October 23, 2024

The regular meeting of the Village of Cassadaga was held on October 23, 2024, at 7:00PM with Mayor William Dorman presiding. Trustees present included Bill Astry, Cathy Cruver, Danna DuBois and Cindy Flaherty. Also present were Attorney Joe Calimeri, Clerk Annette McChesney and Deputy Clerk Roxanne Astry. Absent was Superintendent of Public Works Sam Alaimo.

RESOLUTION # 159
APPROVAL OF MINUTES
A motion was made by Trustee Astry to approve the minutes of October 9, 2024, seconded by Trustee Flaherty. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

RESOLUTION # 160
APPROVAL OF AGENDA
A motion was made by Trustee Flaherty to approve the agenda, seconded by Trustee DuBois. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

GUESTS & COMMENTS:

John Sipos, Historian, & Susan Sipos, Pennington Road, Braden Carmen, Observer

John Sipos – he brought in pictures that he took and the newspaper article for the Village Tree Planting 2024, that took place on October 17th. Eight trees were planted around the village. He also mentioned that he will be leading the Pledge of Allegiance as well as giving its' history at the Dedication of the Memorial Patriot Marker Jamestown, NY Veterans of the Revolutionary War, Lakeview Cemetery, 90 Lakeview Avenue, Jamestown, NY, 12:00 PM, Saturday, October 26, 2024

ATTORNEY JOE CALIMERI REPORT – No Report

MAYOR DORMAN'S REPORT
Updates:

- **No updates.**

New Correspondence:

- **Invitation from Job Corp. for tomorrow at 1:30: I will not be able to make it, but it seems like a good idea.**
- **New information on the subject of NY Forward which I will share on that agenda item.**

CLERK MCCHESNEY'S REPORT

- **She reported that she received the new Health Insurance Premium Rates, which have increased substantially, she printed out for the board and will add to the next meeting agenda**
- **She is working on getting the water books ready so water meter readings can start soon**
- **She reported that she will be watching webinars next month to prepare for upcoming village elections next year**

- **She also reported that Sam requested she send out a slick text to make residents aware that hydrant flushing will begin in the village on Monday October 28th until completed. Lily Dale will also finish hydrant flushing during this time. They flushed one hydrant over the weekend, and it caused some brown water for some residents on Dale Drive, Sam flushed the village hydrant next in line to try and clear the issue until the village wide flushing begins**

DEPUTY CLERK ASTRY'S REPORT

- **She reported that the NY Forward Grant Committee submitted the grant application on October 16th. They will be having a get together at 3 Lakes Café on Tuesday, October 29th at 7PM for everyone who worked on the application**

OLD BUSINESS

1. **BATHHOUSE AT BEACH**

- **Trustee Astry reported that he has spent around twenty hours in the last couple weeks at the bathhouse, just waiting on electric pole to be installed so the remainder of the electric work can be completed, so it's moving along. Trustee DuBois inquired if Pastor Electric would be able to complete the electrical work this year as quoted, per Trustee Astry they are already obligated to complete it this year so it will get done**

2. **FUTURE WATER PROJECT UPDATES**

- **Per Clerk McChesney still need to do Request for Qualifications at some point for engineer**

3. **PRO-HOUSING COMMUNITY PROGRAM**
    - **Clerk McChesney reported that a letter was received stating the village has been certified as a Pro-Housing Community. She made copies for the board and sent to Nancy Wickmark who worked with her on the Pro-Housing Community application, and is also chairperson of the NY Forward Grant Committee see below:**

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. | Homes and Community Renewal | Division of Housing and Community Renewal

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

RUTHANNE VISNAUSKAS
Commissioner/CEO

October 7, 2024

Village of Cassadaga
Attention: Mr. William M. Dorman
22 Mill Street
Cassadaga, New York 14718

Dear William M. Dorman,

Thank you for submitting the Village of Cassadaga's application to New York's Pro-Housing Communities Program. We are delighted to inform you that we have completed the review of your application and the Village of Cassadaga has been certified as a Pro-Housing Community.

The housing shortage that faces New Yorkers affects residents of all ages and income levels, and the urgent need to take action to address the issue is only growing. In New York State, rents have risen 40 to 60 percent since 2015 and home prices have risen 50 to 80 percent. More than half of New York renters are rent-burdened, meaning that they pay more than 30 percent of their income on rent – the second-highest rate in the nation. Here at HCR, we understand the nexus between supply and affordability. In order to achieve true equity of opportunity and to erase the gaps in access to health, education, and wealth-building, we must guarantee that people have a choice as to where they live and raise their families. So much of the housing progress we have made and want to make is dependent on the support of municipalities like yours who are on the front lines helping families fight for housing that meets their needs.

As a certified Pro-Housing Community, the Village of Cassadaga will now be eligible to apply for various discretionary funding programs with up to $650 million in funding available. Please be on the lookout for additional details about how to maintain your certification for calendar year 2025.

We are excited that the Village of Cassadaga has chosen to join the Pro-Housing Communities Program and we look forward to continuing to work with the Village of Cassadaga to ensure that all New Yorkers have access to a safe, affordable, equitable place to live.

Sincerely,

RuthAnne Visnauskas
Commissioner/CEO

4. **FIRE DEPARTMENT MAN DOOR REPLACEMENT**

- **Trustee Astry stated that the contractors are hoping to have it completed by the end of the month. Trustee DuBois gave him a list of department members who are willing and able to assist with meeting contractors to get this completed**

5. **NY FORWARD COMMITTEE**

- **Mayor Dorman read an email he had just received prior to the meeting see below: Nancy Wickmark, chairperson of the NY Forward Committee will be the lead on this as well**

Dear Mayor Dorman,
Thank you for your application to the 2024 NY Forward (NYF). You will be scheduled for a brief interview with members of the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council (WNY REDC) and Empire State Development (ESD) to discuss your application in more detail.

Your interview is scheduled to begin promptly on **Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.** Please confirm your availability to participate at the scheduled time. You will have up to 15 minutes to make your presentation followed by 10 minutes for questions from the WNY REDC and ESD. Although PowerPoint is not required but if you are using a PowerPoint deck to make your presentation, please send the PPT file to me by **COB Thursday, October 31st.**
During your presentation, please address the following key points:

1. Why do you think your community is ready for this opportunity?
2. What makes your community unique?
3. What are your big ideas if you receive the award?

Additionally, please complete the attached budget document, ranking your proposed NYF projects. For each project, include a one-sentence description, the total cost, current status, any committed funding, and the amount of NYF funds requested. The completed budget is due by **COB on Thursday, October 31st.**

Details of Your Interview:

What: NY Forward Application Interview with the Village of Cassadaga

When: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.
(Please arrive 10 minutes early for check-in.)

Where: Empire State Development
95 Perry St., Suite 500, Buffalo, NY 14203

RSVP: Confirm your availability and provide the names of your presenters by COB Thursday, October 31st.

We look forward to your presentation.

Mo Sumbundu

Empire State Development

95 Perry Street, Buffalo, New York 14203
716-846-8347 | mo.sumbundu@esd.ny.gov
www.esd.ny.gov

6. **FRISBEE & LAKEVIEW ROAD CONDITIONS**
- **Trustee Astry reported there is no new updates since last meeting**

NEW BUSINESS:
1. **APPROVE BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REAL PROPERTY TAXES**

RESOLUTION # 161
APPROVE BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REAL PROPERTY TAXES
A motion was made by Trustee Flaherty to increase A.1001 Real Property Taxes by $.58 due to rounding off factor and increase A.1325.410 postage by $.58, seconded by Trustee Astry. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

SUPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS: SAM ALAIMO REPORT-Given by Trustee Astry
- **He reported that Sam and Biancca have been picking up the large piles of leaves – these are unscheduled pickups, but they will try and remove most of the leaves that are out before Halloween, November pickup days are leaves only and weather permitting**
- **He also reported that Sam has been locating the water lines on South & North Main Street as requested by National Fuel. There are no drawings, so it has been quite time consuming. National Fuel will be replacing gas lines along Main Street and Sam will more than likely have to be there incase a water line is hit**
- **He also reported that Sam had received a call about dirty drinking water on Monday along Dale Drive, he made some calls and found that Lily Dale had flushed a hydrant over the weekend, the have stopped and will continue hydrant flushing with the village as scheduled next week**
- **He also reported that a contractor was replacing a section of sidewalk in front of 33 N Main on Friday and they hit a water meter, a Dig Safe was not called in as it should have been, Sam had to go make an emergency repair. The contractor also dumped gravel along Main Street and High Street but it was cleaned up**

TRUSTEE ASTRY'S REPORT
- **He received a call from Roxanne Astry on Sunday during the Chicken BBQ that there was water leaking through the women's bathroom ceiling in the Community Building and there was no hot water. Trustee Astry found the hot water tank in the ceiling had rusted out and failed, he and a member of the department disconnected unit and drained as much water as they could. He spoke with Sam on Monday, with Biancca being out sick Monday and Tuesday and the water locating that has to be done for National Fuel it will be next week before this can be addressed. Trustee Astry wants to put in an on-demand unit to save gas, Trustee DuBois asked about hiring this out as there is a Steak Fry this weekend, but Trustee Astry stated it can be done by him and Sam**

TRUSTEE FLAHERTY'S REPORT

- **She reported that the Maple Avenue Academy students came on Tuesday and helped put away all of the picnic tables, canoes etc at the beach, she thinks the kids enjoyed being outside on the beautiful day**
- **She asked if Trustee Astry could ask Sam to make sure the snowflakes are up before the Light up Cassadaga Event on December 7th, and noted he can take them down anytime after January.**
- **Upcoming Events:**
    - **Saturday, October 26th Vendor Show at Cassadaga American Legion, 228 Maple Avenue, 10am-3pm**
    - **Thursday, October 31st 5-7pm Trick or Treating in the Village, Trunk or Treat Event and Haunted House Wit's VP, 86 N Main Street, Costume Parade at Fire Department 7pm, 22 Mill Stret**

TRUSTEE CRUVER'S REPORT

- **She asked about an update from the Zoning Rewrite Committee, per Deputy Clerk Astry, they should have final draft ready for the board by end of next month**
- **She also had questions for Trustee Astry about the electrical upgrades being completed at the beach, as previously noted, Trustee Astry stated they would get done**
- **She brought in a Project Management template for an example of ways for the board to track ongoing projects so they can keep updated on estimated completion dates etc. She noted a few projects that have been ongoing that could be added and tracked. It would be nice to be able to answer residents' questions accurately when asked when a project is going to be done. Trustee Flaherty noted that the docks still need to come out at the beach, and wondered if a neighboring municipality could assist with this under shared services, Trustee Astry stated they are all busy and shorthanded right now. Trustee DuBois agrees that having accurate updates on ongoing projects is very important to the entire board so they can respond to constituents' questions. She noted it's important that the entire board is made aware of things like seasonal workers leaving without notice or water issues that need to be addressed in the village**
- **She asked if the board had addressed a letter received months back asking about an audit of equipment, Clerk McChesney stated that the fixed assets are updated yearly during the state audit as well as yearly for the insurance company, the records are available in the office**

TRUSTEE DUBOIS' REPORT

- **She gave Cassadaga Volunteer Fire Departments' monthly Report for September 2024 as follows:**
    - **EMS Calls - 21**
    - **Fire Calls – 1**
    - **MVA Calls – 0**
    - **Alarm Activation - 3**
    - **Request for Gator - 0**
    - **Service Calls – 0**
    - **Stand by for CCSO - 1**

    - **Mutual Aid Given - 12**
    - **Mutual Aid Received –0**
    - **Total Calls - 26**
    - **Total Man Hours 150**
- **She had questions on the hydrant flushing-previously discussed**
- **She had questions on the man door replacement for the firehall-previously discussed**
- **She had questions about the no hot water issue for the community building - previously discussed**
- **She had questions about leaf pickup-previously discussed**

RESOLUTION # 162
APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
A motion was made by Trustee Flaherty to approve the financial report for October 23, 2024, seconded by Trustee Cruver VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

GENERAL FUND 10/23/2024	**$**	**337,136.73**
WATER FUND 10/23/2024	**$**	**72,747.80**
RESERVE CVFD EQ.	**$**	**20,983.52**
RESERVE DPW EQ.	**$**	**12,492.83**
RESERVE WATER REPAIRS	**$**	**50,382.34**
RESERVE FOR DEBT SERVICE	**$**	**363,568.55**

RESOLUTION # 163
APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL
A motion was made by Trustee Cruver to approve bills & payroll as follows, seconded by Trustee DuBois VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

PAYROLL General Fund, 10/25/24	**cks: 6101-6102**	**$**	**4,024.17**
PAYROLL Water Fund, 10/25/24	**cks: 6101-6102**	**$**	**1,609.58**
ABSTRACT October 23, 2024	**General Cks: 10265-10276**	**$**	**7,562.64**
ABSTRACT October 23, 2024	**Water Cks: 10265-10276**	**$**	**1,193.45**

RESOLUTION # 164
Being no further business, Trustee Astry moved to adjourn, second by Trustee Cruver at 7:49 PM. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annette McChesney
Clerk Treasurer