

**TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
June 7, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Town Council was held at the Town office building, 12 Mitchell Street, Canajoharie.

**Present:** Supervisor Herbert Allen, Councilpersons William Armitstead, Judith Burgess, and John Toomey, Jr; Bookkeeper Amy Kretser and Highway Superintendent Eric Bowerman. Members of the public attending included Lia Marrero, Bob Buck, and Mayor Martin Wilcox of Ames.

Mr. Allen opened the meeting at 7:30 PM and presented the evening's **agenda**.

On a motion by Councilman Toomey, seconded by Councilman Armitstead, the agenda was accepted as presented.

Councilman Armitstead made a motion to accept the **minutes** from the May meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Toomey, and all were in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Several visitors were given the floor to address the Council.

First, Lia Marrero from Saint Johnsville gave a short talk on the dangers of "hydrofracking". She gave details about the local area's heavy shale content, and information about vertical and horizontal fracking. She stressed the importance of people in rural areas such as ours educating themselves on the dangers of hydrofracking, and left literature.

Second, Bob Buck addressed the Council to introduce an arts council that has been formed for the towns of Canajoharie, Minden, Root, Palatine and St Johnsville. Named The Arts Factory, its purpose is to promote and cultivate local arts and artists in the manner of similar groups in Cooperstown and Sharon Springs. They are applying for 501C (not- for- profit) status.

Mr. Buck asked the board to help out by announcing when workshop grants are due, and also to consider a resolution of support.

Mr. Allen noted that the Town will soon be developing a Town website, and information could be added to that.

Martin Wilcox of Ames (Mayor) addressed the board to express his opinion that the Highway department has taken land from him. He said markers are missing, and he wants to have a survey done. He gave the council 60 days to resolve the issue.

**LEGISLATURE**

**Youth Center Contract**

Councilman Toomey made a motion to authorize payment on the annual contract with the Canajoharie Youth Center, in the amount of \$3,600.

Councilwoman Burgess seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The Clerk will put the Town seal on the contract, and payment will be made.

### **Old or New business**

There was a discussion of work that still needs to be done to the back porch of 12 Mitchell Street. Work will include a covering for the doorway, leveling off of stones, and fencing. Bids for the work will be solicited in a newspaper notice, to be handled by Herb and Eric.

Eric mentioned that a community service worker may be employed to move stones behind the town hall, and any other things that need to be done.

The Council addressed Martin Wilcox's accusations of boundary markers being missing and his land being taken over by the Town Highway property. Councilman Toomey mentioned that a marker was lost during the tropical storm. Supervisor Allen will check the tax map and deed for the Highway property.

### **TOWN CLERK**

Clerk Susan Smith has informed the Supervisor that she will be working with the County Data department to develop a Town website, using the page existing on the County website.

### **HIGHWAY**

The department will be spraying wild parsnips and hog weed, and helping the County Public Works department with ditches.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Councilman Armitstead, seconded by Councilman Toomey, the Council entered executive session to discuss personnel at 8:19 PM.

Session was ended (motion, Councilman Toomey, second, Councilwoman Burgess) at 8:25, with no decisions made.

### **PAY BILLS**

Deputy Clerk Lois Manzi presented the following bills for payment authorization:

General fund vouchers #111 through #129, totaling \$10,286.04; and

Highway fund vouchers #132 through #160, totaling \$13,674.78.

Two vouchers (Highway #160 and General #120) were put on hold pending research on obligation to pay. All others were approved on a motion by Councilman Armitstead, seconded by Councilman Toomey, all in favor.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilman Armitstead made the motion to adjourn, and was seconded by Councilman Toomey. All were in favor; meeting ended at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Manzi  
Deputy Clerk