

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

May 24, 2021

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

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Benjamin Hill (arrived 7:35 pm), and Clerk-Treasurer Padraic Ellis (arrived 7:05 pm) (all via Zoom video conference)

PUBLIC: 3

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 May 24, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 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 moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to accept the minutes of the May 10, 2021 Regular Meeting, with the correction of removing the Main Street Association as assisting in the distribution of welcome packets.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to open public comment. Trustee D'Aquanni stated that there is no way to turn off comments on the Village Facebook page, making the motion that was passed at the previous meeting invalid. Suzanne Cecala, of the Castleton-on-Hudson Main Street Association, stated that Suzanne Donnelly, also of the Main Street Association, responded to Mayor Keegan's email about accessing electric at River Rest. Mayor Keegan stated that before any plans can move forward the Village needs to get permission from the New York State Department of Transportation, who owns the land but allows use by the Village. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

BUSINESS:

- 1. Resolution # 13 – Property Tax Credit for Time Warner Cable:** Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to apply payment of 2021-2022 Village taxes in the amount of \$149.43 for Time Warner Cable from the franchise fees paid in the amount of \$26,678.60 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.
- 2. Resolution # 14 – Waive Village Taxes for County Owned Properties:** Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to waive Village Taxes for the total amount of

\$1,223.37 for the Properties owned by Rensselaer County at 21 Green Avenue, 58 First Street, and 62 First Street.

3. Library Tent on Village Hall Front Yard: Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to allow the Castleton Public Library to place a tent on the front lawn of Village Hall for summer activities now that the Library has provided the Village with a certificate of insurance naming the Village of Castleton-on-Hudson as also insured.

4. MS4 Annual Report: The annual MS4 report has been completed and public hearing will be set for the next board meeting on June 14, 2021 with the hearing being posted in the Troy Record, at Village Hall, and on the Village Website.

5. Spectrum Quote for Village Hall and DPW Garage: Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to switch phone and internet service at the Village Hall and Department of Public Works garage from Magna5 to Spectrum Business, with the termination of the fax line at the DPW garage.

6. Refinance of the Green Avenue Bond: Mayor Keegan and Trustee Samarija spoke with a representative from Baird about refinancing the Green Avenue Bond from 2010. Baird stated that the rate could be lowered from 4.55% to 2.33% either saving the Village between \$15,000.00 and \$20,000.00 annually or the Village could end payments two years sooner than planned. Attorney Hill will draft a resolution for the June 14, 2021 Board meeting to proceed with the process.

7. Firehouse Property: Trustee Pratico reported that a reallocation of land from the Village to the Fire Department had not been filed with the county. The Village may be able to remedy this with a lot line readjustment if the property is not designated as park land.

7. APPROPRIATIONS: Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion to approve payment of the abstracts.

Abstract # 19 – Vouchers # 649 - # 672 in the amount of \$ 52,031.66

General Fund: \$ 14,781.06

Water Fund: \$ 34,246.06

Sewer Fund: \$ 3,004.54

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to open public comment. Suzanne Cecala, of the Main Street Association, stated that the Castleton-on-Hudson Farmers' and Artisans' Market would like to move the location of the benches at River Rest. Trustee D'Aquanni will collaborate with the Farmers' Market, the Main Street Association, and the Girls Scouts, who originally designed River Rest, to determine the location of the benches. Trustee Samarija asked that the Department of Transportation be contacted to fix the fence along the railroad tracks by Riverside Nursing Home and that DPW patch potholes on Stimpson Avenue between Willow Street and Chestnut Street. Marianne Carner, former Village Trustee, stated that the Department of Transportation granted the use of the land at River Rest for the Farmers' Market and for parking for the proposed park across the tracks. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:25 pm Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Padraic Ellis
Village Clerk-Treasurer