

**VILLAGE OF CASTLETON-ON-HUDSON
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING**

March 25, 2019

PRESENT: Mayor Robert Schmidt, Trustee/Deputy Mayor Marianne Carner, Trustee Gina Giuliano, Trustee Sharon Martin, Trustee Jenifer Pratico

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Benjamin Hill, DPW Foreman Richard Saville, Superintendent John Shortsleeve, Library Director Melissa Tacke, and Clerk-Treasurer Padraic Ellis.

PUBLIC: 4

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Village of Castleton-on-Hudson was held at Castleton Fire Department, 11 Green Ave. on March 25, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Schmidt with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Trustee Martin moved, Trustee Giuliano seconded, motion carried to accept the minutes of the March 11, 2019 Regular Meeting with one correction- that the date of the Repair Café from Trustee Giuliano's report was March 9, not March 16.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BUSINESS:

1. **Library Lease Agreement:** Attorney Hill presented the Board with a copy of the Library Lease agreement. Attorney Hill stated that the agreement had been corrected to indicate that the Library would be responsible for paying their portion of the Village's workers' compensation insurance. Deputy Mayor Carner reviewed the lease agreement and asked that the board consult in Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:10 pm, Deputy Mayor Carner moved, Trustee Pratico seconded motion to move into Executive Sessions. At 7:25 pm, Trustee Martin moved, Trustee Giuliano seconded, motion to exit Executive Session.

1. **Library Lease Agreement:** The Board discussed concerns about the Village being able to access the annex space, with Trustee Giuliano specifically citing Repair Café. After being reassured by Director Tacke that she would accommodate Village events that will be prescheduled, Trustee Martin moved, Mayor Schmidt seconded, motion carried for Mayor Schmidt to sign a corrected version of the Library Lease Agreement, which Attorney Hill will correct.
2. **Resolution # 11 – Village Hall Air Conditioning:** Mayor Schmidt moved, Trustee Pratico seconded, motion passed to contract Family Danz Heating & Cooling to install air conditioning in the first and second floor of the Village Hall for the quoted price of \$5251.00.

- 3. Public Hearing – Commercial Water Rates:** Trustee Pratico moved, Deputy Mayor Carner seconded, motion passed to open the Public Hearing on Commercial Water Rates. Clerk-Treasurer Ellis presented a PowerPoint presentation citing the reasoning behind the rate changes. The Village needs to replace water infrastructure and has proposed increases to residential and commercial water rates to facilitate this. Many commercial properties, both in and out of the Village, are being billed as residential properties. Of 34 property owners whose commercial property was being billed as residential, 4 of those property owners attended the meeting: George Barna, Various Properties; Janice Better, 1 Mann Drive; Frank Palladino, Various Properties; and Jan Poznanski, 100 South Main Street. Mr. Barna and Mr. Paladino asked if Capital Water Rates would be changed along with Operations and Maintenance. They were told that the Board was unable to change Capital Water Rates at this time because there would not be enough time to notify the County to update tax bills. The Board plans on looking into Capital Water Rate changes after the budget is finalized. Mr. Poznanski asked why he would be charged a higher rate when he used the equivalent of a residential property. He was informed that residential properties are dwellings and that they do not have the expectation of turning a profit, while commercial properties use water in the process of making income for the property owner. He was also informed that under General Municipal Law that commercial properties can be billed differently than residential properties. He asked that he receive a copy of the law and Attorney Hill stated that he would supply Mr. Poznanski with a copy. Mr. Barna requested a copy of the report which listed what businesses are currently being charged as residential. Clerk-Treasurer Ellis stated that he would supply Mr. Barna with a copy of the report and Mr. Barna stated that he would pick it up from the Village Hall in the upcoming week.

Deputy Mayor Carner moved, Trustee Pratico seconded, motion carried to close public hearing on changes to commercial water rates.

- 4. Resolution # 10 – Adoption of Sewer Units:** Clerk-Treasurer Ellis stated that the Town of Schodack had passed the Sewer EDU Schedule at their last meeting on March 14, 2019. Mayor Schmidt recused himself from the vote. Trustee Pratico moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion passed to accept the Sewer EDU Schedule.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

- **Mayor Schmidt:** Mayor Schmidt reported that the Town of Schodack has approved all of their LWRP members. Mayor Schmidt would like to convene a meeting as soon as possible as Hudson River Foods has a planned expansion that needs approval. Trustee Pratico reached out to LWRP Chairman Lucas Ashby, who will assemble members for a meeting this week.
- **Deputy Mayor Carner:** Deputy Mayor Carner attended the Main Street Association meeting on March 13 at Cherrybrook Café. Deputy Mayor Carner reported that the flag pole would be raised on Flag Day (June 14) and that local and county officials would be invited as well as the schools' marching bands. Foreman Saville will be coordinating the permit process for the work site. Deputy Mayor Carner also reported that Main Street Day would be held on September 7, 2019. The Main Street Association will be holding three Clean-Up Days throughout the year, the first being on May 11, 2019. The Main Street Association is looking at dog waste stations and garbage cans for Main Street, which will be gifted to the Village so that they may be covered under the Village's insurance policy. The Main Street Association asked again if they could be cover under the Village's liability insurance coverage and were told they could not because they operated as an entity separate from the Village. The Main Street Association asked if they could have a full page in the Castleonian with control of the formatting. Clerk-Treasurer Ellis stated that he would attempt to accommodate any articles that they submitted to the Castleonian, but could not

promise them a dedicated page or control of formatting. The Main Street Association is also looking into bicycle racks and adding more planters to Main Street. The next Main Street Association meeting will be held at Cherrybrook Café on April 11th.

- **Trustee Martin:** Trustee Martin reported that there would be a Fire House Consolidation Meeting on April 18, 2019.
 - **Trustee Pratico:** Trustee Pratico reported that she attended the Cemetery Association meeting. She Stated that it cost \$68,000.00 per year to maintain the two cemeteries in the Village. The Cemetery Association will be having a clean-up day on the first weekend of April to prepare for the Memorial Day Parade. Trustee Pratico also stated that the Department of Transportation would be conducting a study in May on the need for crosswalks on Main Street.
 - **Trustee Giuliano:** Trustee Giuliano reported that the Preserve New York Grant has been submitted and that awards would be announced in July. Trustee Giuliano will coordinate with Foreman Saville to conduct a site visit for the grant.
5. **APPROPRIATIONS:** Deputy Mayor Carner moved, Trustee Giuliano seconded, motion to approve payment of the abstracts.
Abstract # 16 - Vouchers- # 585 - # 587 in the amount of \$ 5,544.68.
General Fund: \$2,081.99
Water Fund: \$1,430.55
Sewer Fund: 2,032.14

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:40 pm, Deputy Mayor Carner moved, Mayor Schmidt seconded, motion carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Padraic Ellis
Village Clerk-Treasurer