

The Work Session of the Alden Town Board was held in the Town Hall at 3311 Wende Road on Monday, November 24, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. Supervisor Milligan Called the Meeting to Order.

Present: Harry Milligan, Supervisor  
Ralph Witt, Councilman  
Mary Riddoch, Councilwoman

Recording Secretary: Barbara Weber, Deputy Town Clerk

Others Present: Jennifer Strong, Town Attorney  
Debra Crist, Town Clerk  
Ryan Sheedy, Emergency Management Coordinator  
Chris Snyder, Code Enforcement Officer  
Mike Metzger, Town Engineer  
Gary Wagner, Highway Superintendent  
Len Weglarski, Dog Control Officer

Supervisor Milligan acknowledged the Town Of Alden Emergency Management Coordinator Ryan Sheedy and thanked him for all he did for the Town during the snowstorm. Ryan Sheedy gave a synopsis of the events that unfolded during the past few days and our status at this point. They officially declared a State of Emergency in both the Town and the Village on Tuesday, 18th at 7:00 a.m. and issued an immediate driving ban at that time also. The Emergency Operation Center became activated at that time at the Village Hall because the Town Hall Center was inaccessible and that became the coordination center. Ryan worked closely with the Alden Highway Superintendent Gary Wagner and the head of the Village DPW, Keith Sitzman all week to try to get at least one lane open on each street as soon as possible.

The Alden Fire Dept. and Townline Fire Dept. did open up two warming shelters with about 15 people at Alden and about 25 people at Townline needing shelter. The Townline Lutheran Church and The Alden Community Church were in the process of getting ready to open as other warming shelters but they were not needed. Ryan Sheedy, Supervisor Milligan and Mayor Manicki were on twice daily conference calls with Erie County. They had at least one situational meeting per day with all department heads with the Town and Village. Alden School Superintendent Adam Stoltman was involved in these meetings to assess the school buildings and parking lot situations.

On Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> things were looking better so we down graded the travel ban to a travel advisory at 4:00 p.m. but the State of Emergency was still in effect. Ryan met with Supervisor Milligan and Mayor Manicki and on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00p.m. the travel advisory and State of Emergency was lifted.

Right now we are dealing with street flooding and several basements that are flooding. Ryan has an order for 500 more sandbags due to arrive this Tuesday morning. We are watching the creeks at this time but they are not cresting over the banks as of Monday night the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Snyder spoke with Ryan and got a list of houses that had some concerns so he was able to get out and check on these houses. He checked about 20 houses, which mostly had drywall cracks, due to the large amount of snow on the roofs and he had condemned two damaged homes. There were several small garages, carports, a barn and some commercial buildings damaged.

Ryan Sheedy said that Erie County is trying to present some numbers to New York State to be able to reach the threshold for FEMA aid. We will be keeping a log of any damages so if

any FEMA aid comes along we can pass this information on to the people who have damages which their insurance will not pay for.

Supervisor Milligan will be having some more meetings with Ryan, the Mayor and some others regarding some issues that came up. Specifically regarding using the reverse 911 system to be able to contact the citizens and to be able to put information on our Town web site.

1. Gary's Plow Truck- Gary has submitted the bid specs for the snow plow equipment for the plow truck. Attorney Strong will have a resolution ready for approval for the snowplow equipment at the next Town Board meeting.
2. Local Law #4- Town Attorney discussed the revised Home Occupation Permit law. The Planning Board gave us advised changes and it will go to the Town Board members for review. Supervisor Milligan would like to meet with the Planning Board members to go over the proposed changes.
3. Procurement Policy Review- Attorney Strong stated that we are required under State law to annually review our Procurement Policy. This has been done and has been reviewed already.
4. Old Three Rod Rd. Abandonment- A gentleman who owns property on the road would like to purchase a piece of the Old Three Rod road property that may have been abandoned by the Town many years ago. The Town Attorney is still researching information on this matter.
5. Senior & Vets Tax Exemption- Attorney Strong said that we are now working on Senior and Vet tax exemptions. Our current code also has exemptions for persons with disabilities and persons with limited income. She is asking the Town Board if we would like to include these people with our new tax exemptions. The Board would like to include these people with disabilities and limited income to match our new senior limits. Attorney Strong will draft something for the Board to look at but it does not have to be adopted until March 1<sup>st</sup>.
6. Senior Van- Mary Riddoch discussed the lettering that will be going on the Town of Alden's new senior van.

Chris Snyder asked the Town Board for permission to place a help wanted ad in the Alden Advertiser regarding the hiring of a part-time secretary starting at the beginning of the new year for the Code Enforcements Officers office.

Gary Wagner said that he has a broken high loader and it is in for service. Supervisor Milligan stated that other Towns started to offer snow moving supplies and Gary realized that we were going to need these machines and the Supervisor appreciates this. Gary had to make provisions to open up the State and County roads. The biggest problem was traffic control, people were driving on the roads and getting in the way of the snow clearing machines. Ryan Sheedy said that people not adhering to the travel ban hindered the Towns' ability to clear the roads. Supervisor Milligan thanked the Highway Superintendent for doing a nice job.

Mike Metzger has delayed the water district project bid by one week because some of the contractors and suppliers were in the snow band area. They were having problems putting

the numbers together in time. The new bid closing will be on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and on December 8<sup>th</sup> they will have a special meeting to call the award.

Mike Metzger discussed the structure of the Highway Department building. He will have some structural engineers come out and assess the building damage. We need to know if it is repairable or not. Gary Wagner said that the cold storage building is damaged also.

Mike Metzger has a letter ready to send out to the residents of the Exchange St. water district. We need to have a lease management with the Erie County Water Authority to run the water district. Mike Metzger would like to see each water service line that is run from the house to the water line to be inspected by the Code Enforcement Officer. This would include about 50 houses.

Ralph Witt talked about appointing the new Planning Board members in which four people are interested in the position. We need to include the new Zoning Board member positions that are available. An ad will be placed in the Alden Advertiser for the positions.

Len Weglarski said that the Dog Control truck has many mechanical problems and that he would like to get bids for a new truck.

Supervisor Milligan spoke to the State Police regarding the man who passed away in his car during the snowstorm last week. The Police are investigating and this is an ongoing process.

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At 8:15 P.M. Supervisor Milligan moved to adjourn from the regular work session and enter into an executive session about a personnel matter with the Town Board and the Town Attorney. Councilwoman Riddoch seconded the Motion. The Motion was put to a Roll Call vote on November 24, 2014 and it was

CARRIED.

Ayes 3 Milligan, Riddoch & Witt

Nays 0

At 8:24 P.M. Supervisor Milligan moved to adjourn from the Executive Session, with no action taken and enter back into the Regular Work Session. Councilwoman Riddoch seconded the Motion. The Motion was put to a Roll Call vote on November 24, 2014 and was

CARRIED.

Ayes 3 Milligan, Riddoch & Witt

Nays 0

Supervisor Milligan adjourned the Meeting at 8:24 P.M.

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Barbara Weber - DTC

CC: TB, ATTY., PARK SUPV. & EMERG. MGT.