VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA
Meeting Minutes
August 5, 2026

PRESENT: Mayor Rosanne Warner; Deputy Mayor Doug Gustin; Trustees Jeff Watkins, Bill Haddad, and Lori Torrey; Village Administrator Jeremy Ryan; Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Caitlin Farr; Office Assistant Melissa Luck; DPW Foreman Doug Holdridge; Jaimie Warner; Ken Guilfoyle; Anita Thibado; Jim Clark; Rebecca Waldron; Greg Wright; Peggy LeClair; Aaron LeClair; Marty Bargabos; Kevin Robinson (and son); and Annette Bargabos.

ABSENT: Clerk/Treasurer Cathi Williams (attending Village Planning Board meeting).

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

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the following items as a consent agenda:

a. Loan from the General Fund to the Capital Projects Fund in the amount of $3,300.00 for payment of expenses incurred for the LWRP II Grant Project
b. Payment of the following abstracts:
    1. General Fund Abstract in the amount of $187,413.62
    2. Sewer Fund Abstract in the amount of $7,720.74
    3. Capital Fund Abstract in the amount of $3,300.00
c. Payments to Accu Data from General Fund Account No.16204.01.155 (Payroll Service): $180.23 for payroll dated 7/16/26, $206.63 for payroll dated 7/23/26 and $180.23 for payroll dated 7/30/26
d. Meeting minutes from the following meetings: 1/7/26, 3/31/26, and 7/15/26
e. Authorizing a wire transfer to be sent to M&T Bank on behalf of EFC on or about August 15, 2026, from Sewer Fund Account No. 97107.02 (Interest on Debt Service) in the amount of $600.00 for payment of administrative fee due on the EFC Phase 3 and 4 bonds

Passed 5 to 0.

Public Comments.

Marty Bargabos states that he is attending the meeting to address the Board about the United Methodist Church located on Center St. and the flood that hit the Village last year. Marty provided photos of the church to the Board Members. He notes that the church was built in 1903 and he has brought church members with him this evening.

Canastota native Greg Wright has been a member of the church for 39 years. Mr. Wright states that over the 39 years, the church has gone through a lot of changes but their missions have stayed the same. Some of these missions include, but are not limited to, a free food program, two (2) AA groups, the community band, Sunday school programs, operation Christmas child, and a Nicaragua medical mission. Mr. Wright states that the flood wiped out these programs as it destroyed almost everything. Some of these programs have relocated to other places, such as St. Agatha's Church, but Mr. Wright would like to see them brought back to the United Methodist Church. It is noted that the property was

held in trust and did not have flood insurance. The church has been operating on their reserves and they are running out. Mr. Wright would like to get the church back to where they were.

Mayor Warner notes that she has been looking for grants for UMC but has not found anything. She notes that the Village cannot give money to the church but that we (the Village) could help to set up volunteer days. Mayor Warner asks if the church has since obtained flood insurance. Mr. Wright notes that the church received a letter suggesting obtaining it but nothing has happened since then.

Mayor Warner notes that the County believes a majority of the debris came from residents homes (private property). Both the Village DPW and the County are doing their best to keep the creek clear. Mayor Warner asks both the Board and meeting attendees for suggestions. Marty Bargabos notes that the water had no where to go because the pipes in the canal were plugged and that this is an engineering problem. Marty would like these problems addressed. Mayor Warner has met with the Canal Corp and they indicate that nothing is wrong with the pipes. Mr. Bargabos would like to go on record saying that the flooding will happen again if the pipes are not taken care of. Mayor Warner notes that the Village has been working on it but that it is the property owner's responsibility to keep the canal banks clean on their personal property. The Village cannot enter personal property to keep them clean. She notes that the County came in with a drone to see damage and even had to get permission then, to film the canal on private property. Mr. Bargabos reiterates that he is speaking about the flood and that someone needs to be held responsible. Mr. Bargabos wants the Village to give the money put aside to demo the Erie Mill building to the church. It is noted that the Village cannot do this. Mayor Warner states that the flood was not anyone's fault. Mr. Bargabos disagrees and says it is the fault of whoever is supposed to maintain the pipes under the canal. He also states that we (the Village) are not addressing the problem.

Public comments are paused for public hearing.

7:15 p.m. – Public Hearing on current NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project: Canastota Dairy Products LLC, $630,000.00

Mayor Warner opened the public hearing at 7:18 p.m. She asks, three (3) times, if anyone is there to speak for or against the CDBG Project. There is no response from the meeting attendees.

Village Administrator Ryan states that the project is done and money has been awarded. This public hearing is required by NYS to close the grant.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to close the public hearing at 7:19 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Public comments resume.

Mayor Warner states that she will speak with the Village attorney. Mr. Bargabos would like the church to receive $40,000 total from the Village, Town and County.

Trustee Haddad asks what else the church has done to get money. Mr. Wright states that he spoke with NYS and they were going to send info but the information was never received. Mayor Warner asks what state agency he spoke with. Mr. Wright is unsure. Trustee Haddad notes that he is part of multiple community organizations and that this is the first time he is hearing any of this. Trustee Haddad asks if

the church has asked anyone else for help. Mr. Wright states that they (the church) have not. Both Trustee Haddad and Mr. Jaimie Warner note that the church needs to ask others and to send letters out looking for donations. Mr. Bargabos states that the church should not have to beg for money. Trustee Haddad reiterates that no one in the community knows. Mr. Bargabos again states that he wants the Village to help them. Trustee Haddad states that the Village cannot break the law. He also notes that he is a member of the Lion's Club and he believes the Lion's would help but that they had no idea. Mr. Bargabos would like the Village to help using the money received from NYS. Mayor Warner notes that the Village did not receive any money from NYS and that the Village never even heard from anyone. She also notes that FEMA did not come nor did the Village qualify for assistance. Mr. Bargabos asked who did the clean-up. Mayor Warner notes that the Village did and that the County provided dumpsters. Mr. Bargabos would like the church to be reimbursed for their dumpsters. Mayor Warner will have Supervisor Samsel ask the County. She also asks Mr. Wright what they paid for the dumpsters. Mr. Wright will have to look the cost up.

Mayor Warner states that she understands the frustration. Mr. Bargabos wants an engineer to come out and look at the canal and the pipes. Mayor Warner will ask the Canal Corp again. She would like Mr. Wright to attend the meeting with Canal Corp and requests Mr. Wright's phone number, he provides it. Mayor Warner notes that Mr. Bargabos is also welcome to attend.

Mr. Bargabos states that the canal pipes were last cleaned in the 1960's. Mayor Warner notes that the Thruway also flooded and that it was due to debris and a large tree. She also notes that she will look again for a grant to help redo the kitchen to bring the food program back to the church. Trustee Torrey states that the church should come to Community Bank and speak with her there. She will look to see if the Oneida Savings Foundation would be able to help.

Village resident Rebecca Waldron asks Trustee Watkins for the report/data that she requested from Chief Barton at the 7/15/26 meeting. Trustee Watkins notes that he has not received it. Ms. Waldron is looking for information from Trustee Haddad on the counters from the County. Administrator Ryan states that they were installed on Maple Ave. He says to look for small black boxes attached to the street poles. It is noted that these were provided by the County and that they will count both cars and track speed.

Village resident Kevin Robinson states that he had a company come in to camera his sewer line but could not see past the obstruction. He notes that his backyard neighbor (Rebecca Waldron) said they could work on the pipe but not dig. Mr. Robinson is unsure what to do at this point. Mayor Warner asks if he had the line mapped. Mr. Robinson did not and stated that mapping the line would cost him thousands of dollars. He states that he wants to run the sewer line out front and is not aware of any other option. Ms. Waldron states that the previous owner did their own flooding unpermitted and wants the codes office to investigate. Mayor Warner states that it was not unpermitted and that no permit would have been needed due to it being private property.

Mr. Robinson again notes he is unsure what to do at this point. Mr. Warner suggests snaking the pipe. Mr. Robinson says that he has and nothing worked. Mayor Warner notes that Drain Masters did the lines at her home and also mapped the line at no extra cost. Mr. Warner asks about the right of way. Mayor notes that it is not the Village's line.

Mr. Robinson again notes that he wants to run the line out front and offers to help dig. Mayor Warner describes the maps and pipes. Mr. Warner suggests to dig and fix. Mr. Robinson states that he cannot

because of his neighbor. Ms. Waldron (neighbor) says that she will discuss it with Mr. Robinson. Mr. Warner states that it is easy to do.

DPW Foreman Holdridge suggests to Mr. Robinson to split the costs with his neighbors to tie into Wilson Ave. from their backyards. He states to come out back straight down towards the creek and connect there. Mr. Robinson asks how to get there. Foreman Holdridge explains the process. Mr. Robinson asks if the Village will do the manhole. Foreman Holdridge states that the Village cannot due to it being private property but that a contractor could. Mr. Robinson asks if this is the only option. Foreman Holdridge notes that it is the best option.

Trustee Haddad states that going out front will take years and lots of people and organizations would need to be involved. Ms. Waldron states that the Village is implying it can be done. Trustee Haddad says it will not happen; the Village will not budget for it. Mayor Warner states that Ms. Waldron could let her neighbor dig her lawn to do the repair.

Mr. Robinson asks about the engineering costs. He also asks if he can get neighbors to do work in their front yards, what can the Village do to connect them. Mr. Warner explains that digging out front is harder with other lines. A discussion is had about the lines and where they are. Mr. Robinson asks if they do the work out back, would the Village take on the lines. Mayor Warner and the Trustees say no, it would still be private.

Motion by Trustee Torrey, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the attached request on behalf of the Canastota Italian Heritage Committee to close Canal St. from Peterboro St. to Main St. on Saturday, August 15, 2026 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Note: Insurance has been received.) Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Haddad, approving the attached request on behalf of Don’t Stop the Beat to use the Canastota Fire House on August 7, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to hold a CPR/Babysitting Course. (Note: Insurance has been received.) Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Torrey, seconded by Trustee Gustin, approving the attached Contract Change Order #8 between the Village and Colden Enterprises, Inc., dated July 28, 2026, resulting in an increase by $429.00, and authorizing Mayor Warner to execute the same. (Note: this change order is to add reflective lettering on the rear center compartment door.) Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Torrey, approving the attached request from the Canastota Center for Innovative Learning to hold a Wreaths Across America ceremony at Clark Park on Friday, December 18, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Torrey, awarding the contract for the asbestos clean-up at 112 Depot St. to Abscope Environmental, LLC. with the low bid of $35,100.00 and authorizing Mayor Warner to execute the Notice of Award. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Watkins, approving a golf clinic run by the Recreation Commission at Kanon Valley Country Club on August 10, 2026 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and on August 11, 2026 from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. There is no cost to the Village but a cost of $5.00 per day per participant to be paid directly to Kanon Valley. Passed 5 to 0.

Bid opening – Street Paving Project 2026-2027

Administrator Ryan notes that three (3) bids were received. Mayor Warner asks if the project is for just two (2) streets. Administrator Ryan says there are multiple streets.

The three (3) bids received from Dolomite, Costello and Barrett. All three (3) companies provided both their proposal form and bid security. The bids were as follows:

1. Dolomite Products - $217,109.50
2. Costello Blacktop Paving - $236,469.00
3. Barrett Paving - $311,042.00

Trustee Watkins asks how much money is in the budget. Administrator Ryan will check. The apparent low bidder is Dolomite Products. All bids to be reviewed in depth prior to award.

Discussion regarding a request from Cynthia Eppolito for reimbursement in the amount of $500 representing the deductible she paid to repair damage to her vehicle which she states was sustained from a pothole on Lewis Street.

The Board asks why this is on the agenda again. Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Farr explains that it was tabled from the previous conversation as the Mayor wanted to speak with her (Deputy Farr) about the letter received from Cynthia. Deputy Farr notes that she spoke with both the Mayor and Clerk/Treasurer Williams and reiterates the conversation to the Board. Deputy Farr notes that she told Ms. Eppolito that the Village was aware the road needed to be paved but that the Town needed to repair the bridge prior to us paving.

The Board states that they will not reimburse the $500 to Ms. Eppolito.

Local Law E-2026, a local law to amend the provisions of Chapter 37 (“Residency Requirements”) of the Code of the Village of Canastota to expand the requirements of Section 37-3 (“Residency requirement for certain officers and employees”) was introduced to the Village Board. All Board members are good with the law.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Watkins, to schedule a public hearing regarding Local Law E-2026 on September 2, 2026 at 7:15 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Haddad, adopting the SEQR resolution regarding the Bond Resolution for the purchase of the Fire Truck. All Board members vote aye, passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Gustin, seconded by Trustee Haddad, to adopt the attached Bond Resolution for the purchase of the Fire Truck. (Note: the Bond Resolution must be adopted by not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Village Board in a roll-call vote.)

Mayor Warner – aye.
Deputy Mayor Gustin – aye.
Trustee Watkins – aye.
Trustee Haddad – aye.

Trustee Torrey – aye.

Passed 5 to 0.

Motion by Trustee Haddad, seconded by Trustee Watkins, for the following budget modifications: move $5,500 from 90108.01 (retirement) to 85604.01 (tree removal) and $8,000 from 85614.01 (tree replacement) to 85604.01 (tree removal). Passed 5 to 0.

Motion to award the tree and stump removal contract to Helmer's Tree Service for the low bid of $17,500. Passed 5 to 0.

Mayor Warner notes that some money needs to be kept to replace trees on Peterboro St.

Correspondence.

The Board is presented with an update on the Farr Brother's Building. There are no questions or comments.

The Board received a request from Alice Rinaldo to place a community dumpster in the Village. The request notes that Ms. Rinaldo would like to place a dumpster at the Doug Chandler Firemen's Field for community use but no large items such as mattresses would be accepted. Foreman Holdridge suggests reaching out to the County to use their roadside clean-up program but Mayor Warner states that it costs the Village too much money. Trustee Watkins notes that this event would need to be at Ms. Rinaldo's expense. Trustee Haddad suggests that someone speak with Ms. Rinaldo about this idea. Mayor Warner tells the Board that she already has. Trustee Torrey states that this is no different than regular Village pick-up for residents as the dumpster would only accept normal household trash. The Board discusses who would be allowed to use the dumpster when it comes to Village vs. Town residents. Trustee Gustin would like more information from Ms. Rinaldo. There are concerns about residents bringing items that would not be allowed. Administrator Ryan notes that private companies hold events like shredding or electronic disposal, and that maybe that would be a better route for Ms. Rinaldo. Both Trustees Torrey and Haddad agree that more conversation needs to be had. Some of the concerns to be discussed are as follows: the dumpster would need around the clock monitoring, it could become very expensive, who would do the monitoring, Ms. Rinaldo would need to know that she would be personally responsible to remove any and all items dropped off that are not accepted, and insurance. Mayor Warner will speak with Ms. Rinaldo regarding these questions and concerns from the Board.

It is noted that the lawsuit between Tornatore and Leibl has ended.

The Board received documents pertaining to assessment discrepancies that are now with the court. The document is discussed in length, including the proposed numbers for assessment. The property in question is the Days Inn Hotel located on N. Peterboro St. The discrepancy went to grievance and was not resolved which has led to the courts becoming involved. Trustee Watkins states that the Village should charge a bed tax on the property. Mayor Warner notes that the document is just informational for the Board.

Administrator's Comments.

Administrator Ryan provides an update on the brownfield clean-up at the DPW garage. The digging has now moved to the front of the garage. It is noted that the contractor plans to work a couple Saturdays in August. Mayor Warner asks if National Grid is working with Ken Skibinski on the water. Administrator Ryan notes that National Grid is working with both Ken Skibinski and Dan Cunningham. Trustee Haddad asked about the billing from the water usage. Mayor Warner notes that it will be taken care of at the end of the project.

Administrator Ryan notes that the Dept. of State has reviewed the RFP that he wrote for the NY Forward fire house renovation designs and engineering. The Dept. of State sent it back with a few notes but were overall satisfied with the document. Administrator Ryan states that he will be making the suggested changes and see where it goes next. Trustee Haddad questions the amount of time in the RFP and if there is enough turn around time. Administrator Ryan notes that we can change it as he set the timeline himself. Trustee Gustin questions if the fire department fish fry will be affected. Administrator Ryan says they will try to avoid that. Trustee Haddad suggests giving more time for the RFP. Mayor Warner notes that it is not for engineering and Administrator Ryan confirms this, stating that it is for the firm and contractor. The Board discusses the dates and presentation dates. Trustee Haddad would like seven (7) weeks for the RFP from release to return. Mayor Warner questions if there is a max amount of time, noting that there is a minimum amount of time.

Administrator Ryan notes that the Village has begun planning for the annual 9/11 Memorial Ceremony. It is noted that September 11th falls on a Friday this year and it will be the 25th anniversary of the attacks. It is noted that the memorial sustained damage again to the bricks and that there are no cameras covering the memorial.

Mayor's Comments.

Mayor Warner notifies the Board that Recreation Leader Bealer would like to pursue a grant from the Office of Children and Family Services for youth development. This grant is a reimbursement grant and the Village would not be allowed to turn children away.

Gary Schreppel from the Sylvan Beach Fire Commission contacted Mayor Warner to express interest in our (Canastota) rescue truck. Sylvan Beach would like to trade for their rescue truck. Mayor Warner told Mr. Schreppel that it would not be an even trade.

Mayor Warner received a letter from the Chamber of Commerce that they are now part of Syracuse Marketing.

Mayor Warner provided an update on the LWRP meeting with EDR for Canal St. It is noted that the budget was revised and some things were removed for NY Forward. The current proposal is $1.4 million for hard projects and they recommend we do the seating and gateway pavilion. They suggest using CHIPS money for paving and to look for other funding for the boat launch. At the meeting, they reviewed the designs and discussed the project. EDR does not believe we need to worry about parking but Mayor Warner disagrees, parking is a necessity. Mayor Warner and EDR are looking to do a public open house for comments and Mayor Warner believes a majority of the comments will pertain to parking in the area. The Board discusses where parking currently is. Trustee Torrey asks if there a date set for meeting yet, there is not.

Mayor Warner states that Eric Stone from Canastota Dairy came in to meet with her, Dan Cunningham and the WWTP staff. They discussed new items they want to begin producing, how they want to begin producing sour cream again and that they want to do a future expansion down the road with a new building. Mayor Warner discussed concerns about the smell coming from the plant. Mr. Stone states that the plant will look into an EQ tank to help and Mayor Warner offered to help find a grant to assist with the cost. Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Stone discussed pretreatment options. Trustee Haddad asks if pretreatment would change the formula for billing. Mayor Warner notes that it would but would also expand production. It is noted that the dairy informed Mayor Warner that they located the pipe that Queensboro used to dump into the creek.

Trustee Comments.

Trustee Gustin has nothing.

Trustee Watkins has nothing.

Trustee Haddad asks if the Village has filed the lien on the property owned by the Menikheims. Administrator Ryan states that the lawyer will do that.

Trustee Torrey has nothing.

Annette Bargabos asks the Board if they have heard anything about Madison County Headstart leaving. The Board has not heard anything. Mrs. Bargabos notes that the Sunday paper indicated it was due to lack of funding. Trustee Gustin says it is already gone and that he heard word about 2-3 weeks ago. He confirmed that the closure was due to lack of funding. Mayor Warner asks if the school is doing anything. Trustee Gustin says no.

Motion by Trustee Watkins, seconded by Trustee Torrey, to adjourn at 8:49 p.m. Passed 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Farr
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer
Future Meetings: August 19, 2026; September 2, 2026; September 16, 2026; October 7, 2026; October 21, 2026