

**March 25, 2020**

**The regular meeting of the Village of Cassadaga was held on March 25, 2020 at 7:00 PM with Mayor William Dorman presiding. Trustees present included Trustees Bill Astry, Cynthia Flaherty, and Rachyl Krupa. Absent: Deputy Clerk Bonita Mazzone, Trustee Theresa Seibert, Supt. of Public Works Sam Alaimo.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**RESOLUTION # 35  
APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion was made by Trustee Astry second by Trustee Krupa to approve the minutes of March 11, 2020. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS**

**RESOLUTION # 36  
APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**GUESTS: None**

**ATTORNEY JOE CALIMERI'S REPORT**

**MAYOR DORMAN'S REPORT:**

**Item #1 (Update)**

- **I am attending each of the conference calls by the County Executive and County Health Department for updates on the Corona Virus Pandemic**
- **They are held M,W,F at 6:00 pm for all Town Supervisors and Mayors to coordinate response and answer questions.**
- **We have taken actions recommended by the County Executive and I feel we are compliant or working on being compliant as this 'fluid' situation changes.**
- **Whenever there is information to share, I have started sending a certified, return receipt requested e-mail to all board members.**
- **Question: can everyone see their "villcass" e-mails on their phone because I am not getting confirmations from everyone?**

**Item #2 (Update)**

- **Local laws review – 3/12/2020 meeting made progress, took on further assignments. Next meeting TBD due to Coronavirus delays.**

**Item #3 (Update) Office Upgrade Cost Estimates**

- **Updates on costs – Postponed, TBD due to Coronavirus delays.**

**Item #4 (Update)**

- **March 17 for “Water and Wastewater Shared Services Project”**
- **Meeting postponed – TBD due to Coronavirus delays.**

**Item #5 (Correspondence Update)**

- **Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule requested visit by Joseph Bindas (Insurance Services Organization) on 4/7/2020 to see Wendy Spinuzza. (This per e-mail sent to Wendy on 2/14/2020.)**
- **I contacted Joseph to have the visit postponed.**
- **He agreed to postpone, and he offered the option to do it by completing survey, scan, e-mail and telephone review of the survey**
- **I e-mailed this option to Wendy, but have not heard back.**

**Item #6 (New Information)**

- **Susan Asquith is interested in assisting the Village in some capacity and sent me her resume’ which I forwarded to everyone.**
- **Planning Board is short due to Winston Woodard resignation and there is the possibility of an opening on the ZBA in the future.**
- **It was agreed verbally to ask Susan if interested in the Planning Board position because it is needed for the zoning law review process.**

**Item #7 (New Information)**

- **State of New York Public Service Commission letter with regards Cassadaga Wind LLC Application**
- **Circulated to those present.**

**Item #8 (New Information)**

- **Cindy & I had thought opening the playground was a good idea, but now with tighter implementation of “Social Distancing” we may want to reverse that decision.**
- **There was agreement to improve signage regarding social distancing and monitor for any issues.**

**Item #9 (New Information)**

- **Post Office personnel made me aware of a van that has been abandoned (estimate 2 months) in the parking lot of Ames Common, License # 26318LV.**
- **Has any action been taken on this to find the owner?**
- **What is our responsibility?**
- **Bill Astry to follow up.**

**CLERK-TREASURER ASTRY REPORT:**

- **She recommends that we increase our Zoning Fees and will get nearby villages fees for comparisons. The fees can be changed per resolution without public hearing.**

- Lily Dale Water Agreement needs to be changed to Town of Pomfret because they added Lily Dale as District 8 so they would qualify for grants for waterline replacement. Need to have committee view the contract and conference call with our attorney. Mayor, Trustee Astry, Sam Alaimo and Clerk Astry will review.
- She reported that she has compiled list of unpaid water bills for last 2 billing to put on Tax Roll for collection. The total is \$ 8,106.90 with 19 customers.
- She has completed the DEC Water Withdrawal report for 2019 for review.
- Would like permission to transfer the required \$9,000 from water fund to Reserve for Depreciation and Repairs. This was mandated from Rural Development when we received the loan. Also requesting permission to transfer \$28,850 to Reserve for Debt Service for future water improvements.
- She reported that the NY State Office of the Comptroller has given the Village the category of “No Designation” for Fiscal Stress with a score of 11.7. No Designation is given for score between 0-44.9. No Designation was given for Environmental Stress with score of 20.
- Need to Set Public Hearing for Budget. Will post on the website and have budget there to review.
- We will set tax rate at end of meeting with further discussion.
- Fire Department reported Feb.19<sup>th</sup>-March 24<sup>th</sup>: EMS-14, Fire-2, MVA-4, Service call-1, M/A Given-13, M/A received-1. Total man hours 106.5 hours.

**RESOLUTION # 37**

**APPROVE WATER RELEVY ON TAX ROLL**

Trustee Krupa moved, second by Trustee Astry to approve the compiled list of Clerk Treasurer Astry of 19 water customers totaling \$8,106.90 to Tax Roll 2020-2021. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

**RESOLUTION # 38**

**APPROVE TRANSFER OF MONEY TO RESERVE ACCOUNTS**

Trustee Astry moved, second by Trustee Flaherty to transfer \$9,000 to Reserve for Repairs and Depreciation and \$ 28,850 to Reserve for Debt Service for future water improvements. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

**RESOLUTION # 39**

**SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR BUDGET**

Trustee Flaherty moved, second by Trustee Astry to set Public Hearing on Budget for 2020-2021 on April 8, 2020 at 7:00 PM at 22 Mill Street, Cassadaga, NY. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

**DEPUTY CLERK MAZZONE REPORT: Absent**

**SUPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS SAM ALAIMO'S REPORT: Absent**

- Trustee Astry reported that because of Covid-19 in order to keep Sam and Rob DeGolier apart that Rob is not working.

**TRUSTEE ASTRY'S REPORT**

- He reported that he met with Gary Schauman at Maple Avenue barn to review so he can get stamped plans of construction renovations.

**TRUSTEE FLAHERTY'S REPORT:**

- She reported that the CBC now has liability insurance for all their activities.
- She reported that the CBC agreed to purchase 1 snowflake. It was decided that the village will purchase 1 and CBC will purchase 1.

**TRUSTEE SEIBERT'S REPORT: Absent**

**TRUSTEE KRUPA'S REPORT: No report**

**RESOLUTION # 40**

**APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Trustee Astry moved, second by Trustee Krupa to approve the Financial Statement for March 25, 2020. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

GENERAL FUND:	\$ 207,730.16
WATER FUND	\$ 183,120.94
RESERVE CVFD EQUIPMENT	\$ 20,342.33
RESERVE DPW	\$ 27,646.81
RESERVE WATER REPAIRS	\$ 41,154.66
RESERVE FOR DEBT SERVICE	\$ 217,911.90

**RESOLUTION # 41**

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS AND PAYROLL**

A motion was made by Trustee Astry, second by Trustee Krupa to pay the following; VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

Payroll of March 20, 2020 General Cks: 5498-5505	\$ 6,730.02
Payroll of March 20, 2020 Water Cks: 5498-5505	\$ 2,182.88
Abstract of March 25, 2020 General Cks: 8804-8816	\$ 6,865.53
Abstract of March 25, 2020 Water Cks: 87804-8816	\$ 4,056.27

Clerk Treasurer Astry reviewed the budget with board and explained how the tax rate is determined. NY State has determined that local governments cannot raise taxes above 2% each year. They have a formula that they use as the maximum that we can raise in taxes without going over the limit. Their formula allows only a 1.0178 % increase so maximum we are allowed without a tax override is \$132,319. Last year's tax revenue was \$ 129,426.25 with tax rate of \$ 3.72 per M. The difference between our proposed appropriations and proposed revenue has to be made up of tax revenue and money appropriated from our fund balance. After discussion and

review the board cut & 7,750 from proposed budget in General Fund and revised proposed appropriations total \$ 438,206 and proposed revenue \$200,820.

**RESOLUTION # 42  
PROPOSE TAX RATE FOR 2020-2021**

Trustee Astry moved, second by Trustee Krupa to set tax rate for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 to \$ 3.65 per M with total tax collection of \$ 132,304.53 and appropriated surplus of \$104,901.47. VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

Board reviewed the Water Fund budget. Clerk Treasurer Astry explained that the water rates revenue collection should cover appropriated expenditures and the Debt service collection should cover the bond payment. For the past several years our Unappropriated Surplus has been decreasing and if we don't cut expenditures or raise water rates we will be in trouble. The budget we prepared has us appropriating \$85,674 to cover the difference between expenditures and revenue. Discussion held and it was decided to raise water rates. We are unable to raise the rate in June billing because customers need to be notified and we are in the current water usage cycle.

**RESOLUTION # 43  
WATER RATE INCREASE**

Trustee Flaherty moved, second by Trustee Krupa the following resolution, VOTE: 3 AYS, 0 NAYS.

**WHEREAS**, the cost of operating and maintenance of our water system has increase over the last several years, and

**WHEREAS**, the last increase of water usage was 2015 for all water customers, and

**WHEREAS**, the budget for 2020-2021 Fiscal Year reflected an increase of \$.50 to pay for increases in electric, chemicals and other water maintenance water fund expenses,

**THEREFORE BE TI**, we propose the water rate increase of \$.50 per 1000 gallons effective June 1, 2020 for water usage. The increase will be billed December 1, 2020 to reflect the last 6 months usage. Both Job Corp and Lily Dale will have their increase of \$.50 per 1000 gallons beginning June 1, 2020 for usage.

Being no further business, Trustee Flaherty moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Trustee Astry at 9:15 PM. VOTE: VOTE: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Astry  
Clerk Treasurer





