

**VILLAGE OF CANTON and TOWN OF CANTON BOARD MEETING
JOINT BOARD MEETING
June 19, 2017**

Village Board Present:

Michael Dalton, Mayor
Dwight Stevenson, Trustee
Sean O'Brien, Trustee

Carol Pynchon, Trustee
Beth Larrabee, Trustee

Others Present:

Sally Noble, Village Clerk/Treasurer
Leigh Rodriguez, Econ. Developer

Gerry Ducharme, Village Attorney

Town Board Present:

David Button, Supervisor
Paul Backus, Councilperson
Bob Washo, Councilperson

Phil LaMarche, Councilperson
Jim Smith, Councilperson

Others Present:

Lisa Hammond, Town Clerk

Charlie Nash, Town Attorney

Mayor Dalton opened the Joint Board Meeting at 5:30pm.

Justice Court Compensation for Village Activities- Supervisor Button wanted to create a dialogue with the Shared Service Committee to re-examine the Justice Court Compensation. The net revenue to the Village in 2016 after taking out the parking ticket revenue was \$17,970 which was 12% of the Justice Court income. The cost of operation of the Justice Court was \$103,515. The money that the Village provides to the Town is less than 1%. He asked for this to be looked at to see if this is an equitable distribution. The total revenue of the Justice Court is \$149,945. Supervisor Button stated that he will send a letter out with this information if the Village wants to take a look at it.

Trustee Pynchon stated that this is willing to look at this more in the Shared Service Committee.

Trustee Pynchon asked Supervisor Button if Court Clerk Armstrong keeps track what the activities are Town and Village? Supervisor Button stated that it could be done.

Mayor Dalton stated that the Village and Town Board agreed for Shared Service Committee to review.

Managing Asbestos in the Municipal Building- Mayor Dalton stated there has been a concern about the asbestos. Supervisor Button said that a report was done 15 years ago. At the time, the engineering firm laid out some guidelines with managing the asbestos in the building. Supervisor Button thinks it would be worth another look at this time.

The Town and Village Boards agreed Supervisor Button will contact Tisdell's regarding what will be required to receive an update to the report.

Supervisor Button is going to circulate the old engineering report.

Supervisor Button stated they did remediate the asbestos after the report.

CFA Process- Mayor Dalton stated they wanted to discuss where we are headed on the next CFA Process. Economic Developer Rodriguez stated that the application deadline is July 28, 2017.

Trustee Pynchon said that the Steering Committee talked about the Economic Developer's plate right now is full. There is still remains eleven or twelve grants that are still open in the pipeline. The general thought it might be a year to back off applying for a CFA grant unless there is something that we can think of that is well along in the process.

Supervisor Button stated that there is a potential for the Brownfields getting cranked up.

Trustee Pynchon stated that there are three (3) waterfront revitalization grants open and she was not sure if they would entertain another grant.

Economic Developer Rodriguez that they have the three (3) waterfront grants open but she is checking to see if they might want some of those grants closed out before applying for another.

Councilperson Backus stated he agreed with the Steering Committee.

Trustee Pynchon stated that a possible project is the trail connector along State St. She stated that the Village, School and United Helpers have been discussing it and are interested in getting it completed. Another possibility is the Miner St. Road to get the Village out to Taylor Park to get people there safely.

Councilperson Washo stated that they have budget for both of those projects.

Mayor Dalton said if it was allowed to enter another Grant. This might be one that is well along and we could work with.

Supervisor Button stated that the burden that Economic Developer Rodriguez carries is well taken. Even if they can do it but he wants to give Leigh discretionary power to do it or not.

Economic Developer Rodriguez is well aware of the workload that she has and wants to complete them effectively. She does not want to make the further decision on her own, she welcomes discussing with the committees. The decision will need to be done quickly by July 1, 2017. She appreciates the feedback from the Board. She is waiting to hear back from Barbara.

She wanted to inform the Boards that she was contacted by the County Planning Office that the Housing Authority is interested in doing an application and they need a municipal sponsor. They would write the grant but they might need some administration help. Leigh is still waiting to hear from the Housing Authority.

Mayor Dalton stated that they are attempting to get some funding to upgrade the elevators.

New Municipal Telephone System- Mayor Dalton stated that the new phone system was put in the 2016 budget but has been encumbered in this year's budget.

Supervisor Button stated that this will be included in the Town's 2018 budget.

Mayor Dalton asked what direction the Town would like to go and go with VOIP system?

Supervisor Button said that they have upgraded to a high-speed internet.

Toby Irving stated that the only effective carrier is fiber which limits the carriers.

Mayor Dalton stated that there are fiber drops going into the building.

Supervisor Button stated that he would compensate Toby Irving for his guidance.

Councilperson Washo asked if there is a committee involved?

Toby Irving will do a primer for anyone involved.

The Village and Town Board have agreed that Village Clerk Noble, Town Clerk Hammond, Chief Santimaw, Court Clerk Armstrong and Toby Irving will discuss the new municipal telephone system.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting- Mayor Dalton introduced Chamber President, Jess Zuhlsdorf and 1st Vice President, Carol Spadaccini. The Village and Town had a sit down with the Chamber to discuss and show support to the Canton Chamber. Mayor Dalton distributed a letter to the Village Board that he received from Chamber Director Sally Hill regarding what can be accomplished if the position went from part-time to full-time.

Jess stated that she wants open lines of communication. They are looking into the direction they are heading and facing challenges in changing the position from getting away from mailers and into more social media and e-mails. The Board has met to discuss these challenges and figuring out the cost associated. They have meet with Economic Development and shared some ideas. They are looking into more events and value add to local businesses.

Mayor Dalton agreed with supporting each other in a positive way.

Superintendent Button asked Jess when they need a response from the Boards.

Jess stated that they are looking to post the position as a part-time position in August. A response will need to be done within the next six (6) weeks.

Trustee Pynchon supports this but stated that it is a tight deadline. She suggested hiring part-time person who knows that the position can go full-time. That way they can do the value added to the local businesses and more events.

Supervisor Button stated that one of the critical roles is a “stem winder.” Who can leverage their influence to increase the membership and numbers of people who wants to be involved and participate to increase engagement. He stated a full-time person would be able to do this.

Trustee Larrabee asked what is the Boards next step.

Mayor Dalton stated to show a positive support to move forward from both Boards.

Jess said that she wants the new person to have accountability with an example that the person would attend the Board meeting quarterly to give an update and show support.

Mayor Dalton suggested improving membership then the Town/Village cost would not be as much. Showing more enthusiasm and participation would help everyone around. He asked if there was a percentage of who participates in the membership. He requested this information to help with more buy in.

Jess informed the Boards that the price of their dues is low compared to other Chambers but they cannot increase membership cost without more services.

Councilperson LaMarche is interested in seeing the percentage of contribution from the Town and Village to the Chamber compared to other chambers.

Jess stated that they are researching this information.

Mayor Dalton stated that the Chamber has the Village Board support to move forward to advertise as part-time and moving to full-time.

Supervisor Button asked what the overall budget is now.

Trustee O'Brien stated that it is \$48,000.

Councilperson Backus stating that he is interested in helping out but wants to see some real figures if they hire a full-time person.

Jess stated with the timeline with the Town/Village Boards to come back to the Chamber Board with the money amount.

Trustee Pynchon requested to receive the latest annual budget.

Mayor Dalton thanked Jess and Carol Spadaccini for coming to the meeting.

Executive Session – Trustee Larrabe made a motion to enter into executive session at 6:23PM for a purpose as identified in Public Officers Law §105(1) (e. negotiations). Trustee Stevenson seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee O'Brien made a motion to come out of executive session at 6:43PM. Trustee Stevenson seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

The Board decided the next Joint Meeting will be held on September 13 at 5:30pm.

Trustee Pynchon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:43PM. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Cara Adams
Deputy Clerk