

February 12, 2025

The regular meeting of the Village of Cassadaga was held on February 12, 2025, at 7:00PM, with Deputy Mayor Bill Astry presiding. Trustees present included Cathy Cruver and Cindy Flaherty. Also present were Clerk Annette McChesney and Deputy Clerk Roxanne Astry. Absent were Mayor William Dorman, Trustee Danna DuBois, Attorney Joe Calimeri and Superintendent of Public Works Sam Alaimo.

RESOLUTION # 13

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Cruver to approve the minutes of January 22, 2025, seconded by Trustee Flaherty. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

RESOLUTION # 14

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Trustee Flaherty to approve the agenda, seconded by Trustee Cruver. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

GUESTS & COMMENTS:

John Sipos - Historian, Pennington Road, Nancy Wickmark, Pettit Place, Theresa Seibert, Dale Drive

John Sipos – He stated that this week in 1934, the temperature was -36 degrees Fahrenheit. He also went over to see the progress of the ice castle, it's almost done and looking great! He had some questions on the letter he received from the village regarding reporting procedures for the private water service line material. Trustee Astry and Clerk McChesney clarified what is needed.

Nancy Wickmark – she asked, later in the meeting, about the upcoming fire inspections that were due to be completed by the Code Enforcement Officer and if there was any eta for the businesses and Short Term Rentals. Clerk McChesney did note that Dan had been working on this and that he should be getting them scheduled, she will reach out to him tomorrow, Theresa Seibert stated that was her reason for attending the meeting as well, to find out when she could expect a call back to schedule the annual fire inspection that was due on her short term rental, she did not want to be out of compliance. Discussion was had that the village is technically out of compliance and not the owners as the village has not scheduled them. Trustee Cruver recommended making calls or sending letters to businesses and /or short term rental owners that may be concerned, letting them know the Code Enforcement Officer is working on getting all of them scheduled

ATTORNEY JOE CALIMERI REPORT -Not in attendance at 1st meeting of the month

MAYOR DORMAN'S REPORT

- Trustee Astry reported the Mayor has been working on the Lowe's grant Application

CLERK MCCHESENEY'S REPORT

- She received a request from the fire department to use the beach picnic tables for their fundraiser event on the weekend of May 4, 2025, the board did not see any upcoming event conflicts with that and okayed it
- She will be sending out 30 Day reminder notices for unpaid water bills, she wanted to give a little extra time for the mail to catch up
- She also noted that she will be printing out all the materials so the board can start working on the budget at the next meeting

DEPUTY CLERK ASTRY'S REPORT

- She reported that she has come in a few days in the last two weeks to work on cleaning out the file cabinets in the office to make more room

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. BATHHOUSE AT BEACH – No Update**
- 2. FUTURE WATER PROJECT UPDATES**
 - Trustee Astry is going to touch base with references from the three engineering firms that submitted their qualifications and will bring back the information he gathers to the next meeting so the board can be prepared to award the contract to an engineering firm. Clerk McChesney will look further into the requirements to have an Income Survey performed in order to apply for additional grants as well
- 3. NY FORWARD COMMITTEE**
 - Nancy Wickmark, Chairperson, reported that she had spoken with the regional representative and the tentative date for the NY Forward Grant to be awarded is March 1, 2025
- 4. FRISBEE & LAKEVIEW ROAD CONDITIONS**
 - Nancy Wickmark stated that she noticed when she was out walking that the sides of the shoulders on Frisbee Road have started cracking badly
- 5. SERVICE LINE INVENTORY**
 - Clerk McChesney reported that she got all of the service line letters mailed out, she put all of this information on the website as well, she also completed the water line service inventory spreadsheet and sent that into the state
- 6. CASSADAGA LAKES ASSOCIATION (CLA) UPDATES**
 - Nancy Wickmark reported that the CLA just signed a contract with EcoStrategies to augment their study of Cassadga Lakes from 2019, they will be broadening the scope to include vegetation, beaver dams, etc. EcoStrategies will then come back and give a presentation to the CLA and all other interested parties, they expect a short turnaround on this. The county has already approved \$50,000.00 in funding for this project. The sandbar by Maple Avenue bridge is still due to be removed Pro bono by Legend Excavating as soon as weather permits. She also recommended that the village hold the \$2,000.00 they had approved towards this project in a contingent fund for now.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS-Clerk McChesney requested budget adjustments**

RESOLUTION # 15

APPROVAL OF BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

A motion was made by Trustee Cruver to approve budget adjustments below, seconded by Trustee Flaherty. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS:

INCREASE REVENUE A.4089.200 BY \$ 176,848.11 FOR CVFD TURN OUT GEAR GRANT

INCREASE EXPENSE A.3410.220 BY \$ 176,848.11 FOR CVFD TURN OUT GEAR GRANT

INCREASE EXPENSE F.9010.800 BY \$ 408.66 FOR NYS RETIREMENT

DECREASE EXPENSE F.8310.100 BY \$ 408.66 FOR DEPUTY CLERK

2. NOCO RATES/CONTRACT

- Clerk McChesney had print outs from NOCO for the board on the estimated future rates for electric and gas showing variable vs. fixed, the village account representative recommended going with the variable rate at this time. However discussion was had amongst the board, and they decided to stick with the fixed rate as they have in the past so they can budget for the upcoming year and not be subject to volatility of the market

RESOLUTION # 16

APPROVAL OF NOCO CONTRACT

A motion was made by Trustee Flaherty to approve the electric and gas contracts with NOCO at the fixed rates, seconded by Trustee Cruver. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

SUPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS: SAM ALAIMO REPORT – Given by Trustee Astry

- He reported that Sam has been repairing the issues with the pumphouse on High Street, the power had gone out and water lines burst
- He also reported that Bianca has been spending a lot of time repairing the snowblower, it breaks every time its used

TRUSTEE ASTRY'S REPORT – No Report

TRUSTEE FLAHERTY'S REPORT

- She reported that the Winter Festival was a huge success and wanted to thank the sponsors: Citizens for a Better Cassadaga, American Legion Post 1280, Wilson Endurance Sports, Park Church, Cassadaga Country Club, Red House, Cassadaga Library, Cassadaga Lakes Association and Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy.
- She reported that she attended the Community Relations Luncheon today at Job Corps, they have students willing and able to work on projects around the village for carpentry, electric, etc. She is going to have them paint the picnic tables, gazebo, and anything else that needs it at the beach, she would also like to look into them possibly building some wooden flower parts for uptown that would make more of an impact than the smaller ones the village has used, she will check with Sam to see if he would be able to use equipment to move them etc. She is also going to see about getting the Welcome to Cassadaga sign in Ames Common touched up again, and will give the Job Corps' contact

information to Trustee Astry so they can assist him with completion of the bathhouse

- She noted there is a Citizens for a Better Cassadaga meeting on 2/13/25 @7pm at the Cassadaga Library
- She will not be able to attend the next board meeting

TRUSTEE CRUVER'S REPORT

- She would still like a complete list of all village equipment so that the board can plan for future purchases, Per Trustee Astry Sam has it on hand
- She also asked noted that there is a NYS procurement program to connect with other municipalities for more purchasing power, better trade in deals etc, Trustee Flaherty believes all municipalities already practice this
- She had questions on the current condition of the snowblower, but Trustee Astry had already addressed
- She is also going to be looking into the Pros and Cons of a public sewer system in the village, there was discussion had about the positive and negative impacts to the lake and also the residents, the county has already planned on doing septic system testing around the lake it's just a matter of when
- She wanted to thank Clerk McChesney for completing the water service line inventory spreadsheet and getting it sent into the state

TRUSTEE DUBOIS' REPORT – Given by Clerk McChesney

- The fire department would like to declare a surplus for excess SCBA masks and spare air pack bottles. We were awarded new SCBA's and air packs with the FEMA grant this past year. We have put the new SCBA's and air packs into service.

RESOLUTION # 17

APPROVE DECLARATION OF CVFD EXCESS EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS

A motion was made by Trustee Cruver to approve the declaration of the fire department's excess SCBA masks and spare air bottle packs as surplus, seconded by Trustee Flaherty. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

- I would like to thank Annette for her efforts in sending and obtaining responses to and from the Engineering firms that applied for the Water project. Additionally, for working with attorney Joe to get the information that we need.
- I reviewed the Application for the Grant Award through the CCPEG. The application period opened January 6th and is due February 21st. I wish I had seen this opportunity sooner. After reading through this grant, it seems it would be a great fit for flooding initiatives, beach enhancements (handicap accessibility, fencing removal/replacement and expanded parking area), upgrades to the ballfields/park and/or the installation of a dog park. The award is \$10,000 to \$20,000 but has made awards up to \$50,000. The CLA was successful using this grant to get the Kayak Launch purchased and installed at the DEC boat launch. Not sure if there is enough information to pull something together by the application deadline of February 21st? Also, not sure if CLA or CBC is already pursuing this grant for any of these projects.
 - Nancy Wickmark stated she was not aware of this opportunity, but she will contact Danna, a lot of the potential projects she noted above were in

the NY Forward Grant Application so most of the information should be there. Nancy is working on the Lowe's Grant Application at this time and has to choose either the community room restroom repairs or the History Museum at 30 Maple Avenue so she can submit it. Per Nancy, the potential project at 30 Maple does better align with this grant opportunity

RESOLUTION # 18

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A motion was made by Trustee Cruver to approve the financial reports for January 31, 2025, and February 12, 2025, seconded by Trustee Flaherty. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

GENERAL FUND 01/31/2025	\$	441,872.28
WATER FUND 01/31/2025	\$	135,879.90
GENERAL FUND 02/12/2025	\$	476,853.12
WATER FUND 02/12/2025	\$	135,362.42
RESERVE CVFD EQ.	\$	20,997.64
RESERVE DPW EQ.	\$	12,501.24
RESERVE WATER REPAIRS	\$	50,399.29
RESERVE FOR DEBT SERVICE	\$	363,813.16

RESOLUTION # 19

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL

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

PAYROLL General Fund, 01/31/2025	cks: 6124-6126	\$	4,250.87
PAYROLL Water Fund, 01/31/2025	cks: 6124-6126	\$	1,853.26
PAYROLL General Fund, 02/14/2025	cks: 6131-6133	\$	4,272.53
PAYROLL Water Fund, 02/14/2025	cks: 6131-6133	\$	1,767.49

ABSTRACT February 12, 2025	General Cks: 10335-10347	\$	181,663.39
ABSTRACT February 12, 2025	Water Cks: 10335-10347	\$	1,440.34

RESOLUTION # 20

Being no further business, Trustee Cruver moved to adjourn, second by Trustee Flaherty at 8:11 PM. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annette McChesney
Clerk Treasurer