last week. She now must take the exam.

Trustee Sorensen asked how the form for website information was working. Clerk Noble said it was working very well.

Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement submitted a written report. He was not present.

Assessor – A written report was submitted. Cindy discussed the residential trend for Canton went up by 9%. She has never seen that before. When she ran the report for just the Village the median came in at 61%. She covered this information in her report. She also spoke about informational publications being included on the website.

Recreation Director – Meghan submitted her written report. Most of her items are on the agenda.

Economic Development – A written report was submitted. Leigh said the Willow Island project is underway. We have received the draft of the Northern Border Regional Commission for the secondary water source. An extension has been requested for the CDBG Cares grant. Leigh also resubmitted our application for area assessment grant for Brownfields. This is our 3rd or 4th time submitting it. C & S did the lift on the narrative portion of it. It was submitted on Monday.

Trustee Sorensen asked if there is an update on the kickoff meeting for Stiles Avenue yet? Leigh answered she does not. She has not been contacted yet. She did mention that to Town Supervisor Ashley that Leigh could reach out to them and Leigh was told that they would be reaching out to us.

Historian – A written report was submitted. Linda was not in attendance.

Animal Control – A report was distributed. He has been very responsive to the police department requests.

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:

Economic Development Committee – Trustee Sorensen said they met. They are in a bit of a lull right now. They are just waiting to hear on grants.

Communications and Technology – Trustee Sorensen said the website design is ongoing. Heidi is meeting with the Town tomorrow. Sally has already met with the Village employees. The deadline is December 8th. If anyone needs assistance, please ask sooner rather than later. We will be meeting again on the 28th.

Infrastructure – Trustee Sorensen reported said that the Mayor, Tim and herself met with B & L regarding the wastewater treatment project. They met to sort through the project and next steps. We received news that our application to EFC scored well enough to access 0% financing. EFC said they are 3 – 6 months from closing. They have not looked at our application, which we sent in in July. The design work we need to do is going to take about a year and about \$1.5M. Then we can begin the actual work. We have 2 options; one is to wait for EFC. The other option is to do a bond anticipation note (BAN). The Mayor asked for a motion to move forward on a BAN. Trustee Beekman made a motion seconded by Trustee Proemm to move forward on a BAN to get the design work going. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Complete Streets –Trustee Proemm reported the Clarkson crew are ready to present the results of the Court Street Study to the Board. There was discussion about when to have the presentation. The Complete Streets committee has been talking to the Frozen Foot organizers and the Maple Run people. They would like to do something to make it safer for the runners and walkers. They are going to have some recommendations soon.

Recreation – Trustee Beekman said they are meeting on the 27th.

Finance Committee – Trustee Sorensen said the committee met.

Tree Committee – Trustee Larrabee said the tree committee met on November 2. A lot of tree work was done over a 3-day period. The Superintendent of BOCES helped with some plantings. There were also 30 students helping the crew. There were 30 trees planted. There was a lot of recognition for all of DPW assistance, Lance Rudiger and Herb Bullock.

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION:

- a. **County Legislator Update-** legislator was not present. No update.
- b. **Email** – The Mayor did receive an email from Ruth Doyle about the public safety complex renovations and Pearl Street. Tim has also had some conversations. There will be a meeting with the Police Chief, the Superintendent, and the Fire Chief with representatives from the County. We are not necessarily opposed but we do need to get some details. The group will work out recommendations and bring them back to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **64 Main Street** – The Mayor said the Town voted to move forward with the demolition. Jeda Environmental Services, the low bidder, agreed to hold their bid price until they could do the work in the spring. Trustee Larrabee made a motion to move forward with tearing down 64 Main Street. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor the motion carries.
- b. **19 Miner Street Update** –The last tenant is out of the property. We have a meeting coming up on the 21st. We are sitting down with SUNY Canton and our attorneys and get a sense of where we are going. We have kept the power on for right now.
- c. **CCA** – Trustee Proemm said it is not looking good for this year. The price difference is still way over the line. Maybe pricing will look better in the spring.
- d. **CGI video** – The Board watched the video's that were presented. There a few minor tweaks that need to be done but other than that we are ready. Now we just need our new website. The County Chamber is going to link those for us. The Mayor thanked the committee. A lot of work went into that.
- e. **Towing Bids** – There was only one bid from Johnson's Towing. A motion to accept the bid was made by Trustee Proemm and seconded by Trustee Beekman. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds** – Trustee Beekman made a motion to authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds for abstract 6 of 2023-2024. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

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| General Fund | \$136,219.48 | Sewer Fund | \$36,678.04 |
| Water Fund | \$ 69,724.51 | Golf Course | \$38,580.06 |

- b. **Accept resignation of Nolan Bombard** – Trustee Sorensen made a motion to accept the resignation. The motion was seconded by Trustee Beekman. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- c. **Appoint Ciara McDougal as Full Time Recreation Laborer** – Trustee Beekman made a motion to appoint Ciara McDougal as a Full Time Recreation Laborer at the rate of \$17/hr. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- d. **Approve Recreation Attendants** – Trustee Beekman made a motion to approve Elena Abplanalp, Ashlyn Beeles, Myra Bullock, Reid Doyle, Carter Lesperance, Claire Polniak, Shaylee Olmstead at \$14.20/hr and Brandon O’Shea at \$14.45/hr. effective immediately. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- e. **Constellation Contract for Power** – The Mayor recommended choosing the 3-year contract. After discussion of rates Trustee Sorensen made a motion to approve a 3-year contract. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- f. **Easement with Grasse River Heritage** – Trustee Beekman made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the easement. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- g. **Organizational meeting** – The Mayor reminded the Board of our meeting on December 4th. After discussion the time was changed to 6:30 PM.
- h. **National Grid Tree Resolution** – The Mayor explained that this is to allow us to apply for money back on the trees that were planted within a certain distance of power lines and residential locations. Trustee Beekman made a motion to move the resolution. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- i. **Fire Contracts** – Trustee Sorensen made the motion to approve the Mayor to sign the Fire Contracts. The contract did increase by \$10,000. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.
- j. **Award Bid for TAP Grant For Stormwater Engineering** – We are working on the stormwater grant with B & L for Cleaveland Ave. They suggested that we could partially fund the project if we were to seek funding for some sidewalks. The Transportation Alternatives Program Grant is due the 28th. Part of the grant requirement is that we send out a RFQ. We have received those back. We would like to approve B & L’s and request that

they submit this application. They are going to be focusing on the safe route to school aspect. Trustee Proemm made the motion to accept the RFQ of Barton & Loguidice and ask them to do the engineering and submit the application. Trustee Beekman seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- Trustee Larrabee made a motion to enter executive session for possible litigation at 7:38 PM Trustee Proemm 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 Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Noble
Village Clerk