

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

June 28, 2021

PRESENT: Mayor Joe Keegan, Trustee/Deputy Mayor Jenifer Pratico, Trustee Sharon Martin, Trustee Lissa D'Aquanni, Trustee Erik Samarija

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Benjamin Hill (via phone), Foreman Daniel Lebrecht, Library Director Melissa Tacke, and Clerk-Treasurer Padraic Ellis

PUBLIC: 14

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to accept the minutes of the June 14, 2021 Regular Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee D'Aquanni seconded, motion carried to open public comment. No public comment. Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

BUSINESS:

- 1. Castleton Public Library Drone Contract:** Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to have the Mayor sign the contract that allows a third party photographer to take pictures of the Village Hall via drone, which had been reviewed by Attorney Hill.
- 2. Fiscal Advisors Contract:** Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to have the Mayor sign the contract with Fiscal Advisors for their work on the Village refinancing of the Green Avenue Bond, which had been reviewed by Attorney Hill.
- 3. Department of Public Works Paving Projects:** Foreman Lebrecht presented the paving projects that he would like to do with the CHIPs funding this year, which includes Willow Street, and parts of First Street and Stimpson Avenue. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to use Village funds to pay for the paving of the designated streets, which will be reimbursed from CHIPs funding upon completion.

4. Delaware Engineering Comprehensive Plan Presentation: Helen Budrock, of Delaware Engineering, presented a proposal to have Delaware Engineering complete a comprehensive plan for the Village of Castleton-on-Hudson. The previous comprehensive plan was completed in 2005 and was a four year process that was completed by a volunteer committee. A new plan would include specific implementation strategies for the Village and would assist in long term budgeting. It would step up an action plan with the priority and time frame of specific projects to be completed. The first steps to move forward are to secure funding to hire Delaware Engineering and to appoint a plan committee. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee D'Aquanni seconded, motion carried to open public comment to discuss the comprehensive plan. Carol Stockman, Chair of the Village Planning Board, asked how the plan could help with current grant opportunities to which was responded that grants could site the comprehensive plan as an informal document as it was still being completed. Chairperson Stockman cited the need for the brownfield clean-up at the former Fort Orange site and the possible use of the site as a solar farm and was told that the need for clean energy could be a section of the plan. Susan Megna, of the Village Planning Board, stated that she had worked on the previous Comprehensive Plan and that there were difficulties completing it without technical assistance from an expert. Suzanne Cecala, of the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan committee, asked how the LWRP could be incorporated into the plan to which she was told that the plan could cite the LWRP and information from Scenic Hudson in the section detailing river access and utilization. Mark Wochinger, of the Village Planning Board, asked if there were any communities that Ms. Budrock could use as examples for the benefits of a Comprehensive Plan to which she stated that Margaretville, while not a full Comprehensive Plan, used their planning initiative to rehabilitate their Main Street with the aid of a flood Buy-out program. Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to close public comment on the Comprehensive Plan. After Ms. Budrock left and the Board discussed funding the proposal was put up to a vote. Trustee D'Aquanni moved, Mayor Keegan seconded, motion carried to hire Delaware Engineering to complete the Comprehensive Plan for the Village of Castleton-on-Hudson, at the cost of no more than \$48,000.00 to be divided evenly between to 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 budget years and the contract being subject to review by the Attorney for the Village.

5. Amp Community Solar Presentation: Nick Topping, of Amp Energy, presented to the Village Board on the benefits of the Village enrolling in a Community Solar program. Mr. Topping stated that Amp Energy has facilities throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, and India which produce wind and solar energy and store energy and hydrogen. He stated that they currently have about 2,100 customers and would be able to save the Village 10% on utility billing, which works out to be about \$4,800.00 annually. They are currently working on four solar farms in the area, three of which are in the Schodack area, and are hoping to have them completed by the end of the year.

6. Village Picnic: Mayor Keegan stated that he spoke with Castleton Elementary School and that they will let the Village host a picnic at their location from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Saturday, September 11, 2021. The school will provide tables, chairs, and electricity for the day. The Mayor will reach out to Kiwanis to cook for the event and to the firehouse to provide a firetruck for the event.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee D'Aquanni seconded, motion carried to open public comment. Carol Stockman, Chair of the Village Planning Board, stated that she has been attending clean energy webinars. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:28 pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to move into Executive Session. At 8:48 pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samariji seconded, motion carried to leave Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:51 pm Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Padraic Ellis
Village Clerk-Treasurer