

**Village of Camillus  
Regular Meeting  
August 3, 2015**

Present: Mayor Patricia Butler

Attorney: Robert J. Allan

Trustee Ann Eckert

Trustee Helen Kiggins Walsh

Trustee Martin Rinaldo

Trustee Richard Waterman

6 people in attendance

Mayor Butler opened the meeting at 6:00 pm with the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

**Camillus Fire Department**

Chief James McBride stated the department is business as usual and the call today was very minor.

The overnight crews are going well and help response times.

An Emergency Vehicle Operator’s Course is offered at the station on September 26 and 27.

President Cheryl Hutchins stated the overhead hood for the ovens at the fire station are scheduled to be professionally cleaned on Wednesday. The Health Department will then be advised the kitchen is ready for inspection and rentals again.

Keys to the kitchen and the pantry as well as a charge card for TOPS were given to the Board in case of fires.

Chief McBride was advised the charged purchases for the Camillus Fire Department are still listing tax on the receipt despite being a tax exempt purchase. Cheryl Hutchins stated that issue has been fixed.

Trustee Ann Eckert advised that the TOPS receipts do have tax listed. The Clerk advised that when the bills are paid, tax is not included in the payment. President Hutchins stated they will call TOPS again about the matter.

The department is scheduled for a RIT drill tonight at the tower which includes rescuing a downed firefighter.

Mayor Butler offered a thank you letter from the nurse for the resident that needed assistance on Green Street recently. Mayor Butler asked if the department needs the rescue rope and rescue clip that was used to temporarily repair the resident’s lift machine. Chief McBride stated it has been replaced to the firefighter that used his rope. This rope is also discarded after use and is to be removed after formal repair of the machine.

Trustee Eckert asked why the department purchases EMT pants for members. Chief McBride stated EMTs are issued EMT pants and are entitled to for class participation as students at EMS agencies.

Mayor Butler thanked Chief McBride and President Hutchins for their reports.

Mayor Butler introduced Mr. Tony Ross from Environment Paving. Mr. Ross has a proposal for the amount of \$20,990.00 to repair Village sidewalks under the Onondaga County Sidewalk Replacement Contract. Any municipality is invited to use this contract instead of putting the repair project out to bid.

Mayor Butler asked if this proposal was for all sidewalks. Mr. Ross stated the proposal is for all repairs of all sites looked at. Trustee Waterman stated the sites looked at are emergency repairs and do not include other sites due for repair. Trustee Waterman deems these areas as impossible for a baby stroller to be pushed on.

Trustee Waterman stated he is aware the budget only allows for \$4,000.00 to be used for sidewalk repairs this year. He advised repairing the more serious sites on Elm Street.

Trustee Eckert stated the site in front of the Davis Law Office is included in the list. This is from a section of tree being removed on Main Street that caused brick sidewalk damage. Trustee Eckert suggested asking the Town of Camillus for brick pavers for the repair. Mayor Butler advised that this repair was to be repaired at the cost of the law office and needs to be researched before payment by the Village of Camillus.

Trustee Eckert stated another site near A&R Auto may have the same issue after a tree was recently removed from that site.

Trustee Waterman stated the Clerk has spoken with National Grid about a repair to a sidewalk on North Street after a gas line was installed. National Grid has agreed to repair 32 square feet of sidewalk.

Mr. Ross advised the sidewalk near 44 North Street will need to be hand excavated due to the location. Mayor Butler agreed the Village of Camillus is responsible to repair that site.

Trustee Waterman asked the Board to approve repair of some sites. Attorney Allan stated it can happen if sites are given specifically and a resolution can be made to pay the \$4,300.00 for the emergency repairs. Trustee Walsh asked where \$300.00 will be transferred from to cover the excess over the budgeted amount of \$4,000.00. Mayor Butler advised the Village of Camillus has an excess of \$18,171.12 in the fund balance.

Trustee Waterman stated the next critical are to be replaced are near the Methodist Church for a cost of around \$6,000.00.

Mayor Butler asked Mr. Ross if his company will piece out individual, smaller repairs in intervals. Mr. Ross stated yes and other projects can be budgeted for next year. The Village Board may pick and choose which sites to repair.

Trustee Waterman stated some asphalt needs to be carved out at a site near the Methodist Church. Some costs can also be reduced by asking the Village of Camillus DPW personnel to fill dirt and grass in some areas.

Attorney Allan stated the Village Board may repair three sites over the three year contract awarded to Mr. Ross' company.

The Board discussed three sidewalk repairs at Elm Street and one at the Methodist Church for a total of \$10,283.00. Attorney Allan asked about a time frame for work. Mr. Ross stated his company could get started within the next couple of weeks and finish in days. His company will excavate the old sidewalk, grade, fill stone and then replace with 5' or 7' sidewalk.

Trustee Eckert stated the Village of Camillus DPW personnel will remove materials and bring to the landfill when necessary to help reduce cost.

Mayor Butler asked if the unit prices are in fact secured for three years under the county bid. Mr. Ross stated yes. His company has the only contract on the county bid. Mayor Butler asked if there are any other charges to expect. Mr. Ross stated that would only happen if something unexpected was found under an excavated sidewalk.

Upon the motion of Mayor Butler and seconded by Trustee Walsh and unanimously approved, the Board agreed to hire Environmental Paving to repair Elm, First and Leroy Streets sidewalk locations that are in need of repair for the price of \$10,283 and to incur the cost of disposing approximately 15 yards of broken concrete.

Mayor Butler thanked Trustees Waterman and Rinaldo for their time dedicated to the repairs of the sidewalks.

Mayor Butler asked if the Village personnel shall notify residents or if his company will. Mr. Ross stated he will notify the office of Village Hall in order to notify residents before work starts.

Mr. Ross also stated he has Flexi Pave available to put around trees. This material is laid down around trees that thwarts weed growth and dresses up the Village of Camillus with different colors available. Mayor Butler thanked Mr. Ross for the idea.

The Board thanked Mr. Ross for his time.

Mayor Butler introduced Mr. John Tal as the owner of the Sunoco gas station.

Attorney Allan stated the terms within the permit given to the gas station were to be revisited frequently in order to address concerns. Mr. Reagan stated residents have complained about foot traffic on private property because of the gas station. After discussion about the compressor and snow plowing, Mr. Tal stated he will erect something to protect collisions with the air compressor.

Mayor Butler directed a letter from a resident to Mr. Tal regarding pricing practices at the gas station. This letter stated items are not priced and children are getting charged different prices

for items. Mayor Butler advised Mr. Tal that pricing needs to be visible, by law, and to take the letter into consideration.

Mayor Butler thanked Mr. Tal for coming.

### **Code Enforcement**

Codes Officer Reagan reported that 7 building permits were submitted, 6 permits issued, 7 building inspections, 4 fire system inspections and 23 violation inspections and 9 new violation notices sent.

Mr. Reagan stated the Green Gate is again open for business and the contractor did a tremendous job restoring the building after the fire.

Mayor Butler asked about tall grass on Leroy Street. Mr. Reagan stated he will look into it.

Trustee Waterman asked about 56 Elm Street a property that HUD purchased. Mr. Reagan stated the loan was most likely mortgaged through HUD and now they own it.

Trustee Waterman asked if there was any reaction to the complaints about the abandoned Verizon building. Trustee Waterman suggested using a sign to shame Verizon into caring for the abandoned Verizon telephone building property. Mr. Reagan stated he will visit the location and will call for maintenance to the building. If there is no response, he would like to be advised. Attorney Allan stated they must respond due to the fact that animals have access to the building and are causing a health hazard.

Mr. Reagan stated Tom Blair is planning on apartments and commercial units for the Camillus Mills location and are close to finalizing a deal with a contractor. The conversation with Mr. Blair was very encouraging.

Attorney Allan asked about the proposed wheelchair ramp at 48 North Street. Mr. Reagan stated the plan is to now construct a wheelchair lift instead. The Village Engineer should check this plan for possible issues before it moves further. Attorney Allan will contact the insurance agent regarding liability.

Mayor Butler stated Mark Taylor has resigned from his part time position at the Village of Camillus in order to focus on his demanding full time position.

Trustee Waterman asked how many abandoned houses there are in the Village of Camillus. Mr. Reagan stated seven. Mr. Reagan stated it is very hard to force a bank to paint a bank owned home. Attorney Allan stated there are ways to enforce it but the home needs to be deemed severely dilapidated.

The Clerk advised that Dick Kirk may be renovating a first floor commercial space to a residential space on Genesee Street. Mr. Reagan agreed that this is not permitted.

Mayor Butler stated the Camillus Animal Clinic wishes to replace their fence. Mr. Reagan stated only a permit is necessary, the Zoning Board does not need to be contacted.

Mayor Butler thanked Mr. Reagan for his report and for his hard work.

## **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

Mayor Butler asked if there were any questions regarding the payment of vouchers. None were asked.

Upon the motion of Trustee Waterman and seconded by Trustee Walsh and unanimously approved by the Board, Abstract #15 was approved as follows:

General Fund	\$6,859.35
Sewer Rent Fund	\$361.91

## **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Mayor Butler asked if there were any questions regarding the meeting minutes from July 20 after some minor changes were made. None were asked.

Upon the motion of Trustee and seconded by Trustee and unanimously approved, the Board approved the meeting minutes from July 20, 2015.

## **Mayor's Announcements**

The next scheduled meeting will be on August 17, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

The traffic counting strips on several streets in the Village were also placed in different locations in Onondaga County by the NY State DOT without any warning to any of the municipalities for traffic studies. The results are expected in about one year.

The DPW was authorized to purchase a saw and blade at the price of \$925.00. Mayor Butler asked the Board to approve a transfer of \$925.00 to line item. A5110.2.

Upon the motion of Trustee Eckert and seconded by Trustee Walsh and unanimously approved, the Board agreed to a budget amendment of \$925.00 from A1990.4 to line item A5110.2 for the purchase of a needed saw and blade.

Attorney Allan reminded the Board that they did not create a motion to transfer funds to cover the sidewalk repair costs.

Upon the motion of Trustee Waterman and seconded by Trustee Rinaldo and unanimously approved, the Board agreed to transfer \$6283.00 from A599 Fund Balance to A5410.403 Sidewalk Repair.

Mayor Butler met with Nina Andon-McLane, a representative from CFR Paving and Engineer William Morse for the pre contract award meeting for the First Street Paving Project. The first step of the paving and milling work is to occur by the end of August. Residents will be given a three day notice of the paving work. Equipment will be stored at the Senior Center. The project will take about three days to finish. A discussion was had to request that CFR Paving repair Button Avenue as well.

No change order is needed for the milling and paving of Button Avenue since the CHIPS funds are being used and the same contractors is doing the work. Attorney Allan stated a separate contract will need to be made. Exact costs are not available yet.

Trustee Rinaldo stated 52 First Street is pumping basement water to the street and neighbors have complained. Trustee Eckert stated notice needs to be made and work will have to be done by the homeowner to properly direct the water.

### **Attorney Comments**

Attorney Allan stated he has spoken with several surveyors that have stated they cannot make the deadline for surveys regarding Feederbank property lines. Attorney Allan advised the Board to agree to sign a contract with Steven Sehnert.

Trustee Waterman asked if there was a survey regarding the proposed walking trail off Feederbank. Mayor Butler advised that the lines of ownership are unclear until one is completed. Mayor Butler believes surveying this area is a benefit to the Village of Camillus.

Upon the motion of Trustee Eckert and seconded by Trustee Waterman and unanimously approved, the Board agreed to hire Stephen Sehnert of Applied Earth Technologies to survey of the Feederbank Road properties at his cost of \$3,200.00, dated July 10, 2015.

Trustee Waterman stated he has sent letters to the offices of Senators DeFrancisco and Schumer and Congressman Katko asking if any funds are available for cleaning the feeder near the proposed walking trail. He was advised that there are no state funds available and to check for federal grants. Mayor Butler suggested trying for funds next year. She will speak with an aide from Senator DeFrancisco's office to research and see if they can help.

### **Old Business**

Mayor Butler asked the Board for any questions with the new Village law book. None were asked.

### **Trustee Reports**

Trustee Eckert was asked by A&R Auto if the brush between their shop and the railroad bridge could be tended to as well as the garden area in front of the shop. Mayor Butler advised that there are no volunteers to work on these areas. Mayor Butler asked the Board members to donate time to clean the garden area and to look at the area if another tree should be planted.

Trustee Rinaldo asked about a summer outing. Mayor Butler stated there is a summer outing for the Mayor's Association that the Board is welcome to come attend. Mayor Butler and Trustees Rinaldo and Waterman agreed to attend.

Trustee Rinaldo reported that Gary did cut down a tree in front of the Senior Center where the sign advertising the road repairs will be placed.

Trustee Waterman thanked Trustee Walsh for bring the petition signatures to her downtown office.

Trustee Waterman volunteered to call CFR Paving for a final price for repairing Button Avenue.

Trustee Waterman spoke with Eric Hammerle regarding the speed issues on Elm Street. The Camillus Police Department called and agreed to additional speed control.

**Public Comments**

Mayor Butler asked if the public had any questions or comments. There were none.

Upon the motion of Trustee Walsh and seconded by Trustee Eckert and unanimously approved, the Board agreed to adjourn at 8:19 p.m.

By Christina Groesbeck  
Sharon Norcross, Village Clerk/Treasurer