

Approved BOARD MINUTES January 24, 2019

MOTION by Trustee Warmus, seconded by Trustee Daluisio, to enter into Executive Session 7:08 pm. Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Warmus, seconded by Trustee Daluisio, to enter into Executive Session 7:10 pm. Carried.

The Village Board meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mayor Manicki, who led the pledge to the flag and welcomed those in attendance to the meeting.

PRESENT: Mayor Manicki, Trustees: Casell, Daluisio, Overhoff, and Warmus, Attorney Trapp, Superintendent Sitzman, Clerk Galbraith, CEO Czechowski, Loren Prucnal, Eugene Nuwer, Shawn Eastland, Mark Pruitt and Sue DeWitt, Alden Advertiser reporter.

MOTION by Trustee Warmus, seconded by Trustee Overhoff, to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2019 meeting. Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Casell, seconded by Trustee Overhoff, to approve for payment bills on abstract dated January 24, 2019. Carried.

Payroll	\$51200.11
Abstract	\$58359.41

MOTION by Trustee Daluisio, seconded by Trustee Overhoff, to approve the following monthly reports: PW Addendum, Nov. & Dec., CEO –Dec. & Annual, Planning Board – January. Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

.Reply from Superintendent Sitzman to EPA concerning WWTP Deficiencies... Attorney Trapp co gender expression non-discrimination act, Charter Comm. Changes, RBC Wealth Management market explanation, info. On Gem Energy. Meeting minutes from Town of Alden, E.C. Consortium, E.C. Village Officials and Assoc. Of E.C. Governments. From Eerie County: Memorandum from Env. & Planning co. 2019 Annual Action Plan and CDBG, sales tax, Clerk's office on the go and Preservation buffalo, Niagara. From NYS – FEMA Flood Insurance, 2019 Justice Agenda Senator Gallivan opposes AIM Funding reduction, Comptroller Accounting classes, NYCOM Legislative updates.

MOTION by Trustee Casell seconded by Trustee Overhoff, to file as received all correspondence. Carried.

Resolutions/Appointments/Requests/Motions for January 24, 2019

MOTION by Trustee Warmus and seconded by Trustee Casell, to waive the penalties and accept payment of \$3364.44 from Tops Markets. Carried.

Motion by Trustee Warmus and seconded by Trustee Casell, to adopt Local Law #1-2019, authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established under General Municipal Law section 3-C

Roll call vote: Trustee Warmus - aye
Trustee Casell - aye
Trustee Overhoff - aye
Trustee Daluisio- aye
Mayor Manicki- aye Carried.

Motion by Trustee Daluisio and seconded by Trustee Casell, to authorize Supt Sitzman to prepare specifications and solicit bids for a permanent connection to ECWA at Exchange St. Carried.

Motion by Trustee Warmus and seconded by Trustee Casell, to approve the fire/EMS calls for January 4-18, 2019. Carried.

Motion by Trustee Overhoff and seconded by Trustee Daluisio, to approve the lump sum payment of \$370 to satisfy the ambulance collection claim # 35096764. as recommended by Attorney Trapp. Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Warmus, to approve the sign permit for Kotas & Kotas CPA, 1472 Exchange Street, as per submitted documentation. Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Warmus and seconded by Trustee Daluisio, to approve Temporary Business Signs for the following businesses as per submitted applications, to expire on December 31, 2019:

Elwood Jordans Agency, 13361 Broadway Carried.

Motion by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Warmus, to approve Lindsay Griffo into the Fire/EMS membership as voted on by the Alden Hook & Ladder Fire Co. Inc. Carried.

Motion by Trustee Overhoff and seconded by Trustee Daluisio, to promote Erik Maderer to Water/ Wastewater Operator at a rate of \$25.76/ hr. effective 1/25/2019. Carried.

Motion by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Overhoff to accept the bid from Upper Cloverfork Volunteer Fire Department in Closlint, Kentucky for \$1,000 for Hurst Tools. Carried.

Public Hearing – Local Law #1, 2018, 2% Tax Cap

Motion by Trustee Warmus and seconded by Trustee Casell, to leave the regular meeting and enter into the Public Hearing 7:35 pm. Carried.

A local law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established under General Municipal Law section 3-c by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Alden.

It is the intent of this local law to allow the Board of Trustees of the Village of Alden to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2019 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law section 3-c.

The purpose of this local law is to provide flexibility for the Board of Trustees and to protect both the Village and the residents from any actions of the State of New York.

The board is hoping to not exceed the tax cap, but need to protect themselves if they cannot stay under the cap. They have stayed under the cap every year excluding last year. They can repeal the local law if it is not necessary.

There was no public comment.

Motion by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Daluisio, to leave the regular meeting and enter into the Public Hearing 7:37 pm. Carried.

BUSINESS FROM FLOOR-

Mayor Manicki read the following statement from a Work Session held on January 15 concerning a recent water survey to customers.

At our January 15 Work Session the board discussed the water survey results. Written comments indicated that in spite of the information the village posted as well as Trustee Overhoff’s mailing, a number of people did not understand that we were only considering purchasing bulk water from ECWA and that it would cost more. In addition, they did not seem to understand how the \$2.50 rate increase was arrived at.

People who are chronic late payers selected EVWA even though they are already paying 10-20% late fees. This is not a rich community. 24% of our customers were late pay in the current billing cycle.

We are not currently connected to ECWA. We applied for a grant for connection expenses but were denied. We have reapplied but these grants will not be awarded until late this year.

In the mean-time the board has decided to make one permanent supplemental connection on Exchange St. This was our original plan after the 2016 drought. We will seek short term borrowing for the estimated \$80,000 cost.

The board may opt for a second connection in the future based on growth in water demand or a reduction in well output as well as the availability of funding.

Trustee Overhoff – what if you don’t get the grant? More people wanted ECWA. Why Exchange St. only? Mayor Manicki – with the written comments, a lot of people didn’t understand. 40 more people opted for ECWA, but only 50% of the surveys were returned, leaving a large portion undetermined.

Trustee Overhoff -Didn’t we just get a check from Erie County for \$98,000? Why not Use that? Mayor Manicki – it is already appropriated for in the budget. Trustee Overhoff – I am not familiar with the budget. Mayor Manicki – you have been here for 2 years, you should know how the budget works.

Trustee Overhoff – what about the Gallivan grant, why didn’t we use that? Mayor Manicki – we had already applied for a grant for the connection and had to wait

to see if we were granted it, so we made a decision to use it on sidewalks, need to understand budgets and funds.

Loren Prucnal – Westcott Ave - if we go to ECWA the village will lose all control, they can change rates at any time. Mayor Manicki – the town pays costs on tax bills.

Trustee Overhoff – 2 wells have odor in water report.

Mark Pruitt – Kellogg St. - Trustee Overhoff, your information is misleading to make the residents think the water is unsafe to drink, do you feel the water is safe to drink?

Trustee Overhoff – sure.

Mark Pruitt – your misleading residents to think it is unsafe. Trustee Overhoff – it says you need to boil the water if your health is compromised. Mark Pruitt – it says that on all water reports, even ECWA. I am fed up with it. Our water is safer than Erie County, there is all kind of dangerous chemicals and other stuff in that water. You are not reporting things correctly and need to educate yourself.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/DEPARTMENTS:

Attorney Trapp –working on Time Warner (Spectrum) Franchise Fee, Expired 5 years ago.

Clerk Galbraith - -.reminder our meetings will be held on Tuesdays starting Feb. 12. Water/sewer bills will be mailed out Feb. 1.

CEO Czechowski – annual report – 93 building permits for \$12,780, 2 sign permits \$125.

Superintendent Sitzman –NYSDOT should be bidding out the lighted pedestrian crosswalk for Broadway and Emerson in June (4.5 yrs. After we started the project). Chief Pruitt – thanked the board for passing the resolutions for the equipment and the new recruit. The department has been very fortunate that new members are still coming in.

Trustee Warmus – congratulated the DPW guys on a job well done on a recent water main break.

Mayor Manicki –recycling cost are increasing and the market is decreasing, need to educate residents to recycle.

UNFINISHED AND TABLED BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Casell, seconded by Trustee Daluisio, to adjourn, the regular meeting at 8:09 pm with a moment of silence for James Odell, Helen Pierce and Charles Barber. Carried.

I respectfully submit

Sue Galbraith,
Village Clerk