

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

April 12, 2021

PRESENT: Mayor Joe Keegan, Trustee/Deputy Mayor Jenifer Pratico, Trustee Sharon Martin, and Trustee Lissa D'Aquanni. (all via Zoom video conference)

ABSENT: Trustee Erik Samarija

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Benjamin Hill, Foreman Daniel Lebrecht, Foreman Kenneth Meyer, Foreman Joseph Garavelli, Library Director Melissa Tacke, Building Inspector Gary Ziegler, Code Enforcement Officer James Lance, Fire Chief Chris Carner, Deputy Clerk Janice Better, and Clerk-Treasurer Padraic Ellis. (All via Zoom video conference)

PUBLIC: 1

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Village of Castleton-on-Hudson was held at Castleton Village Hall, 85 South Main Street on April 12, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Mayor Keegan with the Pledge of Allegiance. . This meeting will be posted to the Village website in accordance with the Village's best efforts to comply with New York State Open Meeting Law and Executive Order 202.1.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Mayor Keegan tabled the minutes of the March 22, 2021 Regular Meeting for further review by Attorney Hill.
- Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to accept the minutes of the April 5, 2020 Organizational Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee D'Aquanni seconded, motion carried to open public comment. Chris Carner, of the Castleton Fire Department, stated that there had been several vehicles have been parked at the lower Green Avenue entrance to the Fire House which needs to be kept clear in case of emergencies. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

- **Mayor Keegan:** Mayor Keegan reported that the planning board would like to move forward with a new comprehensive plan and that he has received a quote from Delaware Engineering to complete the project. Mayor Keegan reported that he is getting quote to remodel the hallway and the basement of the Village Hall. Mayor Keegan reported that he and Trustee D'Aquanni met with the lawyers for the Estuary Grant and are awaiting an update on the status.

- **Deputy Mayor Pratico:** Deputy Mayor Pratico reported that AIM funding and CHIPs will have additional funding this year. Trustee Pratico reported that she had found a site plan for Riverside Park in her paperwork and that she would get it to Trustee D'Aquanni.
- **Trustee Martin:** Trustee Martin reported that the Annual Memorial Day Parade will occur, but will be drive around only with no marchers or floats. Trustee Martin reported that Water Foreman Garavelli is checking on the status of water licenses for Jeff Duncan and Eric Barber.
- **Trustee D'Aquanni:** Trustee D'Aquanni reported that she is working on the quarterly report for the Estuary Grant.
- **Trustee Samarija:** Absent.

REPORTS:

1. **Library Report:** Director Tacke reported that she would like to place an event tent on the front lawn of the Village Hall for the summer and is asking the Board's permission to do so. Attorney Hill will contact the operator of the drone photography company regarding concerns that he has in the agreement.
2. **DPW Report:** Foreman Lebrecht replaced some of the older street signs in the Village and will be working on repairing sidewalks where there were water main breaks.
3. **Water Report:** Foreman Garavelli reported that there were no PFOAs in the Village water as per the latest round of tests. Foreman Garavelli reported that the annual water report would be mailed out at the end of June with the Village tax bills and that the annual safety plan had been filed. Foreman Garavelli reported that he is working on receiving quotes from Spectrum and Doyle Security for all of the water sites.
4. **Wastewater Report:** Foreman Meyer reported that National Grid had been paid for the electrical upgrade at the waste water treatment plant and hopefully will begin work soon.
5. **Building Inspector:** Inspector Ziegler reported that construction had resumed on 9-11 South Main Street after a long period of inactivity.
6. **Code Enforcement:** Officer Lance reported that the in-progress code enforcement spreadsheet had been uploaded to Google Share. Officer Lance reported that the courts had reopened and that the Village would be moved forward with open cases.
7. **Fire Department Report:** Chief Carner reported that Eric Barber is in need of appointment by the Village Board for Car #3 and that the Fire Department would be celebrating its 150th anniversary in September.
8. **Clerk-Treasurer Report:** Clerk-Treasurer Ellis reported that the Village had received payment from Rensselaer County for the relevy and from the Town of Schodack for the fire protection agreement.

Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion to approve all departmental reports.

BUSINESS:

1. **DPW Vehicle Payment from Reserve Funds:** Clerk-Treasurer Ellis will work with Attorney Hill to draft a resolution and notice for payment of the DPW vehicle, which is subject to permissive referendum, to be presented to the Board at the next Board meeting.
2. **Village Clean-Up Day:** Village Clean-Up Day will be at the Brickyard on May 1st and Deputy Mayor Pratico and Trustee Martin will be there to collect money.
3. **Memorial Day Parade:** The Annual Memorial Day Parade will take place on Monday, May 31, 2021.
4. **Vacant Property Registry:** A list of vacant properties in the Village was presented to the Board and letters will be mailed asking the owners to register these buildings.
5. **Unpaid Out of Village Water Bills:** Deputy Clerk Better will work with Attorney Hill to draft a letter to out of village water customers with unpaid bills to ask them for proof of financial hardship due to COVID and the establish a payment program.
6. **Budget Review:** Clerk-Treasurer Ellis reported the he had completed the Village constitutional tax cap limit and changed the amount of taxes that the Village will levy. Deputy Mayor Pratico reported that she hoped to have amounts for AIM and CHIPs funding by the end of the week. Clerk-Treasurer Ellis will have finalized copies of the budget to the Board before the next Board meeting and the public hearing for the budget will be scheduled for the first board meeting in May.

3. **APPROPRIATIONS:** Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion to approve payment of the abstracts.
- Abstract # 16 – Vouchers # 536 - # 596 in the amount of \$ 57,031.11
 - General Fund: \$ 37,480.09
 - Water Fund: \$ 8,025.83
 - Sewer Fund: \$ 11,525.19

ONLINE BANKING TRANSFERS: Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion to approve the online banking transfers according to the schedule presented to the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to open public comment. No public comment. Marianne Carner, of North Main Street, stated that the trees in front of the Fire House had been cut down and suggested that they be replaced under the Tree City USA program. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee D'Aquanni seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:46pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Padraic Ellis
Village Clerk-Treasurer