

Village of Camillus  
Regular Meeting  
May 5, 2014

Present: Mayor Patricia J. Butler Rhoades  
Trustee Ann Eckert  
Trustee Tim Stapleton  
Trustee Helen Walsh  
Trustee Martin Rinaldo

Absent: Attorney Robert J. Allan  
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6 people in attendance

Mayor Butler opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. by leading the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

Mayor Butler Rhoades introduced a special guest, Ashley Rether, who is doing volunteer work for a high school government class. She will be taking minutes and will be working as secretary tonight and will be present at the Village Hall all this week. She welcomed and thanked Miss Rether for coming.

Mayor Butler Rhoades stated she sent a letter to the Board that Attorney Allan has injured himself. He will not be in at least all week. We will be continuing to work with him via telephone and computer. He is willing to do work while recovering.

**Camillus Police Department**

No report.

**Camillus Fire Department**

Chief Jim McBride addressed the Board. He stated that the Camillus Fire Department has a couple of new members and they were voted in pending background checks. The first is Blair Everson (not in attendance) and she hopes to take the EMT class and is going to school for nursing. The second new member is Kathryn Anderson (in attendance) who will be an inactive member. Chief McBride introduced Ms. Anderson to the Board. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated the Board has not seen these two applications yet and cannot make any decisions at tonight’s meeting.

Mayor Butler Rhoades welcomed Ms. Anderson and introduced herself and the entire Board. Ms. Anderson stated she lives in the area, off West Fox Hill. She stated she joined the fire department because her son (CFD member Erich Cole) encouraged her to do so. Chief McBride then stated Erich Cole is a very active member of the fire department and continues his training. He plans to work his way up the ladder and is an asset to the fire department. He is one of the members that is very dependable. Ms. Anderson stated her employer encourages the employee to get involved within their communities. Ms. Henderson stated she will be inactive and will be happy to help with any fundraisers or events. Mayor Butler Rhoades suggested to Ms. Anderson to work the ticket booth at the carnival at Munro Park over Memorial Day weekend. She wishes to spread the word that we need volunteers for that weekend. Ms. Anderson was then asked where she works and she stated she works at Legrand, Pass and Seymour. The company

encourages community involvement and always participates in the Relay for Life. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated that on May 17<sup>th</sup> is the next regular meeting and the Board will have her application for a decision. One of the Chiefs will be notified of the Board's decision and she then will be notified. Mayor Butler Rhoades then thanked Ms. Anderson for attending.

Chief McBride addressed the mayor regarding her suggestion that the fire department background checks should be expanded. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated the insurance company recommended expanding the background checks. Chief McBride stated the checks only reflect arson convictions and do not check for sexual harassment/crimes. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated that issue has come up by the Mayor's Association, different municipalities and insurance companies. Chief McBride stated the Sheriff's department will not do the extended check but it can be done by another firm for a fee. Mayor Butler Rhoades asked Chief McBride to find out how much the charge is. He stated that Camillus Fire Department President, Cheryl Hutchins, believes to cost to be between \$80 and \$90. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated that cost seems to be reasonable. Chief McBride stated he will confirm it and a line item will have to be created starting next year for the new cost of the extended checks. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated the extended checks may not be necessary for associate members but it should be discussed to have these checks for active members that are responding in fire department apparatus to private homes on emergency calls. She stated that if an incident were to arise, the first question will most likely be if there was a history of this type of crime in the member's background. Chief McBride stated that it opens a can of worms to let new members into the department with crimes besides arson found in their background, and agrees with the extended background check suggestion. Mayor Butler Rhoades agrees that an applicant with these types of crimes probably would not be voted in. Chief McBride stated the only way to accomplish this extended background check is to pay for it.

Trustee Stapleton asked Chief McBride how many new members he is expecting to get per year. Chief McBride stated he wishes to gain as many new members as the number limit allows. Trustee Stapleton asked what the limit is and if the current number of active members is 42-45 members. Chief McBride believes that number is correct. Deputy Mayor Eckert stated she believes the department can have a total of 125 full members that includes active, honorary, lifetime and inactive members. Trustee Stapleton asked how many new members the Camillus FD has gained per year recently. Chief McBride stated members come and go but it is usually two or three new members gained per year. Trustee Stapleton suggested an allocation of extended background checks for ten new members per year and estimates a cost of around \$1,000.00. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated that number is a ball park number. Trustee Rinaldo asked if software can be purchased in order to perform the checks. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated she believes that access is guarded and that the Board and the fire department will not have the ability to perform the checks. Trustee Stapleton stated there is public record available for researching a background and that someone needs to take responsibility for that research. Trustee Stapleton advised that if persons are not convicted but are arrested for crimes that information is found in the police blotter databases and that information is public record. The information is also taken out of the court system if the person is not found guilty. Therefore, the former arrest information is still available but that person may be innocent. He stated paying for

an official extended background check is safer. Chief McBride agreed that the liability is then on the investigating agency that performs the check.

Chief McBride announced that the new Chief's truck is in service. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated it is a beautiful vehicle. Trustee Stapleton stated that after he spoke with Chief Groesbeck, he reports that the truck has a very strong engine and is four wheel drive and has tires that have better traction. Since the weight is in the front of the vehicle the driver may lose control of the back end of the vehicle. Trustee Stapleton suggests the drivers drive like they are driving on ice all of the time in order to not lose control of the back end.

Chief McBride stated that the engineers visited the fire department earlier today and he walked through the building, viewed the roof and walked around the entire grounds with them. He pointed out all the issues to them and advised of updates he would like to see. He will get back to the Board with that information. Mayor Butler Rhoades then stated that Trustee Rinaldo was going to report on that issue later in the meeting.

Chief McBride reported of a fire at 6 Huntington Lane on the April 10, 2014. He stated the couple that lived there had a fire in garbage can in their kitchen that led to a large fire in their home. The couple was transported to the hospital; one with minor smoke inhalation and the other with more severe burns on the back of the body. Chief McBride stresses to the public that if one has a minor fire call 911. The homeowner never called 911 and it was a neighbor that called the fire in. Chief McBride was the first on scene and the fire had enough time to already vent through the kitchen windows but everything went well and mutual aid worked very well together. There was a quick knock down of the fire and though extensive overhaul was needed, the house was saved.

There was a second fire was at 60 North Street. The dispatch information came out as a dryer fire initially. Chief McBride arrived to find a fully involved dryer fire in the basement of the home. The fire was knocked down, overhaul was completed and ventilation took place. Chief McBride saw many code violations such as wiring issues and missing electrical panel covers while at the home and reported them to the Codes Officer William Reagan who responded at once. Chief McBride was asked if the home is a rental and he answered that it is indeed a rental property. Mayor Butler Rhoades then asked if Todd Case (the homeowner) lives there. Chief McBride stated that Mr. Case does not live there but his sister Donna does.

Chief McBride reported that the fire department purchased 17 dozen flowers from the Maxwell Library for the beautification project at the fire station. The members had cleared out brush and trees from the area around the memorials at the front of the building. By using members, the department saved around two thousand dollars by not hiring for the brush and tree removal. The flowers purchased from the library will beautify the newly cleared space and will have a theme of red, white and blue.

Chief McBride reported that Second Assistant Chief Samuel Maxsween and Amanda McNabb have completed NYS incident safety officer training. They attended this class at an Onondaga County fire station at no cost. Second Assistant Chief Maxsween then also completed NYS trench rescue course along with Erich Cole and Amanda McNabb. This class covers response in

the possibility of an emergency in a construction trench. Chief McBride then stated this type of emergency occurred in a trench in Spafford a number of years ago.

Chief McBride then listed various events such as:

A drill with Fairmount Fire Department is planned for May 30. This is a Mercy Flight helicopter drill at the Fairmount fire station. The sign in front of the department will soon be changed to reflect the announcement for the parade and the fireworks for Memorial Day Weekend. The members will man crews for the carnival that weekend as well as an extra crew for the fireworks. Mayor Butler Rhoades thanked Chief McBride because she was planning on asking for standby crews for those very events. She asked if associate members could volunteer their time to work two hours at a time in the ticket booth at the carnival. Chief McBride agreed and a signup sheet will be passed around at the next fire department business meeting. Chief McBride asked for information regarding an auction company that will be selling the old chief's cars. Mayor Butler Rhoades then thanked Chief McBride for his time as a CFD representative.

### **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

Upon motion of Trustee Walsh, seconded by Trustee Rinaldo and unanimously approved by the Board, Abstract #08 was approved as follows:

General Fund	\$20,400.11
Sewer Rent Fund	\$ 285.00

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Butler Rhoades asked the Board if they have any concerns with the minutes from last Board meeting on April 21, 2014. No concerns were voiced from the Board. Upon motion of Trustee Stapleton seconded by Deputy Mayor Eckert unanimously approved the Board approved the minutes of April 21, 2014.

### **Mayor's Announcement**

Mayor Butler Rhoades announced the next Board meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2014.

Mayor Butler Rhoades then reminded everyone the Village Wide Sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 17, 2014. She also announced Solvay Bank has made a generous donation in the amount of \$450.00 for the cost of the fireworks during Memorial Day weekend, which is the largest donation thus far. She stated she is working with Eric Bacon regarding port-a-potties for the weekend carnival. She stated he is attempting to negotiate a deal for them because of the order of so many portable restrooms. Mayor Butler Rhoades then reminded Clerk/Treasurer Norcross that the insurance documents need to be faxed to Eric Bacon regarding the amusement rides. Mayor Butler Rhoades asked for a card to be passed around to the Board if they wished to sign it for Attorney Allan and also reminded the Board that Gary Martin will be due back soon to come back to work to perform light duty work. The street cleaning may be delayed because of the fact that the sweeper needs to be checked out. Mr. Martin will not be doing much driving due to his

light duty status and that Bob Klein asked for time off for a family member's surgery. Deputy Mayor Eckert then stated she will be filling in for the DPW on that day. The Board then said they will speak to either Bob or Gary about the status of the street sweeper. Mayor Butler Rhoades acknowledged that residents have had some concerns that the streets have not been swept yet and she advised they will be swept as soon as possible.

### **Old Business**

Mayor Butler Rhoades reported on the Village Earth Day clean up on April 12, 2014. Laborer Thomas Brown estimated he worked three and a half hours that day and listed 25 tires, thirty bags of trash, some boards and other various refuse that was disposed. She stated the Town Shop and their volunteers did a very nice job during the cleanup and she appreciated all their work.

Mayor Butler Rhoades addressed the Stormwater Coalition Proposal, she will be putting the decision on hold until the Board and Bill Reagan have made a final decision. The Proposal for 2015 Stormwater Coalition Proposal documents and copies are available by request and the cost will be \$3,600.00.

Mayor Butler Rhoades stated the estimated date of closing for the refinancing of the fire trucks will be May 15 or May 16, 2014. She spoke with bonding Attorney Rick Cook, Clerk Treasurer has prepared the notice and she stated this refinancing will save some money that can hopefully go towards the roof repairs at the fire department.

Mayor Butler Rhoades announced that Ron Danka created the sign for the lettering of the VOC truck. The Board discussed adding more to the center of the sign. The price will be \$60.00. Trustee Eckert stated the signs can be placed on one by one and can be finished by Memorial Day. Mayor Butler Rhoades asked for a motion to approve the truck lettering for four village vehicles and the street sweeper if necessary. Mayor Butler Rhoades moved for this motion and it was second by Trustee Rinaldo. The motion was carried by the Board and was opposed by none. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated Rebecca Miller will be notified that the Board has decided to go another avenue regarding hiring for the trucks' lettering.

Mayor Butler Rhoades asked if Deputy Mayor Eckert will be assisting by using the golf cart on Memorial Day. Deputy Mayor Eckert stated yes, she will be using it that day. Trustee Rinaldo will be driving the new village truck that day. Deputy Mayor Eckert stated the Memorial Day committee meetings have not finished yet. They will meet on the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Butler Rhoades asked the committee to request more parade room for the Village of Camillus because of the new truck. Clerk/Treasurer Norcross will take care of the application for the parade attendance. Mayor Butler Rhoades asked the Board for anyone else that is available to march in the parade. Trustee Stapleton stated he will be marching with another organization this year. Trustee Walsh stated she will be attending the 5K run that day. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated that she and Trustee Rinaldo will be representing the Village of Camillus in the parade.

### **New Business**

Mayor Butler Rhoades asked the Board for a resolution to send Mr. Zappala from at 28 North Street, application for a Special Permit in order install a curb cut and driveway on his property. Clerk Treasurer advised of Onondaga County Planning and that the Board needs to declare itself as lead agency. Clerk/Treasurer Norcross advised of the dates to follow as deadlines for this permit. Mayor Butler Rhoades moved for a motion to send Mr. Zappala the application by May 23, 2014 and to hold a Public Hearing on June 16, 2014 regarding his application if approved. This is a Type 2 action and a SEQRA determination is not needed. This motion was second by Trustee Walsh and unanimously approved.

Mayor Butler Rhoades announced that Clyde Ohl has met with the owners of The Kayak Shop in the Village of Camillus regarding a mural on the side of their building facing Newport Road advertising and depicting the Erie Canal. The Kitts have also received a grant that will allow them to paint The Kayak Shop. This mural will need to be approved by the Board. The Board had concerns how this mural plays into the decision of final approval for the painting of The Kayak Shop. Trustee Stapleton inquired if this mural is a second coat of paint. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated that it would be. The Mayor and the Board decided that the drawing should be available to the Board before a decision is made. Mayor Butler Rhoades asked the Board if there is any objection to asking for an example of the mural first before any decision is made. She also reported Codes Enforcement Officer Bill Reagan has checked into codes laws regarding the mural. No objections were made.

Mayor Butler Rhoades announced that a formal request has been made from Town Supervisor Maryanne Coogan. Town Supervisor Coogan has requested a gift from the Village of Camillus to the Town of Camillus that includes the basketball court in Munro Park and the dilapidated parking area on the side of the basketball court. The Town of Camillus will pave this parking area but requests this parcel gifted first. The Town of Camillus requests the portion that the Village of Camillus owns to give as a gift and they will attempt to purchase the portion that is owned by Dick Kirk. Mayor Butler Rhoades advised the Board that this request can be forwarded to Attorney Allan for his approval. Clerk/Treasurer Norcross advised that when Dirk Oudemool spoke of this parcel gift while at the Village Hall he did not advise of the gift of the basketball court. Mayor Butler Rhoades advised that the Town has expressed interest of gaining ownership of the entire Munro Park. She expressed concern that the residents may wish to express their opinions on the plan to lose another portion of the Village of Camillus grounds. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated she wishes to look at the parcel the Town of Camillus wishes to gain ownership of and requested the same from the Board. The formal request will next be forwarded to Attorney Allan for his consideration on the matter.

The Senior Citizen exemption in place in the Village of Camillus has not been upgraded to match the Town of Camillus senior exemption. Mayor Butler Rhoades requested Clerk/Treasurer Norcross to assess the change and to have final numbers for the May 19 Board meeting. This exemption would increase and then lower tax liabilities for the seniors.

Mayor Butler Rhoades advised the Board that the red, one ton truck has mechanical issues. The truck has started leaking and needs seals replaced. The bed will have to be removed in order to have the seals replaced. The cost for the repair is \$2,500.00. This truck, per Village employees

and DTS, is very low mileage and repair is advised. Trustee Walsh asked if another bid for the repair can happen. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated she is unsure of that and the truck is already at the repair shop and is needed back as soon as possible to avoid loss of services. Mayor Butler Rhoades requested a motion to pay for the repair of the red, one ton truck not to exceed \$2,500.00. Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Eckert, seconded by Trustee Rinaldo and unanimously approved the Board authorized the repair of the one ton truck at DTS Services.

### **Trustee Reports and Comments**

Trustee Martin Rinaldo: Barton and Loguidice visited the Camillus Fire Department station and they created a four page list of repairs for the department. A report will be sent soon.

First Street and Leroy Street: the hole near the church needs to be addressed. Trustee Rinaldo stated maybe a metal stick or marker needs to be placed to avoid drivers from driving on the grass at the corner. Also, a portion of the sidewalk near the church needs to be repaired. Mayor Butler Rhoades requested Trustee Rinaldo to write up a work request that can be left for Gary Martin.

Trustee Tim Stapleton: Last year, the Board budgeted for tree removals. The tree at McLaughlin and Meadow needs to be removed. This tree is off balance and after it was trimmed by National Grid. National Grid was requested to take it down but they stated they will trim it because they do not remove trees. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated this request will be forwarded to Gary Martin.

Trustee Helen Walsh: The large banners that are now in the front of businesses in the Village of Camillus such as Krabby Kirk's, Nick's Pizzeria and the pawn shop are a concern. Trustee Stapleton reminded the Board that animated signs are a DOT issue. The sign at Elm Street and Genesee Street needs to be further reviewed and past meeting minutes will be researched by Trustee Stapleton as well as contact to be made with the DOT.

Deputy Mayor Ann Eckert: The Camillus Police stated they will have a walking presence on Memorial Day. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated she believes the police also have purchased bicycles for this purpose.

The pipe on Union Street and Elm Street is in need repair and stated prices were researched. One quote is \$669.95 plus man hours and equipment if the Town does the work and another will come soon. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated before the problem becomes an emergency situation and since the quote is under \$1,000.00, it is advised to approve the work especially since the Town is happy to provide the work. Mayor Butler Rhoades asked the Board what is their pleasure. Upon motion of Trustee Stapleton, seconded by Trustee Walsh and unanimously approved the Board authorize the Town of Camillus to repair the hole at Elm Street and Union Street with the purchase of the pipe from Martisco Corporation at a cost of \$669.95. The Town of Camillus will bill for man hours and equipment costs.

Deputy Mayor Eckert stated the Comptroller's report included the Village of Camillus. This fiscal stress report indicated this Village of Camillus is at 8.3%, which is low stress and leads to no designation for the Village of Camillus. Deputy Mayor Eckert advised that in this report that

expense reports are given monthly by the clerk in Marcellus and should be given each month in the Village of Camillus as well. Clerk/Treasurer Norcross stated she will provide those reports starting next Board meeting.

The Village of Camillus Newsletter needs content. Deputy Mayor Eckert asked for more help. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated if the newsletter is forwarded to Clerk/Treasurer Norcross it can be sent out.

The proposed medical center has new signs and the parking lot will be available for use on Memorial Day. Clerk/Treasurer Norcross suggested the street sweeper clean up the lot first.

The exact opening date has not been given for the new gas station.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Waterman addressed the Board regarding the Stormwater Coalition and that discussion is needed. He feels that the cost that would be spent on this could be better spent on the street sweeper or snow removal equipment. Mayor Butler Rhoades did advise that Stormwater Coalition could eventually fine the Village of Camillus if they do not join. He also reported to the board that many properties in the Village of Camillus are in serious need of care and/or paint. Mayor Butler Rhoades stated that Bill Reagan is taking care of this issue and will have reports at the May 19 Board meeting regarding 23 Elderkin Avenue and 123 Maple Street. The Verizon building on Green Stret falls under this category. All calls regarding this building are unanswered.

Mrs. Belle Brown advised that the Memorial Day flags have been placed on the gravesites. Only American flags are approved for some cemeteries. Fire Department flags are not allowed.

Upon motion of Trustee Eckert seconded by Trustee Walsh and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Sharon Norcross, Clerk/Treasurer  
by Tina Groesbeck