

2022 Regular Meeting MINUTES  
September 12, 2022

Present:

Paul H. Smith	Supervisor
Susan Storms	Councilman
Patrick Britton	Councilman
Frank Skvorak	Councilman
Shari Gerber	Councilman
Lori Borland	Town Clerk
Michael O'Shaughnessy	Highway Superintendent
James Burrows	Counsel
Rebecca Shultz	Deputy Clerk

Supervisor Smith called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Britton to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on August 8, 2022. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Privilege of the Floor: Mickey Dietrich, RACOG Circuit Rider, submitted his written report. It noted the date for the next RACOG meeting and the date for the Tug Hill Commission Annual Dinner at Zero Dock Street. Other ongoing workshops and webinars are in the written report.

Councilman Skvorak noted that the First Methodist Church in Carthage is celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Supervisor Smith noted that RACOG is interested in doing a new Comprehensive Plan, which will go through the Community Development Director.

Communications: Letter was received regarding the ARPA Funding and that the second check of \$116,615.03 has been deposited in our Disbursement Account.

Community Development Director Report: Sarah Bullock, Community Development Director, submitted her written report which was read by Supervisor Smith. It included: RFP for Deferiet BOA has been prepared and sent to DOS for their review/approval. She met with various stakeholders in August to discuss the project. NY Forward – prepared a letter of intent to apply, and has attended several required webinars. She began preparation of material for the proposal and will be present at the Farmer's Market in September to solicit public input. She prepared a letter of intent to apply for the Restore NY project on the former RR depot. **RESOLUTION #32-2022** – Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms to provide a Letter of Intent to apply for the Restore NY former RR depot project. Motion passed unanimously.

Highway Report: Michael O'Shaughnessy, Highway Superintendent, noted that Jefferson County has been billed for work performed on 9/6/22. Village of Deferiet needs help with cleanup on 10/4/22. Boyd Road had a culvert that was slip lined. Paving and shouldering are complete on Alexandria and Boyd with the help from other highway departments in the area. Mowing has been completed on the cemeteries and town lots. County and Town roadside mowing is complete. The crew replaced a culvert on Rogers Crossing Road, and cut large trees at Hewitt Park and on Lewisburg Road.

Dog Control Officer: April Hall, DCO, has been very busy with dogs at large and going back and forth to the LCHS shelter.

Town Clerk Report: Ms. Borland noted that the Water District collections for August, 2022 were \$2795.00. The Town Clerk fees for August, 2022 were \$2215.78. The Transfer Site Funds collected for August, 2022 were \$4246.00. Deputy Clerk Shultz gave a comprehensive report on the financials for the transfer site for YE2021 in response to Councilman Skvorak's request at the last meeting. It looks like the Town is in the red for the transfer site of \$4824.43 for that year. Another report will be compiled for 2022 after the new year.

Code Enforcement: No report

Assessor Report: Marlene Norfolk, Assessor, reported that she has been processing sales with the RPTS in Albany. She continues to assist property owners with STAR applications, and is keeping current with the permits issued by the Code Enforcement Officer.

It was noted by Supervisor Smith that Robert Ball, the currently appointed Assessor, will be returning from his Leave of Absence on November 1, 2022. Mrs. Norfolk will stay on for a couple of weeks to bring him up to speed on what she's been doing.

Attorney Report: Mr. Burrows noted that the Carthage Energy check has been received, and the check has been deposited into a special escrow account. He noted that we should keep that account open until at least next month in case the County comes back for a share of that. So far, nothing has been heard from the County.

Mr. Burrows further noted that the Bond Resolution for the Herrings Disinfectant Project has been published, and we are awaiting the 30 day required period to hear from the public. If no public comes forth, then the Estoppel Notice will be published and the process will continue on from there. The lawsuits against the Town by Watson and Pierce have both been dismissed against the Town.

Regarding the Smith/Fuller squatter matter, Mr. Fuller is still in the premises, even after a strong letter was sent to him by Mr. Burrows. At the time of the demolition, if he is still there, the Police will be called, as he is a trespasser. No projected date has been set by the demolition company and Supervisor Smith instructed Town Clerk Borland to reach out to see what time frame we are looking at, and to get a quote on the demolition of the trailer, which we asked for some time ago.

Town Board Committees: No report

Town Supervisor's Financial Statements: Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Skvorak to approve the Financial Statements as provided by the CPA's. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Vouchers: Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Skvorak, to approve the vouchers in Abstract #9 in the amount of \$329,993.42. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Budget worksheets were distributed to the entire Board along with other departments for their suggestions for the 2023 budget. They need to get back to the Town Office by September 20, 2022. A public hearing may be necessary to override the tax cap of 2%.

**RESOLUTION #33-2022**- Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber to hold a public hearing on October 11, 2022 at 6:45 for the possibility of a tax cap override, with the regular Town meeting following immediately thereafter. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

It has come to the attention of the Board that the Carthage Savings and Loan is now able to handle municipal accounts, and the banking officials made a commendable presentation to Supervisor Smith, Town Clerk Borland and the outgoing Clerk to the Supervisor Mary Ann Yuhas as to what they have to offer.

**RESOLUTION #34-2022** – Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber to change the official banking institution from Community Bank, NA to Carthage Savings & Loan, and to have Supervisor Paul Smith, Deputy Supervisor Susan Storms, Councilman Patrick Britton as signatories on all of the accounts, and on the DECALS account, and the Town Clerk's account, to have the Town Clerk Lori Borland as the main signatory for those accounts along with the aforesaid others. ROLL CALL VOTE WAS HAD, - ALL VOTED AYE. Motion passed, carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Councilman Gerber, seconded by Councilman Skvorak, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

---

Lori Borland, Town Clerk