

**VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA  
MINUTES  
February 17, 2021**

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

**PRESENT:** Mayor Rosanne Warner; Trustee Doug Gustin; Trustee Jeff Carpenter; Code Officer Mike Adsit, Police Chief Zophy, Fire Chief Tornatore; Administrator Jenn Farwell and Bruce Burke PAC 99.

Remote: Trustee Bill McDade (joined at 7:13 pm); Zoning Board Colleen Kean

**ABSENT:** Trustee Jeff Watkins.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter and second by Trustee Gustin to approve minutes from the February 1, 2021 meeting. Passed 3 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin and second by Trustee Carpenter to approve the General Fund Abstract in the amount of \$171,538.37. Passed 3 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter and second by Trustee Gustin to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of \$28,915.12. Passed 3 to 0.

**Public Comments**

None

**Department Heads**

Fire Chief Tornatore stated they have had 2-3 calls a day for the last couple of weeks. He is working on his budget. Doug Chandler told him the AFG Grant was sent in. He is pricing out new hoses that have to be replaced.

Code Enforcer Adsit stated that there is not a lot going on right now, he is reviewing laws and working on more training. Trustee Carpenter asked about 114 Peterboro St and CEO Adsit stated that they have had dumpsters and working on a new roof.

Police Chief Zophy introduced John Murray to the Board as a new Part Time Police Officer. John introduced himself; he asked if they had any questions and stated he looked forward to working here. Chief Zophy stated that he has been working with Administrator Farwell on the new Police Reform and thanked her for all the time she has put in.

Motion by Trustee Gustin and second by Trustee Carpenter to appoint John R. Murray as a part-time police officer effective February 19, 2021, based on the attached recommendation of Chief Zophy. Passed 3 to 0.

Administrator Farwell reported for the Recreation Department: snowman contest had 10 entries; Mayor Warner donated the \$150 for the prizes. They are also working with the library for April break for a grab and go pack for the teens.

Open Public Hearing at 7:15 on Proposed Local Law Amending Village of Canastota Code Chapter 230 with Respect to Village Zoning Map. There was no discussion from the Board, Code Officer Adsit explained the zone change. Mayor asked 3 times if anyone had any changes for or against the local law; no comments were made. Public hearing closed at 7:17 pm.

Motion by Trustee Gustin and second by Trustee McDade to approve the attached Local Law to amend Village of Canastota Code Chapter 230 with respect to the Village Zoning Map. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter and second by Trustee Gustin to schedule a Public comment period to receive feedback on the Police Reform and Reinvention Plan on March 1, 2021, at 7:15 p.m. Passed 4 to 0.

Opened Public Hearing at 7:20 pm on Proposed Local Law Amending Village of Canastota Code Chapter 230 with Respect to Solar Energy Installation. Colleen Keane asked for a summary of this. Code Officer Adsit stated that it has been going on for about 2 years to put solar in the Village. The best interest for the village is to form regulations. Mayor Warner stated that they had a moratorium and it took 2 years to draft this law. This gives the Village a law on where the solar farms can go; mostly north of the Thruway. Mayor asked 3 times if anyone had any further comments for or against the local law, no comments were made. Public hearing closed at 7:28.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter and second by Trustee Gustin to approve the attached Local Law to amend Village of Canastota Code Chapter 230 with respect to solar energy installation. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin and second by Trustee Carpenter to approve the changes to the Village of Canastota fee schedule. Mayor Warner explained that Code Officer Adsit added fees for solar permits and updated current fees to meet what state and other villages have. Passed 4 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter and second by Trustee Gustin to increase 36504.01 (Demolition) by \$28,912.00 (for demolition of 229 S. Canal St). Mayor Warner explained the process of how we will get the money back. She stated that the owner will be billed for the demolition and clean up, if they do not pay then it will be added onto their taxes. If taxes are not paid, property will go up to Madison County for auction in 3 years. Passed 4 to 0.

### **Correspondence**

Thank you note from Department of Social Services for the toys donated.

### **Mayor**

Had winter legislative meeting online and they discussed the state budget update. There is a 20% loss of state aid, sales tax will be used to pay the state aid. Currently, federal Covid funding

only includes NYC, trying to get it for all local governments. The 20% of chips that was held back might get returned if the Federal money comes. The Budget director can make a mid-year cut if needed if the Federal Grant money does not come. There is one grant for \$500 million for sewer/water infrastructure repair and upgrades.

Mayor Warner asked the trustees if they have anything to add for the joint meeting with the Town for Monday February 22, 2021. Trustee Carpenter asked about some winter activities like a sled hill or ice skating.

Joel Arsenault talked to the Mayor about the letters put on cars from the tenants that live in his apartments. Joel had told the Mayor that in 1985 when that building was bought, there was an agreement with the Village that the tenants could use the parking lot for overnight parking. Joel would like us to research this. Chief Zophy stated that it was a moot point. He stated that the parking lot should be treated just like the streets, restrict the parking during snow removal season. He stated that it was a liability for the village, stated that the cars do not move when our DPW is trying to clean the lot; they leave their cars there for days at a time. Trustee Carpenter asked if we could put signs up, Chief Zophy stated they were already there.

### **Administrator**

Doug Chandler and her filed the grant for the new fire truck. Also, worked with Chief Tornatore to submit a grant to Perma for a for new gear/washer for the fire department.

NYSERDA Grant lighting portion is done. When finishing lights at ball field, the lift got stuck; our DPW had to help pull it out. Damage was minimal to the field and will be fixed in the spring. We are still in limbo with the electric car; it is not fully built yet.

The house at 229 S. Canal Street has been taken down and the last of the debris has been taken out. Still have to do back fill and finish air monitoring.

The first meeting for canal street was done virtually to reassess the canal front area. The next meeting on Tuesday February 23, 2021 will be at the firehouse at 6:00 pm. The room is big enough so everyone can be spaced apart.

We have launched the new Facebook page. Spoke with Mr. Haddad and waiting to see if Facebook will let him change his name.

### **Trustee Comments**

Trustee Gustin: Spoke with fire counsel concerns about solar farms regarding training. Fire department with talk to Rome. TJ is talking with county coordinator for training.

Trustee McDade: lost his connection online

Trustee Carpenter: reminder of joint meeting on February 22, 2021

Motion Trustee Carpenter and second by Trustee Gustin to adjourn meeting at 8:03 pm. Passed 4 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Galavotti  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer