

March 26, 2025

The regular meeting of the Village of Cassadaga was held on March 26, 2025, at 7:00PM, with Mayor William Dorman presiding. Trustees present included Bill Astry, Danna DuBois, Cathy Cruver and Cindy Flaherty. Also present were Clerk Annette McChesney, Deputy Clerk Roxanne Astry, and Attorney Joe Calimeri. Absent was Superintendent of Public Works Sam Alaimo.

RESOLUTION # 35

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Astry to approve the minutes of March 12, 2025, seconded by Trustee Cruver. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

RESOLUTION # 36

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Trustee DuBois to approve the agenda, seconded by Trustee Flaherty. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

GUESTS & COMMENTS:

Braden Carmen, Observer, Nancy Wickmark, Pettit Place, John Sipos - Historian, Pennington Road, Maria & Basil Federczyk, Burnham Road

Maria Federczyk – she and her husband were here to get an update on what is being done to address the high lake levels. They commend all of those working to address this. They also had concerns about septic systems possibly being under water. They just love the neighbors and the area it has a “Mayberry” feel. Nancy Wickmark will be addressing this under Old Business.

John Sipos – He wanted to confirm that The Chautauqua County History Fair is definitely on August 23rd, 2025, at the Fluvanna Church Hall in the back portion of the building. No time has been set yet. There will be a display by the Village Historian. There was a History Fair in 2011 and 2016. This year’s event will be known as the Chautauqua County Expo. He will bring more details as he gets the information.

ATTORNEY JOE CALIMERI REPORT

- He reported that he had reviewed both contracts from Municipal Solutions and Square Engineering that he received for the future water project and can answer any questions the board has. Trustee Cruver wanted to confirm that the Engineer would be responsible/in charge of the subcontractors, Joe confirmed they would be. The Mayor also wanted to confirm that all requirements and time frames have been met by both firms on previous contracts they have executed, Joe confirmed they had to the best of his knowledge. There was also discussion on the timeline of the project and the next steps needed. The first step once contracts have been signed is the design phase and then a timeline will come from that. Clerk McChesney also inquired if his retainer fee covers the contract reviewing etc, he confirmed that it does. Additional costs start if/when there are any property acquisitions or easements etc. needed.

MAYOR DORMAN’S REPORT – No Report

CLERK MCCHESENEY'S REPORT

- She reported that she received an email checking to see if the AED was ready and available for pickup before baseball season starts, Trustee DuBois will check it out and make sure it's ready to go
- She also asked the board if they wanted to deposit the sale of the decommissioned firefighter air pack tanks into the general fund or the reserve for fire department equipment fund as the department requested – see Motion below
- She was asked by a member of the Citizen's for a Better Cassadaga welcoming committee to ask the board if the village could commit any funds to the baskets they give to new residents, the village is not permitted to give any donations or gifts
- She did make phone calls to get quotes to possibly install air conditioning in the Clerk's office, 1 company set up an appointment and she is waiting for a few return calls from the others
- The annual water withdrawal report is due on March 31st, Sam will have all the numbers tomorrow and I should be able to get it completed
- The insurance teleconference was rescheduled for next Tuesday, April 1st, she, Sam, and the fire chief will be on the call to answer risk assessment questions from the underwriter
- She has the beach permit application ready just needs the dates from Trustee Flaherty, she has them and will give them under her report
- She wanted to remind everyone that their annual Sexual harassment training is still due if you haven't turned it in yet

RESOLUTION # 37

APPROVAL OF DEPOSITING FUNDS TO EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

A motion was made by Trustee Cruver to approve depositing the \$7,700.00 into the reserve for fire department equipment account, seconded by Trustee Flaherty. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

DEPUTY CLERK ASTRY'S REPORT

- She reported that she and Tree Committee President Bob Reuther went to Syracuse last Thursday for the Tree City recognition luncheon. It was very informative, and she gave the report on the Village of Cassadaga. Members in attendance were very surprised to learn that a beaver had stolen a tree that was planted along the lake shore overnight after last year's tree plantings.
- The Zoning Rewrite Committee has been meeting to finalize the document, and it should be ready for the Attorney to review soon.

OLD BUSINESS

1. BATHHOUSE AT BEACH

- Trustee Astry reported that he has talked with a Job Corp representative, and they are just waiting for the weather to improve so that they can start working on the bathhouse with the students and get it completed

2. FUTURE WATER PROJECT

- Square Engineering and Municipal Solutions sent contracts for review as previously discussed under Attorney Joe Calimeri's report

RESOLUTION # 38

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH SQUARE ENGINEERING

A motion was made by Trustee Cruver to approve the contract with Square Engineering, seconded by Trustee Astry. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

RESOLUTION # 39

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH MUNICIPAL SOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Trustee Cruver to approve the contract with Municipal Solutions, seconded by Trustee Astry. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

3. NY FORWARD COMMITTEE

- Nancy Wickmark, NY Forward Chair reported that out of 10 regions, Western NY was the last to be announced, however the Village of Cassadaga was not awarded the NY Forward Grant this round, Angola and Westfield were each awarded \$4.5million, congratulations to those communities. There will be feedback from the selection committee given to the NY Forward Committee for future applications and they will come up with improvements and an action plan. There are other organizations that are still a possibility to partner with the grant committee and potentially proceed with some projects. John Sipos thanked Nancy for all of her work on this and the board concurred

4. FRISBEE & LAKEVIEW ROAD CONDITIONS – No Updates

5. SERVICE LINE INVENTORY – No Updates

6. CASSADAGA LAKES ASSOCIATION (CLA)

- Nancy Wickmark gave an update. She stated that if there was a septic system underwater it would be too close to the lake and illegal. The engineer study by Eco Strategies was just completed today, she needs to read and sign it. In the next couple weeks they will be moving forward with removal of beaver dams and the sandbar on Maple Avenue.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. SET TAX RATE

Clerk Treasurer McChesney reviewed the general budget with the board and explained the estimated fiscal year fund balance and the effect of the State Tax cap. She reported that the Tax Levy Limit for fiscal year 2025 is \$147,899.00. The total assessed value is \$44,505,355.00, an increase of \$366,218.00 from last year. Last year's tax rate was \$3.24 per thousand. She presented calculations using different tax rates to the board. It was recommended going with a tax rate of \$3.32 per thousand and a Tax Levy of \$147,757.78 staying under the tax cap limit. This will also allow the village to budget for a transfer of \$10,000.00 each to the Department of Public Works and the Fire Department reserve equipment accounts

The water fund budget was discussed and explained. The board decided to increase the rate from \$6.25 to \$6.75 per thousand.

RESOLUTION # 40

SET TAX RATE FOR BUDGET

Trustee Cruver moved to set the tax rate for 2025-2026 to \$3.32 per thousand for a tax levy of \$147,757.78 an increase of \$ 4,746.98 from last year, seconded by Trustee DuBois. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

RESOLUTION # 41

SET WATER RATE FOR BUDGET

Trustee DuBois moved to increase the water rate to \$6.75 per thousand gallons for total estimated revenue of \$285,300.00 and appropriations of \$321,699.82 seconded by Trustee Cruver. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

2. SET PUBLIC HEARING

RESOLUTION # 42

SET PUBLIC HEARING

Trustee Cruver moved to set the Public Hearing on the budget for 2025-2026 on April 23, 2024, at 7:00 PM, at 22 Mill Street, Cassadaga seconded by Trustee Astry. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

3. WATER SHUT OFF NOTICES

RESOLUTION # 43

WATER SHUT OFF NOTICES

Trustee Cruver moved to send Water Shut Off Notices to water customers who are more than two billing cycles behind without making any payments, seconded by Trustee Flaherty. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

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

- He reported that Sam found about 18” of water in Well # 1 building when he came to work and the water was almost over Maple Avenue. He had to get equipment out and scoop debris from the ditches. He has been busy marking out water lines for National Fuel. Bianca has been York raking, and they have been working on the street sweeper. Sam found rotors for the 1-ton truck so he can replace them.

TRUSTEE ASTRY’S REPORT

- He met with the beaver trapper on Sunday and walked near the areas he will be setting traps, he needs to reposition some of them, the beavers are smart and going around them

TRUSTEE FLAHERTY’S REPORT

- She reported she is working on the community event calendar
- Village wide yard sales will be June 14
- Beach Program for 2025 will run June 28th through August 24th
- Cassadaga Cleanup Day April 26th 9am-1pm

TRUSTEE CRUVER'S REPORT – No Report

TRUSTEE DUBOIS' REPORT

- She reported that at the fire department meeting on March 18th they appointed Dave Dunlap as Fire Captain and Dave Muscato as Fire Lieutenant, they wanted to have backups if all three fire chiefs are unavailable
- The fire department's installation banquet has been moved to the 3rd Saturday in September
- She gave Cassadaga Volunteer Fire Departments' monthly Report for February 2025 as follows:
 - EMS Calls - 15
 - Fire Calls – 3
 - MVA Calls – 0
 - Alarm Activation - 0
 - Service Calls – 0
 - Single Company - 0
 - Mutual Aid Given - 14
 - Mutual Aid Received –1
 - Total Calls - 19
 - Total Man Hours 63.5

RESOLUTION # 44

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A motion was made by Trustee Flaherty to approve the financial report for March 26, 2025, seconded by Trustee Astry. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

GENERAL FUND 03/26/2025	\$	299,927.20
WATER FUND 03/26/2025	\$	147,873.37
RESERVE CVFD EQ.	\$	21,000.86
RESERVE DPW EQ.	\$	12,503.16
RESERVE WATER REPAIRS	\$	50,403.16
RESERVE FOR DEBT SERVICE	\$	363,868.98

RESOLUTION # 45

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL

A motion was made by Trustee Astry to approve bills & payroll as follows, seconded by Trustee Flaherty VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

PAYROLL General Fund, 03/28/2025	cks: 6144-6151	\$	8,478.90
PAYROLL Water Fund, 03/28/2025	cks: 6144-6151	\$	1,640.33

ABSTRACT March 26, 2025	General Cks: 10367-10370	\$	3,036.73
ABSTRACT March 26, 2025	Water Cks: 10367-10370	\$	2,594.95

RESOLUTION # 46

APPROVE G&G INCOME SURVEY QUOTE

A motion was made by Trustee Cruver to approve the quote from G&G to do an income survey not to exceed \$9,000.00 this is a requirement so that the village can apply for a

Community Block Development grant to use towards the future water project, these funds are to be taken from the reserve for water debt service fund line, seconded by Trustee DuBois. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

RESOLUTION # 47

Being no further business, Trustee Cruver moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee DuBois at 8:48 PM. VOTE: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annette McChesney, Clerk Treasurer