

Village of Canton, New York

SPECIAL VILLAGE BOARD MEETING **Meeting Minutes: April 27, 2020**

Board Present: Michael Dalton, Mayor Carol Pynchon, Trustee Beth Larrabee, Trustee Anna Sorensen, Trustee Klaus Proemm, Trustee

Others Present: Sally Noble, Clerk/Treasurer Gerald Ducharme, Village Attorney Brien Hallahan, Superintendent Cara Adams, Deputy Clerk Linda Casserly, Historian

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Dalton opened the meeting up at 6:34pm via Zoom. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Canton Village Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 27, 2020 at 6:30pm, to receive public comment on the proposed Village budget for fiscal year starting June 1, 2020. Upon the conclusion of the public hearing, the Canton Village Board of Trustees will convene a special meeting to take action on the proposed Village budget. The annual compensation which is proposed to be paid to each member of the Board of Trustees is the following: (a) Mayor: \$8,118.24; and (b) each Trustee: \$3,788.51. The proposed budget may be viewed on the Village's website

Both the public hearing and the special meeting will be conducted by use of Zoom video-conference, as authorized by Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order #202.1 issued on March 12, 2020, Executive Order #202.14 issued on April 7, 2020, and Executive Order #202.15 issued on April 9, 2020.

Mayor Dalton read the following Budget Message:

This proposed budget represents a \$0.03/\$1,000 decrease in the tax rate which is a decrease of 0.31% from last year. The increase in the tax levy is 1.73%. This places us just under the 1.78% tax cap.

The proposal is for no increase in the Village water / sewer rates at this time. We will continue to closely monitor expenses and revenues. We will continue to pay back the monies owed to the General Fund from the Main Street improvements.

Taxable assessments increased by \$3,354,184 or 2% over last year. Of the total assessed value of property, \$488,695,225, in the Village, \$320,879,926 or 65.66% is

exempt. This is a slight decrease in the percentage of tax-exempt properties over last year.

Costs associated with payroll are 34% and benefits 21% for a total of 55% of our total budget. With payroll and benefits consuming this large portion of the budget, controlling labor costs is a priority. All employees that are eligible for health insurance coverage are contributing (at varied levels) towards their premiums, which offsets this cost slightly. Our switch to a high deductible has the potential to save us benefit dollars.

The Capital Equipment requests are outlined in Section 9 of the budget in the amount of \$635,419. This budget includes funding of \$534,509 for those requests. The funding for last year's items was \$519,752. This is an increase of \$14,757. Paving projects scheduled for this year total \$93,024 down \$30,818 from last year's total of \$123,842. Most of this will be covered by CHIPS funding.

Mayor Dalton opened for Public Comment.

Toby Irven asked the Board about code 5680 if the name Bike Path is a typo and asked where the repair funds are included?

Clerk Noble stated that the repair funds are included in the Department of Public Works budget line and the Code title will be corrected to say Remington Trail.

Public Hearing closed at 6:40pm.

- 1. Take action on proposed 2020-2021 budget-** Trustee Proemm made a motion to approve the 2020-2021 Budget. Trustee Pynchon seconded the motion.

Trustee Pynchon stated that she appreciates the work Clerk Noble and Mayor Dalton have done in the unusual circumstances. She stated that she is satisfied that they have a budget to start with but anticipates a lot of time revisiting it throughout the year once the realities of running the Village in the new post pandemic period. Appericates how they got to the budget but looks forward to receiving it throughout the year.

Trustee Sorensen stated she appreciates Clerk Noble and Mayor Dalton for

putting this together in very challenging circumstances. She stated she is concerned about the projected revenues right now and she appreciates the flat budget because that seems wise, under the circumstances. She said she knows Clerk Noble and Mayor Dalton will be keeping an eye on capital purchases and expenditures. Dealing with the effects of the pandemic and start to plan to help Canton recover and move to the next new normal.

Trustee Proemm and Trustee Larrabee thanked Clerk Noble and Mayor Dalton.

Approval for 2020-2021

Budget Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Pynchon- AYE

Trustee Sorensen- AYE

Trustee Proemm- AYE

Trustee Larrabee- AYE

Mayor Dalton- AYE

All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Trustee Larrabee made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:44pm. Trustee Sorensen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully,

Cara Adams
Deputy
Clerk