

**February 14, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Village of Cassadaga was held on February 14, 2024, at 7:00PM with Mayor William Dorman presiding. Trustees present included Bill Astry, Cindy Flaherty, and Danna DuBois. Also present were Clerk Annette McChesney, and Deputy Clerk Roxanne Astry. Absent were Trustee Cathy Cruver and Superintendent of Public Works Sam Alaimo.

**RESOLUTION # 14**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Trustee Astry to approve the minutes of January 24, 2024, with the following correction under New Business 2. Library Board – should state they are asking \$130,000 in the school budget not \$124,000, second by Trustee Dubois. VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS.

**RESOLUTION # 15**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Trustee Flaherty to approve the agenda, second by Trustee Astry. VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS.

**GUESTS:**

Steve Wickmark 39 Pettit, presented a check on behalf of The Red House in the amount of \$1,000 proceeds from the Ice Scream Dip to benefit the beach fund. They are looking into possibly renaming the dip next year.

John Sipos 5 Pennington, Village Historian – He commented that the Ice Cream Dip was very successful and thought it had a great turn out and is an important annual event. He also stated that 1724 years ago a priest named Valentine was marrying roman soldiers and was put in jail. On the last day before he was executed he wrote a note to his lady and signed, Love Your Valentine, which is how the sentiment began.

Judith Garncarek 182 Dale

**ATTORNEY JOE CALIMERI REPORT – Does not attend 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the month**

**MAYOR DORMAN'S REPORT- No Report**

**CLERK MCCHESENEY'S REPORT**

- She reported that Matt Zarbo with Barton & Loguidice will be attending the next meeting to layout the steps needed to apply for grants to complete the water project in the village
- She reported that she and Sam Alaimo completed the Chips reimbursement forms for expenditures to date
- She also reported that Sam has been working on getting all of the information for the annual water report that she needs to fill out
- She also reported that the next ZBA Public Hearing for short term rentals will be on February 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the community room

- She also noted that 30 Day reminder notices went out for water bills that were unpaid as of 01/31/2024
- She also asked the board if they had any rules/regulations regarding having bounce houses in the community room-discussion was had and it was determined as long as the renter had the insurance coverage that is normally required there should not be any issues

#### **DEPUTY CLERK ASTRY'S REPORT**

- She reported that Tree Committee members Bob Reuther, Peter George and herself along with Clerk McChesney attended a zoom meeting on Monday regarding the process of implementing the grant that the village was awarded from Urban & Community Forestry
- She also reported that Mark Goshgarian with Spectrum News will be in Cassadaga on Friday to meet with the mayor as well as members of the tree committee to do an article regarding the Tree Inventory Grant the village received and also discuss prior and future tree plantings, they will all be touring the tree sites and taking pictures as well

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **BATHHOUSE AT BEACH** – Trustee Astry reported that if the weather continues as it has been he would like to continue with removing the blocks earlier than anticipated. Trustee Flaherty is going to reach out to Maple Avenue Boces and see if there are students that can assist with this. Trustee DuBois inquired about community service sentences on a local level but no one was aware of Town of Stockton Judge utilizing this. Trustee Astry stated that after the blocks are removed the next phase will be building a temporary load bearing wall and replacing foundation

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **NOCO YEARLY COMMODITY RATES AGREEMENT**

Noco presented options for going with variable \$.003 adder or fixed \$.0740 rates for electric and variable \$.120 adder or fixed \$.471 rates for gas. The village has gone with variable in the past and it has proven to be a cost savings. The village can switch throughout the year if the market changes drastically

#### **RESOLUTION # 16**

##### **APPROVAL OF NOCO COMMODITY AGREEMENTS**

A motion was made by Trustee Flaherty to approve the variable rate agreement with Noco for both gas and electric, second by Trustee Astry. VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS.

2. **CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS FRANCHISE AGREEMENT**

The mayor received a letter from Spectrum News regarding setting up a meeting to discuss the franchise agreement prior to its expiration on December 21, 2026

### **3. REQUEST TO CORRECT WATER BILL 40 HIGH STREET**

A high meter reading was noted at the residence. Attempts to investigate took time to coordinate between the homeowner and the water department. Once the water department was able to gain access to the residence it found the meter at 40 High Street was one of the oldest in the village and appeared to have been leaking between the June readings and the December readings. The unit was replaced and then the usage was monitored to determine if there was in fact a substantial increase after. The usage appeared to return to the average usage from prior billing cycles. Th homeowner has requested the bill be reduced by \$894.50 to reflect the difference of prior average usage of 43,000 gallons not 154,000 gallons and also remove the late penalty fee making the final bill \$268.75.

#### **RESOLUTION # 17**

##### **APPROVAL ADJUSTMENT TO WATER BILL 40 HIGH STREET**

A motion was made by Trustee Astry to remove \$894.50 from the water bill for 40 High Street, second by Trustee Flaherty. VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS.

### **4. CHIP BOX FOR CHIPS & BRUSH PRICES**

Trustee Astry reported that per Sam Alaimo the chips box used to collect yard waste debris that was built out of wood 5-6 years ago desperately needs replaced. Sam reached out and received some prices as follows: Industrial Welding & Fabrication out of Jamestown steel: \$7,390.00 aluminum \$12,800.00. Jack's Welding Service out of Westfield steel: \$5,600.00 aluminum: \$5,875.00. Discussion was had that aluminum won't rust and will last 25 years or longer and the wood boxes constantly need repaired and replaced. Sam recommends going with the aluminum at the lower cost

#### **RESOLUTION # 18**

##### **APPROVAL PURCHASE OF CHIPS BOX**

A motion was made by Trustee Astry to purchase an aluminum chips box from Jack's Welding in the amount of \$5,875.00, second by Trustee Flaherty. VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS.

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

- He reported that Sam received a phone call from Matt Zarbo stating he had given his two weeks notice to Barton & Loguidice and still plans on attending the next board meeting as previously discussed to go over with the board the grant application process for the future capital water project

#### **TRUSTEE ASTRY'S REPORT**

- He reported that he had removed the snowman and winter festival sign from Ames Common and made some repairs to the snowman and noted it will need painted before it is displayed next year

### **TRUSTEE FLAHERTY'S REPORT**

- She wanted to thank all of the volunteers and organizers that made the Winter Festival a success
- She sent in a letter of intent to NCCF for an AED and glass storage box for the community room
- She inquired if the concrete pieces could be removed from the east side of the four corners in front of Valley Outdoors. Trustee Astry will relay that to Sam Alaimo
- She brought in information on some grant opportunities for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative and NY Forward. She feels that the NY Forward could fit with the village's vision. She recommends a committee be formed to consider possible projects such as a History Museum or a community use for the old grange building, ballpark development, etc. She has a zoom meeting scheduled for Thursday @ 11am with a revitalization specialist with the Department of State

### **TRUSTEE CRUVER'S REPORT - Absent**

### **TRUSTEE DUBOIS' REPORT**

- She reported that the address sign for 22 Mill has been completed and installed on the front of the firehall
- She also reported that there has been no further action from the county since the contract was signed in regard to sending payments to the village for ambulance services. Sinclairville fire department does not have a contract with the county and they have already been receiving payments for their ambulance services. The clerk will reach out to Tim Carlson and see if there is some way to speed this along
- She also reported that the Lily Dale fire department is selling solar eclipse glasses for \$2.00 each for the Solar Eclipse event on April 8<sup>th</sup>
- She thanked Mayor Dorman for emailing her the funding opportunities for the fire department. They have a committee already working on a grant for a PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) washer extractor and dryer
- She asked if the national fuel markers at the end of Miller Place were for a will call for the no outlet sign that has been ordered and received. Trustee Astry was unsure but would check with Sam Alaimo
- She also reported that she was contacted by Sue Asquith on behalf of the Chautauqua County Planning Board to let her know they will be holding a Small Business Development Center event on April 10<sup>th</sup> from 4PM-6PM at Valley Outdoors.
- She gave Cassadaga Volunteer Fire Departments' monthly Report for January 2024 as follows:
  - EMS Calls - 15
  - Fire Calls – 3
  - MVA Calls – 0

- Alarm Activation - 2
- Request for Gator - 0
- Service Calls – 3
- Stand by for CCSO - 0
- Mutual Aid Given - 9
- Mutual Aid Received – 4
- Total Calls - 23
- Total man Hours – 79.5

**RESOLUTION # 19**

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

A motion was made by Trustee Flaherty to approve financial reports for January 31, 2024 and February 14, 2024, second by Trustee Astry VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS.

GENERAL FUND 01/31/2024	\$	273,286.39
WATER FUND 01/31/2024	\$	96,365.96
GENERAL FUND 02/14/2024	\$	307,013.44
WATER FUND 02/14/2024	\$	95,713.22
RESERVE CVFD EQ.	\$	20,955.68
RESERVE DPW EQ.	\$	12,476.25
RESERVE WATER REPAIRS	\$	50,348.90
RESERVE FOR DEBT SERVICE	\$	339,163.11

**RESOLUTION # 20**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL**

A motion was made by Trustee Astry to approve bills & payroll as follows, second by Trustee DuBois VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS.

PAYROLL General Fund, 02/02/2024	cks: 6000-6001	\$	3,721.41
PAYROLL Water Fund, 02/02/2024	cks: 6000-6001	\$	2,279.99
PAYROLL General Fund, 02/16/2024	cks: 6002-6003	\$	3,699.18
PAYROLL Water Fund, 02/16/2024	cks: 6002-6003	\$	2,176.35
ABSTRACT February 14, 2024	General Cks: 10053-10062	\$	18,967.15
ABSTRACT February 14, 2024	Water Cks: 10053-10062	\$	1,488.44

**RESOLUTION # 21**

Being no further business, Trustee DuBois moved to adjourn, second by Trustee Astry at 8:14 PM. VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annette McChesney  
Clerk Treasurer