

DRAFT

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

July 10, 2023

PRESENT: Mayor Joe Keegan, Trustee/Deputy Mayor Jenifer Pratico, Trustee Lissa D'Aquanni, Trustee Rebekah Timerman, and Trustee Baileen Bai

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Steven Wilson, Foreman Daniel Lebrecht, Foreman John Paul Mastan, Building Inspector Gary Ziegler, Fire Chief Matt Metzger, Library Director Melissa Tacke, Code Enforcement Officer James Lance (via Zoom), and Clerk-Treasurer Padraic Ellis.

PUBLIC: 1 (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 July 10, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Deputy Mayor Pratico with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Timerman seconded, motion carried to accept the June 26, 2023 minutes with edits.

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

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

- **Mayor Keegan:** Mayor Keegan thanked the Castleton Fire Department and the Department of Public Works for their hard work after the July 4th storm. Mayor Keegan reported that the masonry work has been completed for the Noyes Engine House and thanked Senator Ashby for the grant support on the project. Mayor Keegan asked that the Board decide on a date for the wastewater treatment plant ribbon cutting at the second Board meeting in July. Mayor Keegan reported that he would like to use money from the building improvement fund to improve the lighting and the hallway of Village Hall. Mayor Keegan Reported that some of the building improvement fund money could also be used to redesign the front lawn of the Village Hall.
- **Deputy Mayor Pratico:** Deputy Mayor Pratico reported that she is holding off on contacting elected officials regarding supporting river access until she has some documentation to present to them.
- **Trustee D'Aquanni:** Trustee D'Aquanni reported that the river access work group met and that they are working on collecting letters of support. Trustee D'Aquanni reported that she has received the notes on the ALJ petition from the Board and the Attorney. Trustee D'Aquanni reported that the next step in the river access project would be developing a media and public relations strategy including a public meeting in August. Trustee D'Aquanni reported that the Local Waterfront

Revitalization Plan committee will be meeting on the second Wednesday of each month.

- **Trustee Timerman:** Trustee Timerman reported that the redesign for the front lawn of Village Hall is currently on hold. Trustee Timerman reported that the library would like to apply for a construction grant to redo the back door and the overhang. New York State will match 75% of the grant cost. Trustee Timerman reported that the welcome packets completed and that she would like them to be distributed with only the information that pertains to Village departments. The Board decided that welcome packets would be distributed by Board members only. Trustee Timerman reported that she has August 14th for the submission deadline for the next Castleonian. Trustee Timerman asked to use funds from the trustee line of the budget to attend the New York Conference of Mayors Fall Conference. Trustee Bai stated her interested in attending. Trustee Timerman and Trustee Bai will decide which days they would like to attend and work with Clerk-Treasurer Ellis to find funding.
- **Trustee Bai:** Trustee Bai reported the funds from the Clean Energy grant need to be used to combat greenhouse gas production or for EV charging stations.

REPORTS:

1. **Library Report:** Director Tacke stated that the summer reading program is going well and that over a hundred people attended the story time that featured a therapy pig. Director Tacke stated that the library can apply for a grant that can provide a pavilion, outdoor seating, a shed, or signage for the front lawn of Village Hall.
2. **DPW Report:** Foreman Lebrecht stated that DPW employees are preparing to take time off for vacation and the he is currently working on the road paving schedule for the year.
3. **Water Report:** Foreman Mastan stated that the water tower needed new electric as it had not been replaced at the time of upgrade. The funds will come from the American Rescue Plan Act grant.
4. **Wastewater Report:** Absent.
5. **Building Inspector:** Inspector Ziegler sated that he would be leaving his position as Village building inspector at the end of August.
6. **Code Enforcement:** No further report.
7. **Fire Department Report:** Chief Metzger was called away to a fire call before he could give his report. The Board tabled the Fire Department's request for no parking signs at the bottom of Green Avenue until it can be clarified that it is in the code or if that Board needs to amend to code.
8. **Clerk-Treasurer Report:** Clerk-Treasurer Ellis stated that bid submissions for the website redesign are due on July 14th. Clerk-Treasurer Ellis asked the Board to review the information from the Bank of Greene County so that changing banks can be discussed in the Fall.

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

BUSINESS:

1. **Public Hearing: Resolution 13 – Open Storage:** Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee

D'Aquanni seconded. Motion carried to open the public hearing for Resolution 13 regarding open storage in the Village. No public comment. Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to close the public hearing. Resolution 13 will go into effect once it has been filing with the New York State Department of State.

2. Fire Chief Vehicle Policy: Deputy Mayor Pratico thanked Attorney Wilson for meeting with the Fire Department to work out the details of the policy. The policy will be tabled until the next regular meeting while Clerk-Treasurer Ellis and Attorney Wilson write language regarding the fuel split between the Village and the individual.

3. United Solar Permit Resolution: Trustee Bai moved, Mayor Keegan seconded, motion carried to adopt the united solar permit application for residents outside of the historic district who are producing less than 25 mw from solar panels.

4. River Access Update: Trustee D'Aquanni reported that there was currently no update on river access.

5. Village Hall Relocation: Trustee D'Aquanni stated that she believes Village Hall should be relocated in the upcoming years. She believes that the library needs more space as it is expanding. She stated that money from the building improvement funds could be used to purchase another building to move Village Hall into. The Board had questions regarding location, parking, and the library's charter which will be investigated further.

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

Abstract # 3 – Vouchers # 66 - # 107 in the amount of \$ 76,347.99

General Fund: \$ 46,699.29

Water Fund: \$ 6,121.39

Sewer Fund: \$ 23,527.31

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 Timerman seconded, motion carried to open public comment. No public comment. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee D'Aquanni seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:35 pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Timerman seconded, motion carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Padraic Ellis
Village Clerk-Treasurer