

Village of Canton, New York

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING Meeting Minutes: September 19, 2016

Board Present:

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

Carol Pynchon, Trustee
Beth Larrabee, Trustee

Others Present:

Gerald Ducharme, Village Attorney
Leigh Rodriguez, Village Econ. Dev.
John Taillon, Rec. Director
James Santimaw, Police Chief

Sally Noble, Clerk/Treasurer
Cara Adams, Deputy Clerk
Rusty Lawrence, Code Officer
Brien Hallahan, Superintendent

ORDER OF BUSINESS: The Mayor opened the regular meeting at 6:30pm.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Approve minutes of August 15, 2016- Trustee Larrabee made a motion to approve the minutes of August 15, 2016; seconded by Trustee Stevenson. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Trustee Pynchon made a motion to accept the Department Head Reports; seconded by Trustee O'Brien. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Superintendent Brien Hallahan informed the Board that the DPW paved the entrance to the parking lot behind the Municipal Building. They are currently paving on Chapel St., Wells St. and Maple St.

Chief James Santimaw stated that the Nick Hillary Murder Trial is going very well. There have been no issues with security outside the Courthouse. That there have been no parking issues due to the murder trial taking place.

Mayor Dalton stated that he received a thank you from the Administer from St. Mary's Church, he was pleased with how parking was handled on Powers St.

Mayor Dalton informed the Board that they will be holding interviews for two new Police Officers on Wednesday, September 21, 2016 starting at 4:30pm.

Clerk Noble informed the Board that the Local Government Conference is coming up on October 11th in Potsdam. She stated that if anyone would like to attend to please let the Clerk's Office know. Clerk Noble stated that the new Zoning Maps have been ordered with the updates. PDF's will be e-mailed to the Board when the updates are complete.

Recreation Director John Taillon stated that they will begin making ice on Monday. The rink will be opening on October 2, 2016.

Trustee Pynchon asked Chief Santimaw about the meeting with the Superintendent of Canton Central School, Bill Gregory. Chief Santimaw stated that the meeting went well and Mr. Gregory was very receptive. Everything is a work in progress.

Trustee Pynchon asked Superintendent Hallahan when the Bath House at Bend in the River will be completed. Superintendent Hallahan stated that the Bath House will be completed in the Spring. He would like to send in a bill for reimbursement on the upgrades completed to date to make sure everything is acceptable. Trustee Pynchon stated that the ribbon cutting will be held when the Bath House is complete.

Trustee Pynchon informed the Board if they have anything to add to the Village Briefs to let her know by Friday.

Economic Developer Leigh Rodriguez stated that she apologizes for not submitting her monthly report. She is right in the middle of reviewing the Main Street Applications that have come in with the Selection Committee, received twelve (12) applications which is a fantastic response. They met and decided on the recommended allocations and those will be forth coming very soon. There are still some things that have to happen before work can be begin, environmental review of each property and approved from State and Historic Preservation Office and things like that before they can proceed. Moving along in the process. She is very pleased in the response. If all goes through it will exceed what the expectations are for the grant. That is the major thing going on. They are discussing a possible TAP Grant working with Superintendent Brien Hallahan from a recommendation from Complete Streets Committee that is due in October, which would look to replace some sidewalks through the Safe Routes to School Program, as we did before but also extend some trail network from the School over to the Remington Trail.

Mayor Dalton stated that he has heard from some people in the Public about extending the sidewalk from School down to the ballfield. Leigh stated that it would be trail, the proposal is for an eight (8) foot asphalt trail.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SolarCity Update- Mayor Dalton stated that he spoke with Jennifer Jachym on September 6, 2016 for an update. With the reorganization, the New Project Manager is Chip Shultz. SolarCity is waiting for some interconnection reports from National Grid. Permitting should not be a problem which will be handled by the Code Officer Rusty Lawrence. The clear path to interconnection is the issue. National Grid and the interconnection is about \$184,600 which is \$84,000 over the budget. This is being evaluated to see if the contingencies will be able to cover the cost. Mayor Dalton was informed that some projects were running over a million dollars over budget. After the interconnection fees are paid to National Grid then the project will be ready to connect within six (6) to ten (10) months. The PSC deadline to connect is the end of 2017 which will maintain the credits that we will receive.

Manager Chip Shultz and his team visited the site on September 13th. They are pleased with the prep work that was on going.

Costs have been submitted to SolarCity for the work DPW has completed with estimates with the balance that has to be completed.

Trustee O'Brien asked Mayor Dalton who is responsible for the budget. Mayor Dalton stated that the budget was developed by SolarCity. They built in contingencies in the budget, they are responsible for the overruns.

Waterfront Advisory Committee- Trustee Stevenson stated that the Blueway Trail is still ongoing. They will be meeting soon to discuss all aspects on entire stretch from Clare to Massena.

Sustainability Committee- Trustee Pynchon stated that the remote net metering project is on hold right now.

Looking at actions to take as a Municipality to apply for NYSEDA Clean Energy Community Program, \$100,000 in grant money.

Food Group is looking at composting and doing leaf pick-ups without the paper bags.

Trails Committee- Trustee Pynchon stated that the community is brainstorming what the Committee has and where the gaps are. The Consultant will be there October 22nd and they are anticipating a meeting then.

Website Committee- Trustee Pynchon stated that the Committee is working with the Town on the new Website. They have received bids and are leaning towards working with North Shore Solutions out of Clayton. A Resolution will probably be brought to the October Meeting. The cost would be about approximately \$10,000, development and ongoing maintenance. Trustee Pynchon thanked Mark Mende for helping out with the process.

Recreation Committee- Trustee Pynchon stated that the Recreation Director Civil Service Exam will be held in October.

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION:

Mayor Dalton informed the Board that he and Trustee O'Brien attended the Mayor's Meeting this past week at Fobares. Canton will be hosting the Mayor's meeting at Tauny on December 1st.

Mayor Dalton stated that he will be teaching a class on Solar for S.O.A.R.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Comment

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Review Rental Registration Proposal- Trustee Pynchon stated that the Committee discussed the Rental Registration Proposal and has decided to take a step back. Meetings have taken place with Code Officer Rusty Lawrence, Code Compliance Technician Tim Nolan and Village Attorney Ducharme. The Committee would like to make the policy effective and streamlined, that is why they have decided to take a step back. The Committee will be meeting next week. Mayor Dalton added that this is a work in progress.

b. Window and Door Bids- Superintendent Brien Hallahan stated he has reached out to the lowest bidder for a credit on the back and east side of the building. The range for the credit

was \$22,000. The work on the west and front of the building was in the range of \$150,000. The high cost is based on the asbestos abatement. Superintendent Hallahan made a suggestion not to do the project. He stated that the grant is for \$50,000. He stated that it would be more constructive to repurpose the grant. Mayor Dalton is going to reach out to the Grantor Senator Ritchie's Office regarding the grant.

- c. **Bicycle Repair Stations-** Mayor Dalton stated that Toby Irven has filed the application for the Bicycle Repair Stations Grant to the Canton Community Fund. The Canton Community Fund has a meeting on Wednesday, September 21. Toby Irving stated that the max for the grant is \$2,000. In the application he changed it to one (1) station instead of two (2) stations. He explained applying for gap funding for the second bicycle repair station. The funding is \$600.00 short for installing two (2) stations.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds** – Trustee O'Brien made a motion to authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds for abstract #4 of 2016-2017. Trustee Pynchon seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

General Fund	\$91,493.21	Golf Course	\$40,142.03
Water Fund	\$31,439.27	Joint Activity	\$12,778.17
Sewer Fund	\$28,760.59		

- b. **DANC Contract for Administration of NBRC Grant-** Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the Development Authority of the North Country Technical Services Agreement for Northern Border Regional Commission Grant Administration. Trustee Stevenson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries. The grant includes administration fees.
- c. **Discussion of an Asset Management Plan-** Tabled to discussed at the October Meeting. The Mayor will call Carrie Tuttle of DANC.
- d. **Approve New Fire Department Member-** Trustee Pynchon made a motion to appoint Ana White to the Canton Fire Department. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.
- e. **E-mail Service Discussion-** Mayor Dalton stated that the Village needs a service for document retention and e-mail service. Clerk Noble stated that she spoke with our support consultant regarding the difference between Government Google Docs and non-government. She is waiting for them to send her some information. The Board agreed that they would like to move forward with a new service.
- f. **CFA and Restore NY-** Mayor Dalton stated that the CFA Grant has been applied for jointly with the Village and Town with the plan to develop parcels on Riverside Drive. The SUNY Canton Foundation could not get behind this project as the developer. Supervisor Button believed he had firm support. Mayor Dalton brought up major points in the CFA Grant with unclear information on the Developer and Placeholder. Mayor Dalton stated that he spoke with Attorney Ducharme about spending public money on property to sell to a developer. Attorney Ducharme gave the Board articles regarding spending public money. He stated that to be able to purchase property the Village would need a valid purpose, identify the purpose as a public purpose, receive public input with no objections. The purchase has to be good for the community as a whole with a valid public purpose.

Mayor Dalton stated that this Property is not listed as a brownfield.

Trustee Pynchon stated that the Village and Town are trying to work together. She asked Town Councilman Bob Washo what the Town is thinking about this project.

Town Councilman Bob Washo speaking for himself stated that he appreciated how Mayor Dalton framed the CFA Grant. The Town knows it is a Village Project. He stated that there is not a lot of support from the Town Board and believes there will be a sense of relief from the Board. Needs to see larger community impact.

Mayor Dalton asked the Board how they would like to move forward with the Restore NY Grant? After further discussion the Board decided not to move forward with the Restore NY Grant based on the unsure development of the property, no comprehensive plan and unclear with the direction of the project.

- g. Discuss Funding of Restore NY Grant Costs-** Based on the decision regarding the CFA and Restore NY Grant this item was removed from the agenda.
- h. Sunoco and Rite Aid Sign Variance Requests-** The Board set the Public Hearing for the Sunoco and Rite Aid Sign Variance requests for October 17, 2016 at 6:15pm.

Code Officer Rusty Lawrence stated that the Planning Board has approved the signs for Sunoco and Rite Aid. There is a caveat to the Rite Aid sign to move the sign back three (3) feet.

Mayor Dalton asked Code Officer and the Planning Board to review the sign codes and to create a different sign code for the Historical District and the other District.

Code Officer Rusty Lawrence asked the Board what they think of LED signage. Rusty explained the national standard on the LED signs. The Board would like to think about the LED signs.

- i. Chamber of Commerce-** Trustee Pynchon stated that the Director of the Canton Chamber of Commerce Sally Hill will be retiring at the end of next year. The Chamber Committee will begin the search for a new Chamber Director. Trustee Pynchon stated that the Village contributes \$6,500 and the Town contributes \$5,500 towards the Chamber's budget out of their yearly budget of \$45,000. Trustee Pynchon spoke with a Committee Member to let them know that the Town and Village would like to be involved in the search for a new Director. The Committee Member stated no in having the Town and Village participate in the search. Trustee Pynchon stated that she would like to speak with the Committee again. Trustee Larrabee and Trustee Stevenson both agreed to further the discussion.
- j. State Snow & Ice Agreement-** Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the Annual St. Lawrence County Department of Highways Snow & Ice Agreement. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.
- k. Senior Fitness Instructor Appointment-** Trustee Pynchon made a motion to appoint Carrie Montgomery as the Senior Fitness Instructor to start the first Tuesday of October at a rate of \$35.00 per fitness class. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bob Washo brought up the need for a new water fountain in the building. Superintendent Brien Hallahan stated that he will get a quote for a water fountain and water bottle filling station.

Executive Session – Trustee Larrabee made a motion to enter into executive session at 7:55PM for a purpose as identified in Public Officers Law §105(1) (e. negotiations). Trustee O’Brien seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

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

Trustee Larrabee made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:41PM. Trustee O’Brien seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Cara Adams
Deputy Clerk