

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA  
MINUTES  
November 16, 2020

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 and Douglas Gustin; Village Administrator Jenn Farwell; DPW Foreman Mark Maxwell; Fire Chief TJ Tornatore; Police Chief Zophy; Code Enforcement Officer Mike Adsit; Village Historian David Sadler; Jim Cunningham and Dan Cunningham from NWT; Town of Lenox Councilman Tom Bush; Peter Finocchiaro and Dr. Andrea Finocchiaro from CNY Children's Foundation.

ABSENT: None.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, to approve the minutes from the October 5, 2020, meeting. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Watkins, to approve the minutes from the October 28, 2020, special meeting. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to approve the General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$54,173.30. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$7,133.04. Passed 5 to 0.

**Public Comments.**

None.

**CNY Children's Foundation presentation.**

Dr. Andrea Finocchiaro of the Central New York Children's Foundation, Inc. reviewed the history, location and plans for this project for the Board and those in attendance. The Foundation has enough money to purchase the piece of equipment known as the pirate ship now. They would like the Village to help them store the ship when it comes in and to commit to the placement of the part at the Spencer Street location. The Village will need to do some of the work to assemble the equipment and prepare the location in order to help them Foundation save money. Phase II will be the purchase and installation of an aero-glider that will be handicap accessible and usable and swings which will also be handicap accessible and usable. The park will be fenced in to help keep children in when playing on the equipment. The Finocchiaro family will pay for the fencing. Peter Finocchiaro noted that the contract will not be through the Village. There is no advantage to having the Village make the purchase so the Foundation will make the payment. There will be additional fund raisers for Phase II. The Foundation does not have enough money now to hire for the assembly and installation

~~of equipment. The Town of Lenox is to take the wood chips to the park-~~  
where the money will go is to be determined. Peter talked about a possible donation from a local company and that Lyle Malbouf from Madison County will have his work crew put up the pavilion. Peter talked about other costs that will be necessary. Trustee Carpenter thanked them for all they have done for this project and asked what equipment will come with the park and how it will be stored. The Board discussed storage of the unassembled equipment. Administrator Farwell suggested that we may be able to contact community members. Lenox Highway Supervisor Tornatore may have room in the Town's cold storage building. The Mayor advised that Administrator Farwell consulted our insurance carrier about the cost of the insurance premium for the park. She also asked about the associated costs for maintenance and the cost of the wood chips. Dr. Finocchiaro can give the Mayor the information on the wood chips. (Discussion was suspended at 7:15 p.m. for the bid opening.)

**7:15 p.m. Bid Opening - Demolition of 229 South Canal Street.**

Administrator Farwell recorded the bids that were opened by the Mayor. Abscope - \$36,900; Bronze Contracting, LLC - \$29,900. The bids were turned over to Administrator Farwell.

**7:20 p.m. Bid Opening - Firehouse Ceiling Painting.**

Administrator Farwell recorded the bids that were opened by the Mayor. John Cook, Jr. - \$14,717; Pristine Paint, LLC - \$16,000; JDS Construction - \$28,935; Cabu Construction Management Group - \$44,362.50; MJ Dakota, Inc. - \$14,840. The bids were turned over to Administrator Farwell. The Board will meet on Friday, November 20, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. to award both contracts.

CNY Children's Foundation presentation was resumed.

The Foundation does not want to order the pirate ship until the Village Board accepts the ship.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, that we accept the ship from CNY Children's Foundation and store it accordingly. **Discussion:** Trustee Watkins thinks we can come up with a place to store it. The Mayor thinks we can figure it out. Administrator Farwell advised that there will be a meeting on Friday, November 16, 2020, at 2:30 with DPW Foreman Maxwell, Lenox Highway Supervisor Tornatore, Mayor Warner and herself regarding this project. Trustee Gustin will also attend. The Board would like to notice this meeting so that all interested members of the Board can attend. Administrator Farwell noted that the meeting is to work out the logistics of the project. Passed 5 to 0.

### **Department Head Reports.**

Code Enforcement Officer Adsit advised the Board that he is catching up on some things before the snow flies and he still has one (1) court case that is not being held until January 2021. He talked about other matters that he is working on.

Chief Zophy has two (2) employees out long-term for illnesses and one on vacation. He reviewed the calls and arrests for October 2020 with the Board.

Jim Cunningham of NWT advised the Board that this was their 16<sup>th</sup> day operating the treatment plant and that the transition is going pretty well. They are doing an inventory and documenting the condition and size of the equipment to provide the Board with a cost estimate. They are also doing some process work and documenting the processes and making changes. They are rotating their workers through the plant to make sure that they have many people who know what they are doing. Jim advised that they are looking at moving away from using ferric chloride and back to ferric sulfate. Jim also advised that they are looking at getting a roll-off dumpster to save on the cost of trucking for removing sludge. He spoke with LaBerge about the engineering for the plant and the removal of iron. He does not think that we need to do this or that there may be another process that can be used. Jim gave the data on what has been treated and taken to the landfill for the month of November. The Mayor asked Jim to talk with the Board about the spreadsheet regarding the biosolids. Jim reviewed the graph and advised that you would expect a more level line than the up and down readings that we have produced. He talked about this being something that is not normally seen and they will look to see what is causing it and get it straightened out. Trustee Carpenter thanked NWT for all they have done. Mayor Warner thanked the DPW for all they have done with all that has been dumped on them.

Fire Chief Tornatore stated that November has been pretty quiet. The Fire Department is working on inventory. The Mayor noted that we received a check recently from the Thruway.

Village Historian David Sadler is working on some genealogy projects right now. The Mayor asked Dave about boxes that were in the basement. Dave believes that they might be from many years ago. The Mayor talked about some of the pictures that she found. The Mayor stated that there are some of the State historical markers that need attention - the poles are rusting. She suggested that the BOCES students might be able to work on this next summer. Mayor Warner talked about the library working on their marker for their building.

DPW Foreman Maxwell advised the Board that they have been busy trying to do a lot of work with the nice weather - he is hoping that this weather continues to cooperate. The DPW has been busy with bags and he has pictures of the large mounds that were picked up. They are working on the Christmas decorations - they will be ready soon. Mark reported that they started doing their checks on the sewer pump stations, noting that Jerry has been great to work with. He is online with the

~~need to be made. He talked about some of the work and their findings, advising that he only had an issue with one pump station so far. They are working on the headworks alarm. Mark talked about what is happening with the system and what improvements they are looking to have made. HVAC contractors are working on some issues. He talked about some of the problems that they are having with the air intake system. They are also working on cleaning some things out to lessen the smell. The Mayor thanked Mark again. She asked if they found any pumps that needed replacement or repair. Mark responded that they are not there yet. He talked about some problems that they had with some of the pump stations. Trustee Watkins asked if all of the alarms are only going to Mark's phone. Mark advised that the alarms go to his phone, Jim Cunningham's phone, Jenn's phone and the office. Mark asked Jim Cunningham if he could tour another plant that NWT operates to see how it is supposed to work. Mark talked about the SCADA system and the work that needs to be done on that. The Mayor gave Mark the name of a vendor who could help. Jim Cunningham offered to look at the pumps to determine if they are working properly without have to pull the pump.~~

DPW Foreman advised the Board that the sweeper had a significant failure - the yoke broke and got caught underneath and caused a lot of damage. Mark noted that they are going to try to fix it which will lessen the cost of the repair. The Mayor let Foreman Maxwell and Chief Zophy know that a resident on Douglas Heights gave compliments on the response from the PD and the DPW to clean up the recent mess. The Mayor asked about the status of the repairs for the Dwyers on Hickory Street.

Motion by Trustee Warner, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to appoint Cora Johnson to the Zoning Board of Appeals to a term expiring on April 5, 2021. **Discussion:** The Mayor referenced the biography that was submitted. Passed 5 to 0.

The Mayor has another appointment for the Board. Neeraj Modgil is interested in the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Mayor shared her biography with the Board. Mayor Warner has another interested person for the Planning Board vacancy and will have their biography before the next meeting. The Mayor advised that these appointments will fill those Boards back up.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Gustin, approving an ACH transfer from the Sewer Fund (97107.02 Interest on Debt Service) to USDA in the amount of \$5,242.50 for interest owed on the 1999 Rural Development Phase II Bonds. **Discussion:** Trustee Gustin asked about the maturity date for this loan. The Mayor referred him to the Bond Schedule that the Clerk/Treasurer sent in September. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Carpenter, to approve the attached Madison County Interoperable Communications System Agreement and to authorize the Mayor to execute the same. **Discussion:** Trustee Watkins asked the Chief if his radios were good. Administrator Farwell noted that she has the Chief's inventory and is waiting for the Fire Department. The Chief noted that all

~~of the Board~~ Chief of the Board tabled the contract for the problems with needing repairs. The Chief noted that the planned upgrades were not completed. The Board talked about whether to proceed with this contract and what would happen if the County purchased new radios. The Board would like the contract to go to the Fire Department and Police Department for their review. This matter is being tabled until the next meeting.

### **Correspondence.**

- Tree letter concerning property at 119 Prospect Street. Trustee Watkins asked where we stand on these. Administrator Farwell noted that we are waiting for some quotes from some other vendors for work on the trees. She has some of the quotes and hopes to have the information soon so that we can figure out how to proceed. DPW Foreman Mark Maxwell noted that the County helped with the tree on Prospect Street, making it safe until we can get the tree taken down. The Board discussed about how to potentially bid the process for the year or each individual tree. They also talked about having the County tree crew help us out. DPW Foreman Maxwell noted that the County has parked their crane and we need the crane to do the work on the trees.

### **Administrator.**

Administrator Farwell reported on the pocket community project - they did final rounds of interviews with the three (3) developers and a final decision was made on Friday - Saverino was chosen and was one of the designers on the original concept team. They are hoping to have a contract soon and then will be working on the study.

The website went live today. It is fairly easy to update. Administrator Farwell advised that more updates are being made and she will be adding more forms and information as we move forward.

The Administrator received notification that Tribal Funds were received from the County for the year. Credit cards acceptance is ready - we can start receiving these payments at the front counter now. The Board discussed how the customer will be charged a convenience fee for using a credit card.

Administrator Farwell advised that over the last year and a half, we have been trying to work with our adult softball program regarding fees due to the Village. She gave the background on this matter and let the Board know that we received our money last week.

### **Mayor.**

~~The Mayor advised the Board that she reached out to State regarding the brewery's proposal to put its handicap ramp in the state's parking lot - she is expecting a call back next week. She will also ask about the canal boat being displayed.~~  
The Mayor had a conversation with Greater Lenox - a meeting is going to be set up. The mayor asked for an email or text message with the Board's availability to meet. Trustee Carpenter asked about a target day for the meeting. The Mayor is looking for availability during the next week to week and a half.

The Mayor advised the Board that she reached out to State regarding the brewery's proposal to put its handicap ramp in the state's parking lot - she is expecting a call back next week. She will also ask about the canal boat being displayed.

The Mayor reviewed the plan from the Town for return of the recreation money for this year. The Mayor asked Clerk/Treasurer Williams for contracts from 2014 and 2015 because of the questions regarding the recreation contracts and when the payments were made and what period the payments covered. Mayor Warner believes that either the Town or the Village will need to buy a piece of equipment for the CNY Children's Foundation. Supervisor DiVeronica is asking for a refund of \$4,200.00. The Mayor stated that it will be easier if it is withheld from the next contract.

Mayor Warner talked about the State mandate on communicable diseases. She talked about our responsibility with the order. Administrator Farwell advised that this must be done 150 days from when the governor signs the order. The Mayor had a conversation with the Wampsville Mayor. They would like to talk about a shared service to jet their storm sewers and street sweep a couple of times a year. Mayor Warner told him we would talk over the winter.

Mayor Warner advised that she spoke with Fire Chief Tornatore regarding the tree lighting. The Mayor has found a Santa - Russ Brown has donated his services. Beautification will meet on Wednesday.

The Mayor asked if everyone had a chance to read the notes from Neeraj Modgil. Trustee McDade feels she will be a very valuable asset to the ZBA.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Gustin, to appoint Neeraj Modgil to the next expiring vacancy on the Planning Board. Passed 5 to 0.

### **Trustee Comments.**

Trustee Gustin advised the Board that he is meeting with Code Enforcement Officer Adsit on Wednesday regarding 911 numbers. There is a Codes meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

Trustee Watkins has nothing tonight.

Trustee McDade has nothing this evening.

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Trustee Carpenter is all set as well. He wished everyone a great

**Adjourn.**

Motion by Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Watkins, to adjourn at 8:39 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine E. Williams  
Clerk/Treasurer