

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

July 12, 2021

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

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney for the Village Benjamin Hill (via phone), Foreman Daniel Lebrecht, Foreman Kenneth Meyer, Code Enforcement Officer James Lance (via phone), and Clerk-Treasurer Padraic Ellis.

PUBLIC: 6

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 June 14, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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 28, 2021 Regular Meeting, with grammatical corrections made by the Clerk-Treasurer.

BUSINESS:

1. Public Hearing – Local Law 2 of 2021 – Parking of Trailers on Streets: Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to withdraw Local Law 2 of 2021 due to a section being unenforceable by the Village. Attorney Hill explained that the Village would need to seek permission from the Department of Transportation to enforce the law on Main Street due to it being a state road.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to open public comment. Chris Carner, of North Main Street, asked what brought about the need for the Village to propose the Local Law. Officer Lance explained that he had received numerous complaints from residents stating that work trailers and boat trailers are been parked on streets and are not being moved for months. Mr. Carner stated that he believed the law would hurt Main Street revitalization. Mr. Carner also asked that the overgrowth be cleared along the railroad tracks on North Main Street to which the Board stated that they are currently working with Amtrak and the Department of Transportation to remedy the situation. Allan Dillenbeck, of Campbell Avenue, stated that he believes event parking would be better for the Village than what is proposed in the Local Law and that trailers are not an issue during emergency because fire hoses can go either over or through vehicles. Steven Hicks, of Latham Road, asked if the Local Law was proposed to deal with emergency issues or quality of life issues to which the Board responded that it was meant to deal with both. Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

- **Mayor Keegan:** Mayor Keegan reported that he had given Daphne Jordan a tour of the Village and that she is aware of the funding that the Village has received for the waste water treatment plant upgrade and the earmarked funds for the purchase of the firetruck. Mayor Keegan reported that running electricity to River Rest is more difficult than anticipated and that Attorney Hill will look into permitting and Clerk-Treasurer Ellis will look into the insurance increase. Mayor Keegan reported that there is any issue with financing the waste water treatment plant upgrade due to the unforeseen cost of the National Grid upgrade. Delaware Engineering will work to keep project costs down to prevent the Village from having to pay a closing fee. Mayor Keegan reported that he has a conference call with Attorney Hill, Clerk-Treasurer Ellis, Barclay Damon, and Fiscal Advisors to finalize the Green Avenue bond refinancing. The Village picnic has been confirmed for Saturday, September 11, 2021 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. The Mayor is hoping to get Kiwanis to assist in cooking and to get a band lined up. Mayor Keegan reported that the Village will be receiving around \$150,000.00 for infrastructure improvements from ARPA.
- **Deputy Mayor Pratico:** Deputy Mayor Pratico reported that she will reach out to Kiwanis to assist with the Village picnic.
- **Trustee Martin:** Trustee Martin reported that she has been working with Clerk-Treasurer Ellis on the Urban Forestry Grant. The Department of Environmental Conservation will not pay for software as proposed in the bids but will pay for a tablet with a case. Trustee Martin reported that there have been issues at the water sites with Smith Controls new installation but they are working to fix them.
- **Trustee D'Aquanni:** Trustee D'Aquanni reported that the Diversity Parade went well. Trustee D'Aquanni reported that the Castleton-on-Hudson Farmers' and Artisans' Market will not be moving to Schodack Island State Park and she will work with them to increase their exposure. Trustee D'Aquanni would like to have Tara Dinadio, of the Capital Region Planning Association, present to the Board in regards to becoming a Clean Energy Community. Trustee D'Aquanni will work on collecting information on what clean energy programs the village is currently participating in before the presentation at the second Board meeting in September. Trustee D'Aquanni reported that Scenic Hudson would be holding a meeting on August 26th to discuss river access.
- **Trustee Samarija:** Trustee Samarija reported that there was a water main break on Stimpson Avenue the previous Thursday. Trustee Samarija reported that he attended the latest meeting of the Eastern Rensselaer County Solid Waste Management Authority.

REPORTS:

1. **Library Report:** Director Tacke reported that 125 people had signed up for the Summer Reading Program and thanked the DPW staff for their assistance in putting up the tent on the front lawn.
2. **DPW Report:** Foreman Lebrecht reported that Spectrum service had been connected at the DPW garage and that the new truck was in service.
3. **Water Report:** Absent.
4. **Wastewater Report:** Absent.

5. **Building Inspector:** Absent.
6. **Code Enforcement:** Officer Lance reported that several properties on Green Avenue will be going to court and that he is working on violations based on the fence report from the Department of Transportation.
7. **Fire Department Report:** The Fire Department reported that a firetruck is being repaired and that it will cost about \$6,000.00. The Fire Department will celebrate its 150th anniversary in September with a private event. The Fire Department requested that the Village place no parking signs on lower Green Avenue for the Horsepower on the Hudson event at the Castleton Boat Club on August 7th. The Board stated that the Fire Department needs to communicate with Foreman Lebrecht on upcoming paving. The Board stated that the Fire Department needs to submit a report monthly the Wednesday before the first Board meeting of the month.
8. **Clerk-Treasurer Report:** No further report.

Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee D'Aquanni seconded, motion to approve all departmental reports.

BUSINESS:

2. **MS4 Coordinator Appointment – Kyle Woodard:** Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to hire Kyle Woodard to the position of MS4 Coordinator for the Village at the rate of \$25.00 per hour upon review by the Mayor.
3. **Urban Forestry Grant Contract Award:** Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee D'Aquanni seconded, motion carried to award the tree inventory and management plan to PlanIT Geo.
4. **APPROPRIATIONS:** Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion to approve payment of the abstracts.
 - Abstract # 2 – Vouchers # 38 - # 86 in the amount of \$ 49,142.99.
 - General Fund: \$ 39,747.43
 - Water Fund: \$ 1,665.95
 - Sewer Fund: \$ 7,729.61

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee D'Aquanni seconded, motion carried to open public comment. Chris Carner, of North Main Street, stated that he would like to see the Board meetings broadcast somehow for the members of the public who cannot attend in person. The Board will look into the feasibility of streaming Village Board meetings. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:36 pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee D'Aquanni seconded, motion carried to move into Executive Session. At 8:44 pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to leave Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:50 pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Padraic Ellis
Village Clerk-Treasurer