

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

June 12, 2023

**PRESENT:** Trustee/Deputy Mayor Jenifer Pratico, Trustee Lissa D’Aquanni (via Zoom), Trustee Rebekah Timerman, and Trustee Baileen Bai

**ABSENT:** Mayor Joe Keegan

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

**PUBLIC:** 1 (in person), 8 (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 June 12, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Deputy Mayor Pratico with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Timerman seconded, motion carried to accept the May 22, 2023 minutes with edits.
  
- Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Bai seconded, motion carried to accept the May 31, 2023 minutes with edits.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Bai seconded, motion carried to open public comment. Carol Stockman, of the Planning Board, stated that the comprehensive plan will be ready for public hearing at the second board meeting in September. Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Timerman seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

- **Mayor Keegan:** Absent.
  
- **Deputy Mayor Pratico:** Deputy Mayor Pratico reported that she is speaking with federal officials to gain support for the river access petition. Deputy Mayor Pratico reported that a resident stated that the Board should look into branded “Castleton-on-Hudson” materials.
  
- **Trustee D’Aquanni:** Trustee D’Aquanni thanked everyone that assisted with the river access insert for the Castleonian. Trustee D’Aquanni reported that the river access sub-committee is reaching out to elected officials to ask them to support the petition for at-grade crossings. Trustee D’Aquanni reported that she will have a copy of the petition to present to the Board at the second meeting in June.
  
- **Trustee Timerman:** Trustee Timerman reported that Mayor Keegan has asked her to take the lead on the CDTC Complete Streets grant. Trustee Timerman reported that as Village Hall liaison

she would like to set up meetings with Officer Lance and Inspector Ziegler. Trustee Timerman reported that the ribbon cutting at the wastewater treatment plant has been moved to September and she will begin planning the event in August. Trustee Timerman reported that KaN Land Design has a new design for the front lawn of Village Hall that she will share with the Board.

- **Trustee Bai:** Trustee Bai reported that a unified solar permit is the next step towards the Clean Energy grant and that the Board needs to pass a resolution to adopt it into the Village code. A resolution will be drawn up for the next meeting.

## **REPORTS:**

1. **Library Report:** Director Tacke stated that summer reading program will begin at the June 24<sup>th</sup> kick-off and that the library funding proposal on the school budget vote passed.
2. **DPW Report:** Foreman Lebrecht will tour the new Village road with Deputy Mayor Pratico in the next week.
3. **Water Report:** Foreman Mastan stated that there was a water main break on June 1<sup>st</sup> during which the Village was losing between 30,000 and 40,000 gallons a day. This break was in addition to the water break that occurred on the corner of Main Street and Scott Avenue.
4. **Wastewater Report:** Foreman Meyer presented the Board with a list of prices for forklifts. Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Timerman seconded, motion carried to purchase the 2004 Mitsubishi forklift for \$16,750.00 pending review by Trustee D'Aquanni.
5. **Building Inspector:** Inspector Ziegler asked what the status was on taking the owner of 19 Green Avenue to court. Attorney Wilson stated that he is waiting to receive files on the case from the code enforcement officer and the former attorney for the Village.
6. **Code Enforcement:** Absent.
7. **Fire Department Report:** Chief Metzger stated that the fire department has other options to fill their tanks if the Village is running low on water due to a water main break.
8. **Clerk-Treasurer Report:** Clerk-Treasurer Ellis stated he attached the first safety report by Jayne Robinson to the departmental reports.

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

## **BUSINESS:**

1. **River Access Design Proposal:** KaN Land Design presented rendering of the proposed Riverfront Park and asked that Board to point out any red flags, omissions, or errors. The renderings were 3D models showcasing highlights of the park including a dock, a platform, a fishing area, and restrooms. The Board suggested larger pathways to accommodate emergency vehicles and lower foliage so that there is a clear sight line to the gates. The suggestions will be applied to the design and the results will be presented at the next board meeting.
2. **Amendment to the Village Code – Open Storage:** The Board was presented with

examples from other municipalities of regulations regarding up storage. If adopted by the Village, the addition to the code would regulate the storage of furniture and equipment outside of residences. Attorney Wilson suggested the addition of portable storage containers and will write up a resolution for the Board the review at the next meeting.

**3. Amendment to the Village Code – Second Avenue Extension:** Deputy Mayor Pratico will meet with Foreman Lebrecht to survey the Second Avenue Extension and determine if it is wide enough to be two lanes and where parking will be available.

**4. Village Website Redesign:** Clerk-Treasurer Ellis will post the RFP for the website redesign to the New York State Contract Reporter and contact the New York State Conference of Mayors to see if they have a list of possible vendors.

**9. APPROPRIATIONS:** Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Timerman seconded, motion to approve payment of the abstracts.

Abstract # 1 – Vouchers # 1 - # 64 in the amount of \$ 51,278.04

General Fund: \$ 36,095.73

Water Fund: \$ 5,474.96

Sewer Fund: \$ 9,707.35

**ONLINE BANKING TRANSFERS:** Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Bai seconded, motion to approve the online banking transfers according to the schedule presented to the Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Bai seconded, motion carried to open public comment. Matt Metzger, of the Castleton Fire Department, asked Clerk-Treasurer Ellis to check into glass coverage and updated insurance cards for the fire vehicles. Suzanne Cecala, of the Castleton-on-Hudson Main Street Association, stated that if the Village decides to get promotional materials that they should have them ready for Christmas. Chris Carner, of the Castleton Fire Department, stated that the Amtrak had to assist in a fire call by drilling a hole under the railroad tracks so that they could get water from the river. The Castleton Fire Department is working with Amtrak to determine locations for trench boxes under the tracks. Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Timerman seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 8:25 pm, Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Timerman seconded, motion carried for the Board to enter executive session. At 8:33 pm, Deputy Mayor Pratico moved, Trustee Bai seconded, motion carried for the Board to leave executive session.

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Padraic Ellis  
Village Clerk-Treasurer