

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

December 12, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor Joe Keegan, Trustee/Deputy Mayor Jenifer Pratico, and Trustee Sharon Martin

ABSENT: Trustee Lissa D'Aquanni, and Trustee Erik Samarija

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Steven Wilson, Foreman Daniel Lebrecht, Foreman Kenneth Meyer, Foreman John Paul Mastan, Building Inspector Gary Ziegler, Fire Chief Matt Carner, and Clerk-Treasurer Padraic Ellis.

PUBLIC: 0 (in person), 5 (via Zoom)

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 December 12, 2022. 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 Martin seconded, motion carried to accept the November 28, 2022 minutes, with edits.

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

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

- **Mayor Keegan:** Mayor Keegan reported that Senator Daphne Jordan has presented the Village with a proclamation for becoming a Purple Heart Community. Mayor Keegan reported that Amtrak had cleared away brush and trees by their fence at the bottom of Seaman Avenue. Mayor Keegan reported that Frank Palladino, of Nine Juliet Builders, gave the Village another quote for replacing the windows on the second floor of Village Hall. Mayor Keegan reported that the Noyes Engine House grant was approved and that work will begin in March or April 2023. Mayor Keegan reported that he attended Holidays on the Hudson.
- **Deputy Mayor Pratico:** Deputy Mayor Pratico reported that she attended Holidays on the Hudson and the Cemetery Association meeting. Deputy Mayor Pratico reported that an Eagle Scout would be cleaning and raising headstones in the cemeteries.
- **Trustee Martin:** Trustee Martin reported that the Village would be applying for a grant from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to buy trees, which is due in May but will be started on in January. Trustee Martin reported that she attended Holidays on the Hudson.
- **Trustee D'Aquanni:** Absent.
- **Trustee Samarija:** Absent.

REPORTS:

- 1. Library Report:** Director Tacke reported on Library events in January and thank those who helped with Holidays on the Hudson.
- 2. DPW Report:** Foreman Lebrecht stated that leaf pick-up has ended but the DPW will still pick up leaves if they are in bag. Foreman Lebrecht reported that a tree had been taken down on Van Buren Avenue.
- 3. Water Report:** Foreman Mastan reported that the Village requested a vac truck from Rensselaer County to assist in the last water main break. It was suggested that the Village look into partnering with the Town of Schodack to purchase a vas truck. Foreman Mastan reported that the Village has been experiencing faulty alarm signals from the water tower but these should be corrected when the project to modernize the equipment at the water sites is finished. Foeman Mastan reported that New York State has required municipalities to find and make a plan for all lead connections by October 2024.
- 4. Wastewater Report:** Foreman Mayer reported that the flow was down for the last month and that the annual New York State Department of Environmental Conservation report has come buck satisfactory.
- 5. Building Inspector:** No further report.
- 6. Code Enforcement:** Officer Lance reported that the judge did not show for the last court session so the cases were postponed.
- 7. Fire Department Report:** Chief Carner reported that the Anchor Food Drive went well and that the last Firehouse Breakfast was busy.
- 8. Clerk-Treasurer Report:** Clerk-Treasurer Ellis reported that NYMIR toured the Village sites for their risk assessment report and determined that there were no issues.

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

BUSINESS:

- 1. Public Hearing – Local Law 4 – Local Government Code Enforcement:** Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to open public hearing on Local Law # 4 on 2022. No public comment. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to close public comment on Local Law # 4 of 2022. Trustee Martin moved, Mayor Keegan seconded, motion carried to adopt Local Law # 4 which adopts New York State code situates into the Village Code.
- 2. Public Hearing – Local Law 5 – Amendment to Village Code regarding Solar Panels:** Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to open public hearing on Local Law # 5 on 2022. No public comment. Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to close public comment on Local Law # 5 of 2022. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to adopt Local Law # 5 which amends Village code so that solar panel permits only need to go before the Planning Board if they are being installed in the Historic Overlay districts.

3. Noyes Engine House Conflict of Interest Policy: Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to adopt the conflict of interest policy needed for the completion of the submission of the Noyes Engine House Grant.

4. Wastewater Treatment Class: Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to allow Foreman Mastan to attend a wastewater certificate course at the cost of \$1,250.00 pending review of the union contract.

3. River Access Update: The Board reported that there is no new update at this time.

4. APPROPRIATIONS: Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion to approve payment of the abstracts.

Abstract # 8 – Vouchers # 320 - # 371 in the amount of \$ 93,905.93

General Fund: \$ 63,357.45

Water Fund: \$ 13,948.07

Sewer Fund: \$ 17,600.41

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 Martin seconded, motion carried to open public comment. Suzanne Cecala, of the Castleton-on-Hudson Main Street Association, stated that COHMSA had donated the tree for Holidays on the Hudson. Ms. Celala asked about the progress of getting electricity at Riverrest and the Board responded by stating that Trustee Samarija is working on a new application to submit to New York State. Ms. Cecala stated that COHMSA would be participating in Lights in our Park at Schodack Island State Park and shared a list of events that COHMSA has presented throughout the year. Mayor Keegan, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:48 pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion to move into Executive Session. At 8:09 pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion to exit Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:12 pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Padraic Ellis
Village Clerk-Treasurer