**VILLAGE OF CAMILLUS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**April 7, 2025**

Present: Mayor Richard Waterman Attorney: Robert J. Allan

Deputy Mayor Martin Rinaldo

Trustee Ann Eckert

Trustee Mark Eckert

Trustee James Lighton 2 people in attendance

Mayor Waterman opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. The next Board meeting is April 21, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Waterman stated the Village Board approved the 2025 Community Development Five-Year Plan at the March 17, 2025 meeting and now the Board needs to approve a Resolution for the Five-Year Plan as follows:

VILLAGE OF CAMILLUS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION DATED APRIL 7, 2025

At a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Camillus held at the Village Hall held on April 7, 2025, the following Resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the Village of Camillus Board of Trustees held a Public Hearing on Monday, March 17, 2025 to consider the Village of Camillus 2025 Community Development funding request, pursuant to the Village of Camillus Five-year Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Camillus Board of Trustees unanimously approved the 2025 Consolidated Five-Year Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Camillus Board of Trustees has determined that it is in the best interest of the Village and its residents to submit an application to the Onondaga County Community Development Division for funding of the approved 2025 Consolidated Five-Year Plan; and

NOW THEREFORE,

IT IS RESOLVED that the Village of Camillus shall submit an application to the Onondaga County Community Development Division for funding of the approved 2025 Consolidated Five-Year Plan;

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The adoption of the foregoing Resolution was moved by Trustee Lighton seconded by Trustee Mark Eckert and duly put to vote, which resulted as follows:

Ann Eckert, Trustee yes

Mark Eckert, Trustee yes

James Lighton, Trustee yes

Martin Rinaldo, Trustee yes

Richard A. Waterman, Mayor yes

The resolution was approved.

Mayor Waterman stated it is time to set a Public Hearing for the cable television franchise agreement with Verizon. The last time the agreement was signed was 10 years ago. The money received annually is less than previous years as more people are streaming and streaming companies do not pay franchise fees.

Upon motion of Trustee Rinaldo, seconded by Trustee Mark Eckert and unanimously approved by the Board to set a Public Hearing on April 21, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. for the purpose of approving a cable franchise agreement by and between the Village of Camillus and Verizon New York, Inc.

**Code Enforcement**

Code Enforcement Officer Bill Reagan stated March 2025 was a busy month with 5 construction inspections,11 fire inspections, 3 complaint inspections,10 violations resulting in 9 new notices, 4 government meetings, 30 miscellaneous actions, and no building permits. Notices have been sent to 3 properties with unlicensed cars but he has not heard anything back from any of them. Apple Auto is consistently over in their car count.

Mayor Waterman stated he spoke to Shannon Martin, 61 Main Street, and told her she would need insurance naming the Village as additionally insured for the proposed event with a 3-person band in June on her store landing. A discussion was held as to whether the Board needed to formally approve the event as the landing was built with permission on Village right of way. On the advice of Council, Mrs. Martin should complete a Special Permit for the event, limiting the hours and times and Attorney Bob Allan will mail an application to her with a letter. All outdoor entertainment should require a Special Permit unless it is included in the site plan. Attorney Allan will draft a policy that all outdoor entertainment needs to have a Special Permit from the Village of Camillus unless it is a private party on private property. Mr. Reagan added commercial properties are regulated by site plans.

Mr. Reagan stated the new owners of 4 Mechanic Street have begun renovating the property without a permit. Earlier in the week, Fire Code Enforcement Officer John Raflowski issued a stop work order which was later violated that evening. Mr. Reagan was able to inspect the property today and issued a permit so the stop work order has been lifted. There are 4 apartments and 3 of the apartments will have 2 full baths.

Mr. Raflowski inspected 2 apartments at 7 North Street. He still has more apartments to inspect in the building.

Mayor Waterman stated the Village auditor completed the 2024 Annual Report for the Village and the fire department and Village are in good shape.

Mayor Waterman stated Laurie Seamon, 73 Main Street, has been violating the parking law for months by parking overnight on Main Street. She has been warned and ticketed several times. Ms. Seamon has stated she is disabled but has not provided proof of a disabled placard. Mayor Waterman has offered to provide her with disabled parking space behind her building if she provides proof of a disabled placard. Attorney Allan stated he has sent letters and a copy of the vehicle traffic parking law to both Camillus judges and to the Chief of Police asking them to pay attention to this vehicle and remind them that the fines go up with the escalating number of convictions.

Mayor Waterman stated he made a few edits to the proposed updated employee policy. Trustee Mark Eckert asked about the Village hours being 7:00 a.m. -3:30 p.m. and stated a couple times he had noticed the employees not at the building at 7:00 a.m. and sometimes not arriving until 7:15 a.m. Trustee Ann Eckert asked about adding a time clock. Mr. Reagan stated Marcellus is getting time clocks. The Town has time clocks. A discussion was held regarding what happens in the Town of Camillus if employees are late. Mayor Waterman stated he has been at the office numerous times at 7:00 a.m. and never noticed the employees being late. Mayor Waterman stated we can monitor the arrival times for a while, see what happens and he will talk to Jason. Trustee Mark Eckert stated he is not purposely watching the employee’s arrival time but is watching the camera for other purposes and happened to notice they had not arrived by 7:00 a.m.

Trustee Ann Eckert suggested adding something to the supplemental pay section that says the Village is reimbursed what was paid to the employee by Worker’s Comp. A discussion was held regarding how this would be worded and whether this was possible. Attorney Allan will work on this portion of the policy. Further discussion was had about revising the health insurance wording and adding that part-time and caretakers are not eligible as of the date this is passed except for those grandfathered in so that Sharon Norcross will still be covered with her current insurance. The employee policy edits were tabled to a later date to be determined.

Chief Fred Isgar and Chief Jim Hartford Sr arrived at 5:44 p.m.

**Camillus Fire Department**

Chief Isgar stated they have 115 alarms to date. This is the 3rd week the Camillus Fire Department has participated as Engine 94 on Mondays. Engine 94 consists of 5 fire departments: Onondaga Hill, Howlett Hill, Taunton, Fairmount, and Camillus. They usually have a minimum of 5 members but usually about 10 members are at the station available for calls on Monday. Trustee Mark Eckert asked who pays for the food during the day and if it is ordered or cooked. Chief Isgar stated the Engine 94 budget covers the food and food is often being cooked for breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Mondays.

Chief Isgar stated he had 4 applications to be approved. Dave Shalala is an EMT Instructor, Kimberly Tallo, Brandi King-Herzog is an EMT, and Tyler Tallo.

Mayor Waterman asked if anyone needed to discuss the applications in Executive Session. The Board stated no.

Upon motion of Trustee Mark Eckert, seconded by Trustee Rinaldo and unanimously approved by the Board to approve Brandi King-Herzog as an Active EMT for the Camillus Fire Department.

Upon motion of Trustee Rinaldo, seconded by Trustee Lighton and unanimously approved by the Board to approve Tyler Tallo as an Active Firefighter for the Camillus Fire Department.

Upon motion of Trustee Lighton, seconded by Trustee Mark Eckert and unanimously approved by the Board to approve Dave Shalala as an EMT for the Camillus Fire Department

Upon motion of Trustee Ann Eckert, seconded by Trustee Mark Eckert and unanimously approved by the Board to approve Kimberly Tallo as a Support member for the Camillus Fire Department.

Chief Isgar stated Mayor Waterman asked if the Camillus Fire Department would be interested in preparing a chicken barbeque for the Chamber of Commerce event on July 19, 2025. There will be vendors, a bounce house, and pickleball contest. The Chamber of Commerce will need a Special Permit for Munro Park. This would be a fundraiser for the fire department. Chief Isgar stated the Camillus fire department does not have chicken pits and would need to borrow chicken pits from other fire departments as well as transport the food. Chief Isgar stated chicken is extremely expensive right now and takes a while to cook. It would be difficult to predict how many to purchase. The fire department lost a lot of money on the corned beef dinner. Chief Isgar asked if the Chamber of Commerce would consider hot dogs, hamburgers, spiedies, salads, and other easier menu items. The Mayor will ask about food other than chicken and how many vendors will set up. Chief Isgar will ask the fire department members if they are interested in helping with this event.

Mayor Waterman stated the Camillus Fire Department had $46,865.81 remaining from the 2024 Annual budget. Chief Isgar requested the funds be transferred to the fire department NYCLASS account. The Clerk will transfer the funds on Tuesday.

Trustee Mark Eckert asked why the Village charges our fire department $1500 for annual trash removal. Discussion was had regarding trash charges and snowplow charges to the fire department. The Village does not charge for snowplowing at the Camillus Fire Department. The annual trash charge has always been in place and was reduced years ago from $3000 to $1500. The fire department used to have a caterer renting the kitchen for dinners so there was extra trash. The banquet hall is often used by the community and organizations for other events and parties. Fees are charged but many non-profit organizations use the hall for free. Chief Isgar stated those events only produce 1 or 2 bags of trash. Attorney Allan stated 93% of the $1500 trash bill comes from the Town of Camillus for the trash removal budget. The fire department would need to go to the Town the next time they do the budget and tell them they saved the $1500 and want to put those funds in another line. Trustee Mark Eckert stated he felt the garbage removal funds should be put towards training instead of paying for trash pick-up by the Village. Trustee Lighton agreed with Trustee Mark Eckert.

Chief Isgar and Chief Hartford Sr. departed the meeting.

**Mayor’s Comments**

Mayor Waterman stated he has a Zoom meeting for the $25,000 grant with the CNY Foundation on April 21, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. regarding the proposed sidewalk at Munro Park. He has taken photos and received aerial photos from Tyler’s Aerial Photography and drawn in the proposed sidewalk joining the first and second pavilions and to the parking lot.

This is the Village’s 3rd year as a Tree City and we will hold an Arbor Day celebration on July 19, 2025, with the Chamber of Commerce event. We are receiving 5 free red oak trees from Cornell Cooperative Extension to be planted in Munro Park.

Mayor Waterman stated the Village owes $44,000 on our plow truck. The DPW Supervisor feels we can sell the truck for $80,0000-$100,000. We are getting three quotes on a new vehicle which will not require a CDL to drive because it weighs less than 26,000 pounds and will cost about $100,000 to $110,000. We would put the balance of $55,000 towards the new vehicle and have to borrow about $60,000 from USDA. Mayor Waterman would hope for a similar deal to what he has had in the past of 25% grant funds and a loan for the remainder. Trustee Mark Eckert was asking what kind of truck the Village would be purchasing. Mayor Waterman stated the cost of the truck is about $70,000 plus the accessories of about $30,000. Attorney Allan asked if the plow truck was used for anything else. Mayor Waterman stated it is rear wheel drive and only good for plowing.

Mayor Waterman has applied for a grant with Senator Chris Ryan for $47,500 to complete the 4 Feeder Bank garage and a second grant for the municipal building for $61,900 to make the necessary repairs to the building.

Ryan McMahon has put $1.5 million in the budget for Main Street Grants instead of $5 million as in past years. The general opinion is that Main Street Grants are going away as the $1.5 million will be distributed on an “as need” basis. The Village of Camillus has been improved a lot with Main Street Grants.

Jason Fudala, DPW Supervisor, has started researching disposal of the hazardous waste chemicals the Village has accumulated over the past years. Miller Environmental is local and has quoted about $7000 to remove the chemicals. Mr. Reagan has provided some additional names for the Village to contact for quotes. You must have a hazardous waste permit to transport the chemicals. Mr. Fudala will try to get 2 more quotes. Mr. Reagan suggested taking the propane tanks to Walmart or Home Depot as places that sell propane usually take back the empty containers.

The State took down a tree on Elm Street and we have received a recommendation to make the area a memorial with a solar lit flag. Trustee Ann Eckert felt we should leave the area alone as it would add work to the DPW. We need to discuss this with the State.

April 15, 2025, at 1:00 p.m., Mayor Waterman has a meeting with the county about the canal trail. Ryan McMahon has approved $150,000 for the proposed trail. Mayor Waterman updated the Board on the trail talks.

The Village of Camillus had the streets swept earlier as the salt and sand was excessive after this past winter. John Moore, Cross & Moore Striping, will be assessing our streets soon to decide what should be striped before the parade. Trustee Ann Eckert verified the Village will not be sweeping the streets again before the parade and stated people will be raking the road salt and sand out of their yards into the streets. Mr. Reagan stated the Board should let him know if anyone is raking debris onto the road as it is illegal to do that.

**Approval of Vouchers**

Mayor Waterman asked if there were any questions regarding the vouchers.

Upon motion of Trustee Mark Eckert, seconded by Trustee Ann Eckert and unanimously approved by the Board approved, Abstract #7 was approved as follows:

General: $35,792.73

Sewer: $169.75

Trust: $396.40

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Waterman asked if there were any questions regarding March 17, 2025, Minutes. There were none.

Upon motion of Trustee Lighton, seconded by Trustee Mark Eckert and unanimously approved the minutes of March 17, 2025, were approved.

**Old Business**

Trustee Rinaldo stated he and the Clerk drove to the drainage pond behind Maclaughlin Street and there are several signs stating it is Town Property. Trustee Ann Eckert stated according to Paul Legnetto, the Town owns from the basins out and the Village owns the rest. A discussion was held about the drainage area.

**Trustee Comments**

Trustee Ann Eckert stated there is a tree broken in the Village right of way by Milton and Genesee Street. The Clerk will mention this to the DPW in the morning.

Upon motion of Trustee Mark Eckert, seconded by Trustee Ann Eckert and unanimously approved of the Executive Session for 2 personnel matters, was opened at 6:49 p.m.

Upon motion of Trustee Lighton, seconded by Trustee Rinaldo and unanimously approved, the Board came out of Executive Session at 7:28 p.m.

A motion was offered by Trustee Lighton, seconded by Trustee Rinaldo, and approved by the Board to authorize a pay increase for DPW MEO Dylan Micho to $24.00 per hour effective April 13, 2025.

The voting was as follows:

Ann Eckert, Trustee no

Mark Eckert, Trustee no

James Lighton, Trustee yes

Martin Rinaldo, Trustee yes

Richard A. Waterman, Mayor yes

The motion was duly approved.

Colton Watkins is leaving the DPW for employment at the Town of Camillus. Discussion was had regarding hiring a replacement. The Board decided a CDL would not be required as part of the job requirements and the Village would not provide training to get a CDL. Trustee Mark Eckert suggested bidding out village jobs such as the trash pick-up. Further discussion was had regarding the cost of outside trash pick-up. Mayor Waterman proposed $22.00 an hour. Trustee Ann Eckert proposed $18.00 an hour.

Upon motion of Trustee Lighton, seconded by Trustee Rinaldo and approved by the Board to look for a new employee to be hired on a probationary period at $22.00 an hour with no increase after the probationary period.

The voting was as follows:

Ann Eckert, Trustee no

Mark Eckert, Trustee no

James Lighton, Trustee yes

Martin Rinaldo, Trustee yes

Richard A. Waterman, Mayor yes

The motion was duly approved.

Upon motion of Trustee Rinaldo, seconded by Trustee Ann Eckert and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Carrie Grooms

Clerk/Treasurer