

The Regular Meeting of the Alden Town Board was held at 3311 Wende Road, Alden, NY on Monday, February 18, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. Town Supervisor Pautler called the Meeting to Order and, in the absence of Councilmember Crist, led in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Roll Call was taken by 1st Deputy Town Clerk Linda J. Marzolf.

PRESENT: Colleen Pautler, Town Supervisor
Gina Waiss, Councilmember
Gwendolyn Bork, Councilmember
John Cieszki, Councilmember

RECORDING SECRETARY: Linda J. Marzolf, 1st Deputy Town Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Metzger, Town Engineer
Bill Rogers, Highway Supervisor
Glenn Christner, Building Inspector & Code Enforcement Officer
Jennifer Strong, Town of Alden’s Attorney
Residents

Councilmember Waiss moved and Councilmember Cieszki seconded the Motion to **Approve the Minutes** of the Regular Meeting of February 03, 2025.

CARRIED.

Ayes 3 Waiss, Cieszki, Pautler
Abstain 1 Bork (Councilmember Bork was absent on 02/03/2025)

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER BORK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WAISS, TO WIT;

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER BORK , SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER WAISS, WHO MOVED THAT THE FOLLOWING VOUCHERS BE ALLOWED AND PAID TO WIT; VOUCHERS # [119] to # [190]. ALL BILLS REVIEWED BY THE TOWN BOARD.

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT				TOTAL	
	02/03/2025 2024	02/03/2025 2025	02/18/2025 2024	02/18/2025 2025		
GENERAL FUND "A"	\$16,370.99	\$6,011.87	\$10,786.98	\$7,425.48	\$40,595.32	
HIGHWAY FUND "DA/DB"	\$254.20	\$37,435.15	\$300.00	\$32,179.44	\$70,168.79	
PART-TOWN FUND "B"	\$3,740.04	\$645.86	\$17.48	\$32,378.60	\$36,781.98	
SR CTR EXPANSION/4 SEASON "HS"	\$15,807.77		\$5,940.00		\$21,747.77	
CONSOLIDATED WATER "WR"				\$63,685.00	\$63,685.00	
SPECIAL FIRE PROTECTION "SF"		\$130,142.00		\$673,660.41	\$803,802.41	
SEWER INDUSTRIAL PARK "SI"			\$11,094.87		\$11,094.87	
SEWER DIST. #2 FUND "SA"		\$15.54		\$445.82	\$461.36	
TRUST & AGENCY "T"	\$2,270.00	\$1,896.89	\$2,270.00	\$4,227.74	\$10,664.63	
SPECIAL REFUSE FUND "SR"				\$43,141.33	\$43,141.33	
STREET LIGHTING FUND "SL"				\$6,287.32	\$6,287.32	
PERIWINKLE LTG. DIST."SL1"				\$116.80	\$116.80	
ZOELLER RD. WATER DIST."WZ"				\$19,854.60	\$19,854.60	
WATER DIST. NEWSTEAD "WO"				\$3,776.07	\$3,776.07	
WATER DIST. EXCHANGE "WX"	\$5,137.52			\$21,760.35	\$26,897.87	
WATER DIST. NO. 1 "WA"			\$6,733.58		\$6,733.58	
TOTAL	\$43,580.52	\$176,147.31	\$37,142.91	\$908,938.96	\$0.00	\$1,165,809.70

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS PUT TO A ROLL CALL VOTE ON FEBRUARY 18, 2025 and

CARRIED.

Ayes 4 Waiss , Bork, Cieszki, Pautler
Nays 0

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

PRESENTATIONS of COMMUNICATIONS from BOARD MEMBERS and Other TOWN OFFICIALS

Colleen Pautler, Town Supervisor

1. Received letter from New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets for the Dog Control Officer Inspection. All categories came back as 'perfect'.
2. Alden State Bank has invited the Board and all the elected officials to their Open House at the Alden Headquarters that's been duly remodeled. Date: March 06, 2025 from 4:30PM – 6:30 PM.

John Cieszki, Councilmember

1. Working on a couple of things for Dog Control.
 - Spoke with Budget Officer to try and order some sweatshirts that will have identifying name and positions for their jobs.
 - Trying to get badges that identify them as Town employees. At this time they have nothing except the Town truck that says 'who they are' and I don't want anybody roughing them up because they don't know who they are.

Gwendolyn Bork, Councilmember

Nothing at this time

Jennifer Strong, Town Attorney

1. Received email from the Budget Officer on the Refuse and Recycling Policy requesting that we make one addition to the policy. The scenario not covered in the policy is when a single household requires more than one garbage tote, such as larger families, and in that case they would pay two garbage fees and receive two garbage totes along with two recycling bins. Table tonight when we get to that item.

Gina Weiss, Councilmember

Nothing at this time

Randy Crist, Councilmember - ABSENT

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to Introduce Local Law # 1 of 2025

Motion to Introduce Local Law # 1 of 2025 Entitled: ESTABLISHING A LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM and to refer the same to the Planning Board for Review and Recommendation

1st: Councilmember Cieszki

2nd: Councilmember Bork

Councilmember Weiss Aye

Councilmember Bork Aye

Councilmember Cieszki Aye

Supervisor Pautler Aye

Resolution to Approve Budget Transfer for VESO Life Ins and Village of Alden CEO within the 2025 Budget

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER BORK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR PAUTLER.

WHEREAS, The Alden Town Board adopted its 2025 Budget on November 4, 2024;

WHEREAS, The Alden Town Board approved the signing of an Intermunicipal Agreement between the Town and Village of Alden for CEO services at a Town Board meeting on January 6, 2025;

WHEREAS, the Town Supervisor signed said Intermunicipal Agreement on January 6, 2025;

WHEREAS, the Town needs to transfer funds to be able to pay the Village of Alden and Joseph Czechowski for January 2025 CEO services rendered in regards to said Intermunicipal Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Town needs to transfer funds to be able to pay an increased amount for the annual VESO Life insurance policy for eligible Crittenden and Millgrove Fire Department members, due to increased enrollment; and

WHEREAS, this budget transfer will not render the Town of Alden insolvent.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS, THAT:

The Alden Town Board hereby authorizes the following transfers:

From (Budget Code)	Amount	To (Budget Code)	General Explanation	Amount
B.4650.0440	\$3,950.00	B.3620.0400	January 2025 Village of Alden CEO and Joseph Czechowski after-hours CEO work	\$3,950.00
SF.3410.0400	\$1,284.71	SF.9010.0800	Annual VESO Life Insurance renewal bill for Crittenden and Millgrove Fire members	\$1,284.71
	\$5,234.71		TOTAL	\$5,234.71

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The foregoing Resolution was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on February 18, 2025, resulting as follows:

Councilmember Waiss Aye
 Councilmember Bork Aye
 Councilmember Cieszki Aye
 Supervisor Pautler Aye

Resolution to Approve Budget Transfer for Hodgson Russ within the 2024 Budget

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR PAUTLER, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WAISS.

WHEREAS, The Alden Town Board adopted its 2024 Budget on November 6, 2023;

WHEREAS, the Town needs to transfer funds to pay a December 2024 invoice from Hodgson Russ Attorneys LLP regarding the CEO/Building Department, Highway negotiations and a property matter; and

WHEREAS, this budget transfer will not render the Town of Alden insolvent.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS, THAT:

The Alden Town Board hereby authorizes the following transfers:

From (Budget Code)	Amount	To (Budget Code)	General Explanation	Amount
A.1440.0415	\$6,636.00	A.1420.0402	Hodgson Russ Attorneys LLP December 2024 invoice for legal services rendered in connection with CEO/Building Department, Highway negotiations and a property matter	\$6,636.00
	\$6,636.00		TOTAL	\$6,636.00

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The foregoing Resolution was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on February 18, 2025, resulting as follows:

Councilmember Waiss Aye
 Councilmember Bork Aye
 Councilmember Cieszki Aye
 Supervisor Pautler Aye

Motion to Approve the Use of Community Center by the Alden Chamber of Commerce

Motion to approve the request of Alden Chamber of Commerce to use the small room of the Community Center on March 11, 2025 at 5.00 pm until 9.00 pm for a Farmer’s Market Vendor Meeting.

The Town Clerk is directed to send a copy of this approval to the Alden Chamber of Commerce.

1st: Councilmember Waiss

2nd: Councilmember Cieszki

The foregoing Resolution was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on February 18, 2025, resulting as follows:

Councilmember Waiss Aye
 Councilmember Bork Aye
 Councilmember Cieszki Aye
 Supervisor Pautler Aye

Motion to Hire Part Time Nutritional Director

Motion to hire Lori Best as part time Nutritional Director effective February 25, 2025 for the rest of calendar year 2025 at a rate of \$17.00 per hour, not to exceed 9 hours per week, no benefits, except NYS retirement.

1st: Councilmember Cieszki

2nd: Councilmember Bork

Councilmember Waiss Aye
 Councilmember Bork Aye
 Councilmember Cieszki Aye
 Supervisor Pautler Aye

Resolution to Adopt Revised Residential Refuse and Recycling Policy and Commercial Refuse and Recycling Policy

* **THE MOTION TO TABLE THIS RESOLUTION** WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER WAISS, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CIESZKI. *

The foregoing Motion to TABLE the above Resolution was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on February 18, 2025, as follows:

Councilmember Waiss	Aye
Councilmember Bork	Aye
Councilmember Cieszki	Aye
Supervisor Pautler	Aye

Supervisor Pautler polled the Board for permission to add the following Resolution and there were no objections.

Resolution to Authorize the Town of Alden to Join the Erie County Utility Aggregation

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER BORK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR PAUTLER.

WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law authorizes municipal corporations to enter into cooperative agreements for the performance of those functions or activities in which they could engage individually; and

WHEREAS, Section 119-N of the General Municipal Law defines the term "Municipal Corporation" to mean a county outside the city of New York, a city, a town, a village, a board of cooperative educational services, fire district or a school district; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the Town of Alden can save money by the joint purchasing of energy; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Alden has determined that it may purchase energy through the use of a marketing firm, individually or through an energy cooperative;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Alden participate in the Erie County Utility Aggregation by authorizing the Supervisor execute the Electric Co-Operative Purchasing Agreement for said Aggregation indicating the Town of Alden will agree to be bound thereby.

The foregoing Resolution was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on February 18, 2025, as follows:

Councilmember Waiss	Aye
Councilmember Bork	Aye
Councilmember Cieszki	Aye
Supervisor Pautler	Aye

UNFINISHED AND TABLED BUSINESS - None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, OFFICIALS AND PERSONNEL

John Cieszki, Councilmember

Nothing at this time

Gwendolyn Bork, Councilmember

Nothing at this time

Jennifer Strong, Town Attorney

- 1. Sent out a revised Fee Schedule that she would like to talk about at the Work Session
- 2. Working on the Facility Use Forms that we discussed at the last Work Session and hopes to get that out to the Board later this week, to be discussed at the next Work Session.
- 3. Working on the items for Cayuga Creek and Townline Water Districts. Waiting for some information from the Town Clerk’s office. I will follow up and explain that with her tomorrow.

Gina Weiss, Councilmember

- 1. Keep the Employee Handbook on the Work Session agenda.

Bill Rogers, Highway Superintendent

- 1. Supervisor Pautler asked about the salt supply. Superintendent Rogers replied that the salt situation is not good.
- 2. The equipment is held together with bubblegum and duct tape. We could use a few days of down time to fix some things.
- 3. The only salt available is through Erie County from a supply shipped in from Compass Company in Canada. I am hesitant to buy from Erie County because the price is near double from what we (originally) paid for it. On top of that, Mark Poloncarz would like to give some of this salt ‘free’ to towns for “shared services”. They would like to exchange the salt for road mowing, road patching, general highway repairs. I am not sure what the dollars to cents would be on that trade off so that would be a last, last resort. Otherwise we’ll be doing County work all summer.
- 4. I heard that 49 out of the last 50 days we have had measurable snow. Even on non-snow days we are going around due to drifting. Equipment is stressed.
- 5. Board members tell him that he’s doing a great job. Bill responds with the guys are doing it. Budget is shot.

Mike Metzger, Town Engineer

- 1. Pretty quiet. Reviewed a number of land development projects in advance of the Planning Board meeting last week.

Glenn Christner, Code Enforcement Office/Building Inspector

- 1. Started talks with the permitting software program.
- 2. At the Work Session I would like to discuss accepting Credit Cards because that can be set up now for no charge.

Town Clerk’s Office, represented by Linda J. Marzolf, 1st Deputy Town Clerk

- 1. The town website www4.erie.gov/alden > Departments > Town Clerk > Search Tax Bill Online
- 2. Tax Bills arrived from Erie County a little late. Almost finished stuffing envelopes. Tax Bills available online and due March 17th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISOR

Nothing

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

WORK SESSION	February 24, 2025	@ 6:00 PM
REGULAR BOARD MEETING	March 03, 2025	@ 6:00 PM

MEMORIAL REMEMBRANCE – Daniel F. Giras (Feb. 9th) and Pamela J. Brown (Feb. 3rd)

ADJOURNMENT

6:20 PM - Supervisor Pautler adjourned the Meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Minutes recorded by 1st Deputy Town Clerk Linda J. Marzolf – February 18, 2025
Minutes transcribed by 1st Deputy Town Clerk Linda J. Marzolf – February 21, 2025