

Village of Canton, New York

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes: December 16, 2019

Board Present:

Michael Dalton, Mayor
Beth Larrabee, Trustee
Klaus Proemm, Trustee

Anna Sorensen, Trustee
Carol Pynchon, Trustee

Others Present:

Gerald Ducharme, Village Attorney
Brien Hallahan, Superintendent
Jeff Murray, Code Officer
Jim Putman, Rec. Director

Sally Noble, Clerk/Treasurer
Jim Santimaw, Police Chief
Cara Adams, Deputy Clerk
Leigh Rodriguez, Econ. Developer

JOINT MEETING- Mayor Dalton opened the Joint Meeting with the Town of Canton at 5:30pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- Trustee Pynchon made a motion to enter into executive session at 5:33pm for a purpose as identified in Public Officers Law §105(1) (h). Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Pynchon made a motion to come out of executive session at 6:37pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sorensen. All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Trustee Larrabee made a motion to adjourn the Joint Meeting at 6:37pm. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion All voted in favor. The motion carries.

ORDER OF BUSINESS: The Mayor opened the regular meeting at 6:39pm

- a. Approve minutes of November 18, 2019 and December 2, 2019** – Trustee Larrabee made a motion to approve the minutes of November 18, 2019 and December 2, 2019; seconded by Trustee Pynchon. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Mayor Dalton added the following item under New Business:

- i. Approve Officer Joshua Rose and Officer Lindsey Landphere as permanent Officers as of 12/26/2019.**

Mayor Dalton moved the following item up on the agenda.

New Business:

- 1. Vulnerability Assessment Presentation by Georgia Grzywacz-** Georgia Grywacz is an Environmental Sociology Senior at St. Lawrence University student. The Sustainability Committee contacted St. Lawrence University to help with a Vulnerability Assessment for the Climate Smart Community Certification.

Ms. Grywacz reviewed the highlights of the Vulnerability Assessment.

I. Vulnerability Assessment Highlights

- Climate change impacts every aspect of Canton residents' lives.
- Canton is already experiencing the effects of climate change, and these impacts will continue to worsen unless global carbon dioxide emissions are reduced.
- Canton's natural water resources are threatened by the temperature increases and a rise in unpredictable precipitation patterns, which may result in drought and flooding, respectively.
- Biodiversity in Canton will be impacted by climate change in numerous, potentially unpredictable ways. Climate change-related impacts already seen include shifting species ranges, shifting ecosystem dynamics, and phenological changes.
- Forests in Canton are vulnerable to rising temperatures impacting their composition, density, and range.
- Invasive species threaten Canton as a result of climate change-related habitat expansion.
- Canton is dependent on its agriculture sector. Agriculture is particularly vulnerable to temperature increases and unstable weather conditions as a result of climate change. These shifts change the timing and dynamics of the growing season, threatening local farmers, food availability, and food security.
- Marginalized groups, including non-white individuals, migrant workers, elderly individuals, youth, and non-able bodied individuals, among others, are disproportionately impacted by climatic changes.
- Climate change may force people to migrate to Canton from places across the United States.
- Transportation infrastructure is threatened by the projected increase in severe storms as a result of climate change.
- Mobility is hampered as a result of climate change, including access to schools, emergency response services, and other various transportation needs.
- Residents in low-income housing are particularly vulnerable to climatic changes.
- Public health is threatened by climate change, particularly given the likely increase in heat-related illness and vector-borne disease.
- Drinking water sources in Canton are not particularly threatened by climate change-related contamination, however drought may have a significant impact on this resource in the future.
- Wastewater treatment infrastructure is vulnerable to severe precipitation events which may increase as a result of climate change.
- Communication infrastructure is threatened by severe storms.
- The Canton Fire Department is threatened by Grass River flooding, given its elevation relative to the waterline.
- Climate change impacts energy supply and demand.
- More information and research is necessary to comprehensively understand the impacts of climate change on the Town/Village of Canton. Despite this, the information presented justifies political action.

ACCEPTANCE OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Trustee Proemm made a motion to accept the Department Head Reports; seconded by Trustee Larrabee. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Superintendent Hallahan did not have anything to add to his report.

Trustee Pynchon asked Superintendent Hallahan about the Solar site.

Superintendent Hallahan stated the site has not changed and he does not think the site is up to par with what was agreed upon. The site will be revisited with Tesla in the Spring.

Trustee Pynchon asked Superintendent Hallahan about the Fountain in the Park.

Superintendent Hallahan stated that the quotes they received are over the budget. He is waiting for an estimate back from a third contact to see if they could move forward or scrap the project.

Trustee Pynchon asked what will happen with the money raised? Superintendent Hallahan stated it would be up to Rev. Mike and his Board to decide what to do with the money.

Trustee Pynchon asked Superintendent Hallahan about the DPW Fuel Tanks?

Superintendent Hallahan stated that the DPW fuel tanks have been removed and disposed of in a proper landfill.

Trustee Sorensen asked Superintendent Hallahan what the make up air is at the Golf Course?

Superintendent Hallahan informed them that make up air is a general construction term for brining in outside air. Goodrich will complete this during the winter.

Recreation Director Putman added the following to his report.

1. There was a power outage in Canton today. It took some time for the compressors to come back up.
2. Skate with Santa is scheduled for December 24 from 12:00pm-1:30pm.
3. Knights of Columbus is holding Public Skating on December 25 from 3pm-5pm.

Police Chief Santimaw recognized Matt McGregor who passed away. Mr. McGregor was a Canton Fire Department member.

Trustee Pynchon added that there will be a meeting set up with St. Lawrence University to start to do sessions with the students that are living off campus to discuss the rules. The college used to do a session but it has stopped.

Clerk Noble informed that Board that she received a notice from NYCOM the allowable Tax Levy Growth Factor for the coming year will be 1.78%.

Trustee Pynchon asked when they should receive the NYMIR Report?

Clerk Noble informed the Board that they received information regarding online training for the employees (example: Sexual Harassment Training). The report will be received in a few months.

Code Officer Murray did not have anything to add to his report.

Economic Developer Rodriguez did not have anything to add to her report.

Trustee Pynchon encouraged everyone to take the survey online about the Brownfield Opportunity.

Trustee Pynchon asked Economic Developer Rodriguez when they should find out about the \$300,000 grant?

Economic Developer Rodriguez could not recall but believes it would be fairly quick. The grant would start October 2020 for three years.

Trustee Sorensen asked about the timeline with permitting on Dairy Queen?

Code Officer Murray stated that he had some conversations with the owners for Dairy Queen through e-mail regarding demo and foundation but no permits have been issued.

Economic Developer Rodriguez stated that they gave a 10 day notice to the State for demo.

Trustee Sorensen asked about the Canton Housing Authority grant?

Economic Developer Rodriguez informed her that this was a CDBG block grant to replace the aging elevator.

Historian Casserly- was not in attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Complete Streets- Trustee Proemm presented the Board with two Complete Streets Committee members; David Barnes and Dan Dominie.

Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve David Barnes and Dan Dominie. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Sustainability Committee- Trustee Pynchon stated that there was been good participation at the meetings. The composting project will continue throughout the winter.

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION:

Mayor Dalton discussed concerns on how St. Lawrence County is going to divide sales tax for the Villages/Towns/City. They are working on taking more money back to fund projects and Medicaid. Villages/Towns/City will lose out on money. Mayor Dalton proposed doing a resolution to support sales tax. He stated that the Towns/Villages/City are standing together and have discussed attending the Legislators meeting on January 6, 2020.

Trustee Larrabee stated on behalf of the Safety Committee she wanted to recognize the death of Matt McGregor, it is a great loss for the community.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Zoning Audit-** Trustee Pynchon stated that they are working with Monica Ryan from River Street. A meeting was held with ZBA, Planning Board, Economic

Developer Rodriguez, Code Officer Murray, Attorney Ducharme and Mayor Dalton to discuss what will be involved and what is a head in the zoning audit. They have had a phone conversation with Attorney Ducharme, Monica, Mayor Dalton and Trustee Pynchon, the code needs a lot of work. They discussed a complete do over of the code. A draft will be completed and there will be an open house and Public comment opportunities. Attorney Ducharme stated that Monica will be sending over a budget estimate that will need to be considered in January. A Committee will be made up from a member from the ZBA, Planning Board, Code Officer, Village Board Member and Economic Developer. Trustee Pynchon stated that she is happy to have things funneled through her.

- b. Information Resources and Technology Use Policy-** Trustee Pynchon stated Councilperson Danehy, Councilperson Washo, and Trustee Sorensen are working with Attorney Ducharme on a policy. The Town of Canton discussed but the Town Supervisor had questions. Trustee Pynchon asked the Board to review and send comments by January 6, 2020.
- c. Discuss File Sharing-** Trustee Pynchon stated the file sharing will be through Google Drive.

Trustee Sorensen stated that a process was developed. Files will need to be converted into PDF and saved with a file name and uploaded to the shared folders by department. Meeting packets will be created for each meeting. Training can be provided. The file sharing is for efficiency and being more transparent. The plan is to have the Department Head Reports available for the meeting. Trustee Sorensen proposed that the Department Heads gives updates and major highlights off the reports during the meetings.

An invitation will be e-mailed to the file sharing by the beginning of next year.

- d. Discuss Ethics Disclosure Statement-** Trustee Pynchon stated that the Ethics Code was passed but the Disclosure Statement was not mentioned. The Ethics Code references the Disclosure Statement but it is not part of the code incase the Disclosure Statement needs to be modified.

After further discussion between the Board and Attorney Ducharme they decided to have a Joint Town/Village Board discussion regarding the Ethics Disclosure Statement and how to handle if someone refuses to sign or is not truthful on the Disclosure Statement

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds-** Trustee Proemm made a motion to authorize payment of vouchers & transfer of funds # 7 of 2019-2020. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

General Fund	\$106,172.58	Golf Course	\$2,626.05
Water Fund	\$13,139.71	Joint Activity	\$7,561.65
Sewer Fund	\$15,814.89		

- b. Appoint Fire Department Members: Bryan Noble, James Kemp and Michael Jent-** Trustee Larrabee made a motion to appoint fire department members Bryan Noble,

James Kemp and Michael Jent. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

- d. **Discuss Capital Improvement Exemption** - Attorney Ducharme stated that he is waiting to hear back from the Assessor regarding the Capital Improvement Exemption, to see what is in the pipeline. The Capital Improvement Exemption can be increased from \$50,000 to \$80,000. The Board decided to discuss at the January meeting after Attorney Ducharme speaks with the assessor.
- e. **Discuss and Approve PD Contract with Motorola Solutions (Spillman)**- Mayor Dalton stated that due to the changes coming to New York in January that the Police Departments program needs to be upgraded. They have not received the MOU from the County Attorney and Spillman, they are currently working on it. Mayor Dalton asked the Board to approve the contract based on Attorney Ducharme's approval. The expense for the new program will be \$27,752.32 which includes the expense and the annual maintenance expense. The annual maintenance expense is \$5,510.76 and will not go up 2% over the seven year contract period.

Trustee Pynchon asked if there was funds available? Clerk/Treasurer Noble stated that funds are available due to the sales tax that was received was over \$24,700 what was budgeted.

Trustee Sorensen asked if there was room to grow with the program. Chief Santimaw stated that there was.

Trustee Larrabee stated that this will be good for Officer safety because you will know where the officers are at all times.

Trustee Larrabee made a motion to approve the PD Contract with Motorola Solutions (Spillman) contingent on Attorney Ducharme's approval. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

- f. **Discuss and Approve Annual Contract between the Village, Town, and Canton Fire Dept.**- Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve the annual contract between the Village, Town and Canton Fire Dept. Trustee Larrabee seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.
- g. **Accept Sgt. Dow retirement effective 1-21-20**- Trustee Larrabee made a motion to accept Sgt. Dow's retirement effective 1/21/20. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.
- h. **Authorize the request for a Civil Service List for Sgt. From SLC**- Trustee Pynchon made a motion to authorize Clerk Noble to request the Civil Service list for Sgt. From St. Lawrence County. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.
- i. **Approve Officer Joshua Rose and Officer Lindsey Landphere as permanent Officers as of 12/26/2019**- Trustee Pynchon made a motion to approve Officer Joshua Rose and Officer Lindsey Landphere as permanent Officers as of 12/26/19. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

Trustee Larrabee made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04PM. Trustee Proemm seconded the motion All voted in favor. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Cara Adams
Deputy Clerk