

DRAFT

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

November 14, 2022

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

PUBLIC: 2 (in person), 9 (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 November 14, 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, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion carried to accept the October 26, 2022 minutes, with edits.

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

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

- **Mayor Keegan:** Mayor Keegan reported that the Noyes Engine House grant paperwork is being reviewed by Attorney Wilson. Mayor Keegan presented three quotes for replacement windows for the upstairs of Village Hall. Trustee D'Aquanni stated that there may be grant money available through NYSERDA for replacement windows. Mayor Keegan reported that the Castletonian will be completed this week. Mayor Keegan reported that he would like to create a texting list of residents for Village events, separate from the emergency texting list. Mayor Keegan reported he spoke with representatives of the comprehensive plan committee and they would like to apply for a planning grant that would be beneficial for projects such as the complete streets program and a bike lane to the Schodack Island State Park. A resolution will be prepared for the next board meeting.
- **Deputy Mayor Pratico:** Deputy Mayor Pratico reported that the Girl Scouts would be singing at Holidays on the Hudson. Deputy Mayor Pratico reported that the land switch with the Fire Company was filed with the County on October 5, 2022. This means that the Village has gained a new road which the Department of Public Works will be responsible for paving and plowing. The road will need to be named around the beginning of the year and the Castleton Fire Department has suggested Volunteer Street.

- **Trustee Martin:** Trustee Martin reported that there was an issue with the security alarm at Village Hall but it has been taken care of. Trustee Martin reported that she toured the wastewater treatment plant the previous weekend to see it's finished state. Trustee Martin reported that she attended the Halloween parade with Trustee D'Aquanni. Trustee Martin reported that the Village should work more closely with the Anchor Food Pantry.
- **Trustee D'Aquanni:** Trustee D'Aquanni thanked the Castleton-on-Hudson Main Street Association for putting up fall decorations and thanked the Library and Fire Department for the Halloween Parade. Trustee D'Aquanni stated that COHMSA will be donating a tree for Holidays on the Hudson and asked the Department of Public Works to cut it down. Trustee D'Aquanni reported that COHMSA will be donating new seasonal banners to be hung on Main Street and was told that the design of the banners needed to be approved by the Board first. Trustee D'Aquanni reported that the Anchor Food Pantry will be holding a toy drive for the holiday season.
- **Trustee Samarija:** Trustee Samarija reported that this budget meeting for the Eastern Rensselaer County Solid Waste Management Association will be held next week and the he is working with the New York State Department of Transportation to obtain electricity at River Rest Park.

REPORTS:

1. **Library Report:** Director Tacke stated that the library will be host Holidays on the Hudson inside the Village Hall and that their holiday cookie swap would be returning after two years.
2. **DPW Report:** Foreman Lebrecht stated that the DPW is continuing leaf pick-up and that leaf bags need to weigh less than 25 pounds. Foreman Lebrecht stated that the DPW is prepared for the chance of snow this week.
3. **Water Report:** Foreman Mastan stated that there are currently 26 vacant buildings in the Village.
4. **Wastewater Report:** Absent.
5. **Building Inspector:** Inspector Ziegler asked that the Board adopt a resolution to amend the Village code regarding solar panel permits needing to be approved by the Planning Board. Clerk-Treasurer Ellis will draft a resolution for the next meeting.
6. **Code Enforcement:** Absent.
7. **Fire Department Report:** Chief Carner stated that the Fire Department is applying for a \$3,000.00 equipment grant, with matching funds from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.
8. **Clerk-Treasurer Report:** Clerk-Treasurer Ellis stated that he would be providing the Board with a budget update and that the third quarter water/sewer/refuse bills would mailed out at the end of the month.

Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded motion to approve all departmental reports.

BUSINESS:

1. Village Hall Window Quotes: Mayor Keegan will go out to the vendors and take a look at the windows that he received quotes for before the Board decides on windows at the next board meeting.

2. Welcome Packet: The Board looked at examples of graphic design work from the two candidates for the Welcome Packet: Sierra Pizzola and Kyle Franzen. Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Martin seconded, motion carried to hire Kyle Franzen to complete the welcome packet at a cost of \$800.00 if he is able to have a final draft to the Board by the next meeting; if not, Sierra Pizzola stated that she could complete the task and will be hired at a cost of \$1,400.00. Deputy Mayor Pratico and Trustee D'Aquanni will oversee all revisions.

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

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

Abstract # 8 – Vouchers # 262 - # 317 in the amount of \$ 61,758.94

General Fund: \$ 36,301.48

Water Fund: \$ 14,893.14

Sewer Fund: \$ 10,564.32

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 Samarija seconded, motion carried to open public comment. Carol Stockman, of the Planning Board, thanked the Board of Trustees for allowing the comprehensive plan committee to apply for the Complete Streets grant and for amending the Village code regarding solar panels permits. Suzanne Cecala, of the Castleton-on-Hudson Main Street Association, stated that Kyle Franzen had completed several graphic design projects for COHMSA. Steven Rogers, of the Castleton Boat Club, asked about any updates to river access to which the Board replied that the Village waited until after the election to progress and that they are strategizing with the attorneys. Mayor Keegan, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion carried to close public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:16 pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Deputy Mayor Pratico seconded, motion to move into Executive Session. At 8:50 pm, Mayor Keegan moved, Trustee Samarija seconded, motion to exit 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