

APRIL 12, 2023

The regular meeting of the Village of Cassadaga was held on April 12, 2023, at 7:00 PM with Mayor William Dorman presiding. Trustees present included Bill Astry and Cathy Cruver. Absent Trustee Flaherty. Also in attendance were Clear Treasurer Astry, Deputy Clerk McChesney, and Supt. of Public Works Sam Alaimo.

Pledge Of Allegiance

**RESOLUTION # 53
APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Trustee Astry to approve the minutes of March 22, 2023, second by Trustee Cruver. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

**RESOLUTION # 54
APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Trustee Astry to approve agenda, second by Trustee Cruver. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

GUESTS:

John Sipos, Village Historian, 5 Pennington Place. He presented board with picture that was in the Observer of them and him presenting board with 2022-year notebook. He also inquired if we were going to have a Clean Up Day and Memorial Day parade. Discussion held.

Sean and Teri Seibert, 180 Dale Drive.

ATTORNEY JOE CALIMERI REPORT- Absent

MAYOR DORMAN's REPORT

Updates:

- Following our meeting on 3/22 I had a conversation with Paul Mihalko from BOCES on 3/23 regarding:
 - Potential graduates interested in our Utility Worker position and/or Seasonal employment.
 - Interest in participating or supporting the bath house project in conjunction with the Job Corp.
 - Paul is in Florida but gave me the name of Jose Pagan who is principal at the Loguidice campus, and I sent him an e-mail but have not heard back.

New Correspondence:

- March 24 letter from National Fuel re: public improvement projects in the village that would impact National Fuel. (Refer to Sam.)

- **March 28 letter from Sean Seibert expressing interest in the open trustee position.**
- **April 6th letter from Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board requesting information on any Planning or Zoning projects that might affect the inventory of agricultural resources and if so provided a form for input.**
- **April 12th announcement and invitation to the 2023 Workers' Memorial service to honor those injured or killed on the job in Chautauqua. Erlandson County Park in Frewsburg at 11:00am May 6, 2023.**

CLERK ASTRY'S REPORT

- **She reported the Water Withdrawal report and Annual Permit was submitted but they need a copy of signed stamped engineer report that was submitted in 2013 that will have to search for and clarification on well capacity.**
- **Will discuss budget under new business to set tax rate.**

DEPUTY CLERK MCCHESENEY REPORT– No Report

OLD BUSINESS

1. BATHHOUSE AT BEACH-ARPA

- **Trustee Astry reported that he met with Tim Parker from Cassadaga Job Corp and did a walk through of current bathhouse. He had some suggestions to do differently to save cost. He would need to talk to the plumbing and electrical teachers at the center and get back to us. He also looked at the pavilion at ballfields and has agreed to enclose it and do upgrades.**

2. STR REVIEW

- **Attorney Calimeri will have updated document to review at next meeting.**

NEW BUSINESS

1. ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION

Mayor Dorman read the Arbor Day Proclamation to observe Arbor Day in the Village of Cassadaga

WHEREAS in 1872, the Nebraska Board of Agriculture established a special day to be set aside for the planting of trees, and

WHEREAS this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and WHEREAS Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

WHEREAS trees can be a solution to combating climate change by reducing the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cutting heating and cooling costs, moderating the temperature, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, and providing habitat for wildlife, and

WHEREAS trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and countless other wood products, and

WHEREAS trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and
WHEREAS trees — wherever they are planted — are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Deputy Mayor of the Village of Cassadaga, do hereby proclaim April 28, 2023 as official day and Village will celebrate October 21, 2022, as **ARBOR DAY** in the Village of Cassadaga, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and **FURTHER**, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations. **DATED THIS 12th day of April 2023.**

2. SET TAX RATE FOR BUDGET

Clerk Treasurer Astry reviewed the general budget with the board and explained the estimated fiscal year fund balance and the effect of the State Tax cap. She reported that the 2% tax cap is actually 1.02% maximum amount which allows only \$ 4,476 more than last year's tax levy. The total assessed value is \$43,513,678, an increase of \$6,759,726 from last year. We had to increase many line items due to inflation and will not have funds to transfer to our reserves for DPW or Fire Department for equipment. Last year's tax rate was \$3.73 per thousand and recommend this year rate as \$3.26 per thousand which will keep us under the tax cap for a tax levy of \$141,854.59.

The water fund budget was discussed and explained. Our costs on everything have increased for electric, gas, chemicals, repairs, etc. We had overestimated our revenue for last year for Job Corp and Lily Dale. Since Lily Dale did their capital project on water lines their usage went way down because they are not having waterline breaks. Their water usage has gone way down, and Job Corp does not have all the students back from before the pandemic. We are not covering our expenses with current water rates, as much as I hate to see a water increase there is not an option. Most of our meters are over 30 years old and only work at 20% capacity we are losing lots of revenue. Discussion was held on making this a priority. Our current rate is \$5.25 per thousand.

RESOLUTION # 55

Trustee Astry moved to set the tax rate for 2023-2024 to \$3.26 per 1000 for a tax levy of \$141,854.59, an increase of \$4,762.47 from last year, seconded by Trustee Cruver. **VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.**

RESOLUTION # 56

Trustee Cruver moved to increase the water rate beginning June 1, 2023, to \$6.25 per thousand gallons for total estimated revenue of \$299,800 and appropriations of \$327,284 seconded by Trustee Astry. **VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.**

3. SET PUBLIC HEARING

RESOLUTION # 57

Trustee Astry moved, seconded by Trustee Cruver to set Public Hearing on budget for 2023-2024 on April 26, 2023, at 7:00 PM, at 22 Mill Street, Cassadaga. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

**RESOLUTION # 58
CLEAN UP DAY IN VILLAGE**

Trustee Astry moved, seconded by Trustee Cruver to have a Village Wide Clean Up Day on May 6, 2023 from 9AM to 4PM. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

SUPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS: SAM ALAIMO REPORT

- He reported that he has been doing clean up since the April 1st windstorm. Many trees have fallen and have been using both mulchers to take care of limbs and branches. Has not had a chance to do leaves and has not made out a schedule yet for pick up.
- Will be reading water meters at end of month and trying to keep up with everything.
- There is a new strip dirt doctor for leveling and dragging that would be ideal for ballfields that is on an auction site and would like to put a bid in.

**RESOLUTION # 59
BID ON NEW STRIP DIRT DOCTOR**

Trustee Astry moved, second Trustee Cruver to have Sam bid on new strip dirt doctor not to exceed \$1000. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS,

TRUSTEE ASTRY'S REPORT

- He found someone for lawn maintenance worker and interviewed him. He has experience in lawn service and is mechanically inclined. He is willing to work 4 days a week.

RESOLUTION # 60

Trustee Astry moved, seconded by Cathy Cruver to hire Scott Stein at a rate of \$16.00 per hour 4 days a week as lawn maintenance worker. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

TRUSTEE FLAHERTY'S REPORT

- Clerk Astry read her report: 2 out of 3 bed tax grant items have arrived. Still waiting for the ball field sign. Job Corps painting class has agreed to touch up painting on picnic tables and gazebo. More fencing and posts have arrived for beach. Mark Wilson is helping install. I'm working on the community calendar-anyone who has something to add should contact me ASAP. Chautauqua works contract has been signed and sent back and hoping for several recreation attendants.

TRUSTEE CRUVER'S REPORT

- The Village was not awarded the Downtown Revitalization Grant and is meeting with them on April 24th for clarification and tips for next time.

RESOLUTION # 61

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Trustee Astry moved, seconded by Trustee Cruver to approve the financial report for March 31, 2023 and April 12, 2023. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|------------|
| GENERAL FUND 3/31/2023 | \$ | 232,687.60 |
| WATER FUND 3/31/2023 | \$ | 130,192.23 |
| GENERAL FUND 4/12/2023 | \$ | 231,988.69 |
| WATER FUND 4/12/2023 | \$ | 129,714.94 |
| RESERVE CVFD EQ. | \$ | 20,920.58 |
| RESERVE DPW EQ. | \$ | 12,455.35 |
| RESERVE WATER REPAIRS | \$ | 50,306.72 |
| RESERVE FOR DEBT SERVICE | \$ | 283,326.17 |

RESOLUTION # 62

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL

A motion was made by Trustee Astry, seconded by Trustee Cruver to approve the bills and payroll as follows: VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

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|---------------------------------|------------------------|----|----------|
| PAYROLL General Fund, 4/14/2023 | cks: 5908-5911 | \$ | 2,401.18 |
| PAYROLL Water Fund, 4/14/2023 | cks: 5908-5911 | \$ | 1,486.89 |
| ABSTRACT April 12, 2023 | General Cks: 9800-9808 | \$ | 7,961.00 |
| ABSTRACT April 12, 2023, | Water Cks: 9800-9808 | \$ | 1,412.38 |

RESOLUTION # 63

Being no further business, Trustee Astry moved to adjourn at 9:00 PM, seconded by Trustee Cruver. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxanne Astry
Village Clerk Treasurer