

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA
MINUTES
May 3, 2021

Mayor Warner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT: Mayor Rosanne Warner; Deputy Mayor Jeffrey Carpenter; Trustees Jeffrey Watkins; Bill McDade (via Webex) and Douglas Gustin; Village Administrator Jenn Farwell; Village Historian David Sadler; Pool Director Marge Morgan; Residents Jim and Nannette Guifre and Ron and Patty Vaccaro; and Bruce Burke of PAC 99.

ABSENT: None.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee McDade, to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2021, organizational meeting. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2021, meeting. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2021, special meeting. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, to approve a loan from the General Fund to the Capital Project Fund in the amount of \$8,170.00 for architectural fees for the LWRP designs. **Discussion:** Mayor Warner advised that this is the bill for EDR for the Canal Street Design and we will get this money back with the Grant. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee McDade, seconded by Trustee Watkins, to approve the General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$58,663.71. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$8,622.26. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to approve the Capital Fund Abstract in the amount of \$9,046.50. Passed 5 to 0.

Presentation of Centenarian Proclamation by Mayor Warner to Mary DeShaw. Mrs. DeShaw was not able to come in this evening - the presentation will be done at a later time.

Discussion with Marge Morgan, Pool Director, regarding the opening of the Village pool. Mayor Warner advised that she spoke with Dr. Michael Picciano and he is in favor of opening the pool and believes that we will be okay. Pool Director, Marge Morgan, advised the Board that she met with Joe Murphy and she spoke with the Health Department. The Health Department advised that patrons must enter and exit from a difference place. Our capacity is 142 individuals and we will be limited to 33% or 47 people at a time and that includes people in the pool and on the deck. Employees will take the temperature of people entering the facility and masks must be worn except when in the

water. Your mask must be put back on when exiting the water. Family members may swim next to each other in the water. If you are not part of a family, you must be a minimum of 6 feet apart at all times. Pool Director Marge Morgan advised that these are the rules for open swim - swimming lessons will be difficult - with the 6 feet apart rule there is not enough room to do lessons. She is suggesting that we have open 6 days a week. The staff would have to clean and sanitize each ½ hour. Hopefully we can get enough staff - only 3 have applied so far. Administrator Farwell asked if the children who are lifeguards are able to handle the chemicals needed for sanitizing. Administrator Farwell will check on this. Marge Morgan advised that they need new paper towel dispensers in the bathrooms.

Trustee Carpenter asked if we could do lessons if we changed the staffing or structure of lessons. Marge Morgan talked about ideas for continuing to offer lessons. Trustee Carpenter asked if there would be a difference in the number of staff without offering lessons. She will look at her numbers again. Administrator Farwell asked how the YMCA is doing their program right now. Marge has not spoken with them. Administrator Farwell will check with them and Marge stated that she would ask also. Mayor Warner advised that we did pass the budget and knows that the pool does generate revenue from lessons, but even if we do not have lessons, the Mayor would like to have the pool open. Marge advised the Board that she will have to meet with the Health Department before we will be able to open. Mayor Warner asked Marge to give a list of things that need to be done inside and talked about what work we have done already. Marge will reach out to DPW Foreman Maxwell to talk about this. Administrator Farwell advised that her recent conversation with DPW Foreman Maxwell they were talking about a 1-2 week delay in our regular opening day. The Board talked about opening the pool and whether a company will come in as in the past or if we will be opening the pool ourselves. Trustee Carpenter thanked Pool Director Marge Morgan for everything they do at the pool. Director Morgan complimented her staff and thanked the Village Board for its support. The Mayor talked with Director Morgan about placing an ad for lifeguards. Mayor Warner asked Administrator Farwell to see if we can work with the YMCA regarding a class for lifeguards. Administrator Farwell will check on this.

Public Comments.

Ron Vaccaro addressed the Board regarding the fox and feral cat problem in his neighborhood on Belleview Drive. He and some of his neighbors hired a professional trapper to catch the fisher that was in the neighborhood. They are afraid to walk around the circle because of the fox and there is another fisher in the area. They have spent \$350 already and they would like the Village to hire a trapper to take care of the fox and feral cats. Mr. and Mrs. Vaccaro and Mr. and Mrs. Guifre spoke with the Board about the damage that the animals are doing in their neighborhood and the reasons that they would like the Village to be involved in removing the animals from their neighborhood. There are video recordings of the fox on Mr. and Mrs. Guifre's porch - they will be forwarded to the Village. Mayor Warner asked Administrator Farwell to get in touch with Operation Wildcats to see if they can do something about the feral cat population. Administrator Farwell noted that she has

forwarded proposed legislation to the Mayor regarding regulation of cats. She explained that we need clarification on whether we can do anything about the fisher because that is a DEC function and we may not have the authority. The Board talked about the conditions that are making it more attractive for the cats and other animals. Trustee Watkins asked Administrator Farwell to contact DEC regarding the fox and deer. Trustee Watkins asked for the ring camera footage. Administrator Farwell explained the trap/neuter/spay program. Mr. and Mrs. Vaccaro and Mr. and Mrs. Guifre thanked the Board for listening. The Mayor will get Operation Wildcats and the DEC on this. Mrs. Vaccaro provided the Board with the contact number for the DEC.

Mayor Warner asked Village Historian David Sadler if he had heard more from the Library on the marker. Administrator Farwell noted that she heard from the Library and the marker was received on Friday and the Library would like the Village to put it up by October.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, approving a credit in the amount of \$33.72 against the sewer charges on the March 31, 2021, OCWA bill for property owned by Donna Gustin and located at 407 South Peterboro Street, Canastota, New York. (Note: The reason for the excess water consumption was due to an outside water spigot that has been repaired.) Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to authorize the following unpaid Code Violations to be relieved against the 2021-2022 Village Taxes: \$1,293.75 against property located at 450 New Boston Street, bearing tax map number 35.8-1-2; \$448.50 against property located at 302 First Street, bearing tax map number 36.71-1-16; \$373.75 against property located at 111 Third Street, bearing tax map number 36.79-1-23; \$34,316.00 against property located at 229 South Canal Street, bearing tax map number 36.62-1-8; \$1,195.00 against property located at 125 Rasbach Street, bearing tax map number 36.77-1-55; \$155.00 against property located at Delano Avenue, bearing tax map number 36.79-1-59; \$180.00 against property located at 436 East Canal Street, bearing tax map number 36.56-1-3; \$615.25 against property located at 558 New Boston Street, bearing tax map number 36.45-2-18, for a total of \$38,577.25 in relieved unpaid Code Violations. **Discussion:** Trustee Watkins asked if they are going against the 2021-2022 taxes. Clerk/Treasurer advised that they are. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee McDade, approving the attached Customer Service Agreement between the Village of Canastota and UniFirst, dated April 21 2021, regarding the bi-weekly rug service for the Municipal Building for a period of 60 months. (Note: This expense is shared with the Town of Lenox. The prices quoted are the same rates as we are now paying.) Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to approve the attached Business Unlimited Service Agreement between the Village of Canastota and Northland Communications for local and domestic long distance service in the monthly amount of \$906.00 for a period of 36 months, with

a one-time installation charge of \$500.00, and authorizing the Mayor to execute the same. (Note: Monthly charges and one-time installation charge to be shared with the Town of Lenox.) **Discussion:** Trustee Watkins asked what we budgeted for this. Administrator Farwell noted that the new cost includes a rental fee for the phones instead of paying the up-front cost of buying the phones and equipment which would be about \$15,000.00. This does not include the phone in the elevator. Administrator Farwell further advised that this is a cost savings because we are not replacing the phones. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, confirming the appointment of John Pinard as a Town of Lenox representative to the Recreation Board. **Discussion:** Mayor Warner noted that this is the younger of the two (2) John Pinards. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee McDade, approving the membership of Jason Nisiewicz to the Canastota Volunteer Fire Department, based upon the attached notice from the Fire Department. (Note: A copy of the applicant's driver's license has been received.) Passed 5 to 0.

Correspondence.

- Letter of resignation from Part-time Police Officer Will Stevens as of April 22, 2021.
- Invitation from Little League to attend their opening day. The Mayor and Trustee Gustin went down on Saturday morning. She noted that the kids were very excited - they had games all day long. The Mayor noted that this was a great day.
- Letter from the Department of Public Service asking for public comment in the gas planning proceeding. The Mayor asked Administrator Farwell to do a FaceBook post or put this notice on the Village website.
- Invitation to attend the PERMA Member Conference which is at the end of May.

Administrator.

Administrator Farwell presented the list of proposed roads for paving for 2021. She asked the Board to look this over and talk about it at the next meeting with DPW Foreman Maxwell. The Board talked about the list and what was done in the past. The Board also talked about using the cold mix versus the hot mix and how it worked out for the budget and on the roads. The Mayor noted that we have some CHIPS money in the new budget. The Board talked about the costs and the potential for funding. The Board wants to know where DPW Foreman Maxwell's figures came from and what is the plan and which streets will be done with which process. Administrator Farwell advised that she did expect DPW Foreman Maxwell to have better numbers and more details at the next meeting. Trustee Watkins advised that he is not in favor of the cold mix and the Mayor concurred.

Administrator Farwell gave an update on the playground. Rick Myers has agreed to come shoot the elevations this week and Madison County will be giving us equipment to use. There is a tree left standing that Madison County will come back to take care of. Everything is moving forward. They will be meeting again this Friday.

Administrator Farwell reminded the Board of the Joint Meeting next Monday and asked the Board for topics for the agenda. So far the town has the skate park and the sewer agreement. Trustee Watkins asked Administrator Farwell to get clarification on what allocation the Town wants to move. Mayor Warner advised that the attorney believes that they want to move from Roberts Street and Canal Street areas to the south side of Route 5. The Board discussed the possibility of annexation when property in the Town wants sewer. The Board discussed how the allocation that is not being used in the Districts affects the plant.

Administrator Farwell updated on the LWRP - they met with Rotary and presented the plan to the entire Rotary Group. There will be another meeting - she is waiting on dates. They will be re-working the plan based on the history that they gained at the Rotary meeting.

Administrator Farwell advised that the concession stand is done and looks great - the steel roll-up door still needs to be installed. Also, this Saturday will be the Police Bike Rodeo from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and registration is required. Mayor Warner shared a video of the concession stand.

Mayor.

The Mayor will meet with Ed Brophy on Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. regarding the concerts. The Mayor has the schedule - concerts will begin on July 8 at 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. until August 19. COVID regulations will apply. Mayor Warner reviewed the schedule and the Board wants to bring the concert series back.

The Mayor talked about the email regarding cannabis dispensaries and if the Board is interested in this. Trustee Gustin and Trustee Watkins are not interested. Trustee McDade is concerned about leaving empty storefronts and thinks that it would be okay. Mayor Warner thinks that we are the only community with a Thruway exit and we will need to deal with this anyway. The Police Department will likely have to deal with this if it is in the Town. The Mayor would like us to generate some tax revenue from this. The tax is 4% and 1/4 for 1% is for the County and 3/4 or 3% for the Village - we stand to get 3% from sales. Mayor Warner believes that it will be a little extra revenue for us. Trustee Carpenter stated that it is early and he is leaning toward no, but it is not a hard no. The Board talked about the potential extra costs of police protection. They also talked about what other communities would possibly be doing and about revenue versus expenses as well as laws. The Board discussed how to get input from the residents to determine what they want.

Trustee Comments.

Trustee Gustin has nothing tonight.

Trustee Watkins has nothing tonight.

Trustee McDade has nothing tonight.

Trustee Carpenter is all set.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee McDade, to cancel the July 5, 2021, meeting.
Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to enter Executive Session regarding legal matters at 8:41 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

The Mayor advised that there will be no action taken after Executive Session tonight.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee McDade, to exit Executive Session at 9:16 p.m.
Passed 5 to 0.

Adjourn.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to adjourn at 9:16 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine E. Williams
Clerk/Treasurer