

The Regular Meeting of the Alden Town Board was held at 3311 Wende Road, Alden, NY on Monday, March 17, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. Deputy Town Supervisor Gina Waiss called the Meeting to Order and, in the absence of Councilmember Crist, led in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Roll Call was taken by Town Attorney, Jennifer L. Stong.

PRESENT: Gina Waiss, Deputy Town Supervisor
Randal Crist, Councilmember
Gwendolyn Bork, Councilmember
John Cieszki, Councilmember

RECORDING SECRETARY: Jennifer L. Strong, Town Attorney

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

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

On the question:

Councilmember Crist thinks "there are some problems with the minutes". He believes that he approved something that he "couldn't have because he wasn't at the meeting."

Deputy Supervisor offered a Motion, seconded by Councilmember Cieszki, to **Withdraw** the Offer of the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Regular Meeting March 03, 2025.

CARRIED.

Ayes 4 Waiss, Cieszki, Bork, Crist

Councilmember Crist offered a Motion, seconded by Councilmember Cieszki, to **Table** the Offer of the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Regular Meeting March 03, 2025 pending corrections.

CARRIED.

Ayes 4 Waiss, Cieszki, Bork, Crist

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER WAISS, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CRIST, WHO MOVED THAT THE FOLLOWING VOUCHERS BE ALLOWED AND PAID TO WIT; VOUCHERS # [238] to # [302]. ALL BILLS REVIEWED BY THE TOWN BOARD.

Mar-25						
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 # [238] to # [302]. ALL BILLS REVIEWED BY THE TOWN BOARD.						
ACCOUNT	AMOUNT					TOTAL
	03/03/2025 2024	03/03/2025 2025	03/17/2025 2025			
GENERAL FUND "A"	\$2,396.50	\$64,223.23	\$13,566.88			\$80,186.61
HIGHWAY FUND "DA/DB"		\$18,043.63	\$55,768.57			\$73,812.20
PART-TOWN FUND "B"	\$3.74	\$815.00	\$5,512.00			\$6,330.74
SR CTR EXPANSION/4 SEASON "HS"						\$0.00
CONSOLIDATED WATER "WR"		\$39,396.88				\$39,396.88
SPECIAL FIRE PROTECTION "SF"						\$0.00
SEWER INDUSTRIAL PARK "SI"						\$0.00
SEWER DIST. #2 FUND "SA"		\$756.48	\$1,507.04			\$2,263.52
TRUST & AGENCY "T"		\$2,737.86	\$4,541.42			\$7,279.28
SPECIAL REFUSE FUND "SR"			\$40,619.90			\$40,619.90
STREET LIGHTING FUND "SL"			\$5,869.30			\$5,869.30
PERIWINKLE LTG. DIST."SL1"			\$98.96			\$98.96
ZOELLER RD. WATER DIST."WZ"						\$0.00
WATER DIST. NEWSTEAD "WO"						\$0.00
WATER DIST. EXCHANGE "WX"						\$0.00
WATER DIST. NO. 1 "WA"			\$3,859.20			\$3,859.20
TOTAL	\$2,400.24	\$125,973.08	\$131,343.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$259,716.59

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS PUT TO A ROLL CALL VOTE ON MARCH 17, 2025 and **CARRIED.**

Ayes 4 Crist, Waiss, Cieszki, Bork
Nays 0

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

6:05 PM Public Hearing – LOCAL LAW No. 1 of the Year 2025 entitled “Establishing A Local Government Code Enforcement Program”

Councilmember Crist moved and Councilmember Cieszki seconded the Motion to leave Regular Meeting and enter into Public Hearing; All were in favor.

Legal Notice read by Town Attorney, Jennifer L. Strong.

Deputy Supervisor Waiss opened the floor to public comment.

**Three calls for comment.
No public comment was heard.**

Councilmember Crist moved to leave public hearing, second by Councilmember Cieszki; All in Favor.

PRESENTATIONS of COMMUNICATIONS from BOARD MEMBERS and Other TOWN OFFICIALS

Gina Waiss, Deputy Town Supervisor

1. Received Town Clerk’s monthly expenses for February 2025.
2. Received Building Department’s monthly expenses for February 2025.
3. Received email from Alden Substance Abuse Coalition on National Night Out and the Halloween Spooktacular. Please add to next Work Session agenda.

John Cieszki, Councilmember

Nothing at this time

Gwendolyn Bork, Councilmember

Nothing at this time

Jennifer Strong, Town Attorney

1. I would like to have an executive session for a contract matter update and a matter of litigation update.

Randy Crist, Councilmember

Nothing at this time

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution to Approve Budget Transfer for February Village CEO Services

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY Councilmember Cieszki, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY Councilmember Bork.

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 February 2025 CEO services rendered in regards to said Intermunicipal Agreement;

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.6989.0411	\$4,925.00	B.3620.0400	February 2025 Village of Alden CEO and Joseph Czechowski after-hours CEO work	\$4,925.00
	\$4,925.00		TOTAL	\$4,925.00

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The foregoing Resolution was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on March 17, 2025, resulting as follows:

CARRIED.

Ayes 4 Crist, Waiss, Cieszki, Bork

Nays 0

Motion to Approve Use of Robert O. Smith Park by Alden Central School

THE FOLLOWING MOTION WAS OFFERED BY Councilmember Bork,
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY Councilmember Waiss.

Motion to approve the request of the Alden Central School to use the Robert O. Smith Park for the 2025 7/8 Teams practices from 3.45 pm until 5.30 pm from March 24, 2025 through June 13, 2025; and for games on May 9 (5 pm) and 30 (5.30 pm) ; May 19 (5.15 pm); 9 (5 pm), and May 22 (5 pm).

The School must submit proof of insurance to the Town Clerk prior to using the Park. The School will mark the field and maintain the infield for the games.

The Town Clerk is hereby directed to send notice of this approval to the Alden Central School Athletic Director

The foregoing Motion was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on March 17, 2025, resulting as follows:

CARRIED.
Ayes 4 Crist, Waiss, Cieszki, Bork
Nays 0

Motion to Allow Use of Town Park for the 5K Race for Scholarships

THE FOLLOWING MOTION WAS OFFERED BY Councilmember Waiss,
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY Councilmember Crist.

Motion to approve the Alden Community Scholarship Foundation's use of the Town Park on June 5, 2025 for the 5K Race for scholarships. Foundation has provided a certificate of liability insurance with the Town of Alden named as an additional insured in the amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$3,000,000 aggregate, and sign an indemnification agreement. The Alden Hook & Ladder Fire Company Inc. must provide proof of liquor liability insurance.

The Town Clerk is hereby directed to send notice of this approval to the Alden Community Scholarship Foundation.

The foregoing Motion was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on March 17, 2025, resulting as follows:

CARRIED.
Ayes 4 Crist, Waiss, Cieszki, Bork
Nays 0

The Deputy Supervisor polled the Board for permission to add the following **Poll and Add** motions and resolutions to the Agenda. There were no objections.

Motion to Recognize Resignation of Judy Downhower and Appoint Nancy Mead as Part-Time Bookkeeper

THE FOLLOWING MOTION WAS OFFERED BY Councilmember Cieszki,
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY Councilmember Bork.

I move to recognize the resignation of Judy Downhower as Temporary Bookkeeper and appoint Nancy Mead as Part-Time Bookkeeper at \$21 per hour, not to exceed 19.5 hours per week.

Additionally, I move to appoint Judy Downhower as an alternate.

Benefits shall be provided as set forth in the Town of Alden’s personnel policy.

The foregoing Motion was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on March 17, 2025, resulting as follows:

CARRIED.

Ayes 4 Crist, Waiss, Cieszki, Bork

Nays 0

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY REPAIR OF COMMUNITY CENTER BOILER

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY _____, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY _____

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2025, the boiler at the Alden Community Center failed, ceasing operations and;

WHEREAS, temperatures were below freezing at the time, creating an imminent risk of frozen pipes and potential damage to the facility; and

WHEREAS, due to the emergency nature of the situation, Supervisor Colleen Pautler and Councilman Randy Crist acted immediately to prevent further damage and authorized Petschke Heating and Plumbing to perform an emergency repair; and

WHEREAS, while the Town of Alden follows a formal bidding process in accordance with its procurement policy, the urgency of this situation required immediate action to protect town property; and

WHEREAS, Petschke Heating and Plumbing was authorized to perform the necessary repairs at a cost not to exceed \$60,000, which will be covered by Legislator Todaro's grant;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS, THAT:

The Town of Alden acknowledges the necessity of this emergency repair and the deviation from standard procurement procedures due to the urgent circumstances, and hereby authorizes the payment of up to \$60,000 to Petschke Heating and Plumbing to be funded through Legislator Todaro's grant.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The foregoing Resolution was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on March 17, 2025, as follows:

CARRIED.

Ayes 4 Crist, Waiss, Cieszki, Bork

Nays 0

Motion to Change Alden Youth Baseball Softball Saturday Hours at the Town Hall Gym

THE FOLLOWING MOTION WAS OFFERED BY DEPUTY SUPERVISOR WAISS, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CRIST.

Motion to approve the request of Alden Youth Baseball and Softball to change the hours to use the Town Hall Gym for baseball and softball practice on Saturdays.

Previously approved for the hours from 12pm until 8pm. Change to the following hours of 8am until 4pm beginning 3/22/25.

The Town Clerk is hereby directed to promptly send notice of this approval to Alden Youth Baseball and Softball.

The foregoing Resolution was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on March 17, 2025, as follows:

CARRIED.

Ayes 4 Crist, Waiss, Cieszki, Bork

Nays 0

UNFINISHED AND TABLED BUSINESS

Councilmember Crist moved and Councilmember Cieszki seconded the Motion to **Un-table** the Resolution to Adopt Revised Refuse & Recycling Policy of the Regular Meeting of March 03, 2025.

CARRIED.

Ayes 4 Crist, Waiss, Cieszki, Bork

Nays 0

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT REVISED RESIDENTIAL REFUSE AND RECYCLING POLICY AND COMMERCIAL REFUSE AND RECYCLING POLICY

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER CRIST, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CIESZKI.

WHEREAS, the Town Board has noticed the need to updated and clarify its existing Residential and Commercial Refuse and Recycling Policies.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS, THAT:

1. **The Town Board hereby adopts the attached Residential Refuse And Recycling Policy And Commercial Refuse And Recycling Policy replacing all previous refuse and recycling policies to be effective as of this date; and**
2. **This resolution shall take effect immediately.**

The foregoing Resolution was duly put to a roll call vote at a regular meeting on March 17, 2025, as follows:

CARRIED.

Ayes 4 Crist, Waiss, Cieszki, Bork

Nays 0

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, OFFICIALS AND PERSONNEL

John Cieszki, Councilmember

1. The sewer plant had a tree come down and take part of the fence down. It's cleaned up and Bill Rogers, Highway Superintendent, has new fence piece available. A gate was planned for that area anyways so this helps get it done sooner.
2. Keith Borden cut of the tree and Larry Stinnet from Highway Department helped with clean up.

Gwendolyn Bork, Councilmember

1. Resident asked about additional lighting on Alaura. Highway Superintendent Bill Rogers did some research.
2. Bill said: There are no above ground telephone poles on East of West Alaura. It's all underground utilities. NYSEG requires a "special district" like the Town did with Periwinkle. There would be an additional tax. We might make one resident happy and make many residents angry.

Jennifer Strong, Town Attorney

1. Happy to report that before leaving for my vacation I was able to submitted to the State all of the requested information for Cayuga Creek and Townline Water Districts. Now we wait, again.

Gina Waiss, Deputy Supervisor

1. Extend our thanks to Judy Downhower - amazing job that she did.

Randy Crist, Councilmember

1. Add to Work Session: Discuss meeting minutes & why don't we have hard copies of Board and Work Session meetings. I would like to discuss this.

Bill Rogers, Highway Superintendent

1. At Robert O. we dug up and repaired the Broken sewer lines. Hopefully bathroom nightmare is over & we can move forward with toilets that flush.

Mike Metzger, Town Engineer

1. Working on NY State DEC scripted Data and Bio Solids Survey for the sewage treatment plant. This was sent to very late.

Glenn Christner, Code Enforcement Office/Building Inspector

Nothing at this time

Colleen Rogers, Budget Officer

1. Talked to Alden State Bank and Mr. Woodard. He is renewing our CD that is up today (for \$1,300,00 with a 4.1 rate)
2. Thank you on the record to Alden State Bank for collecting our taxes. Very important service for our Town.
3. Auditors did mention why the increased funds in "interest". They have noticed the increased interest we've received from Alden State Bank.
4. Please put Journal Entries on our Work Session, and update our policy on that. Auditors brought this issue up again.
5. B Fund: This fund is "underwater". No surprises for anyone, please. If we want to hire a Grant Writer we will need to go to Fund Balance. I do see the need for and do want to hire a Grant Writer but I want you to know that the B Fund is leaking. With the increased payroll, the increased municipal remit, and the new software ... that's why we do a lot of budget transfers and move money around. Hopefully it will all level out.
6. Judy Downhower has done a great job. She has blessed our Town.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISOR

1. No additional announcements.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

WORK SESSION	March 24, 2025	@ 6:00 PM
REGULAR BOARD MEETING	April 07, 2025	@ 6:00 PM

**MEMORIAL REMEMBRANCE – Sharon L. Huber (March 14th)
William B. George (March 11th)**

ADJOURNMENT

6:20 PM – Councilmember Waiss moved with a 2nd from Councilmember Crist to go in to Executive Session for a Contract Matter Update and a Matter of Litigation Update. **All in Favor.**
Executive Session to include Board Members, Town Attorney, and Town Code Enforcement Office (Building Inspector).

6:51 PM Councilmember Crist moved with a 2nd by Deputy Supervisor Waiss to leave Executive Session with **No Action Taken** and return to regular Town Board meeting. **All in Favor.**

6:51 PM Deputy Supervisor Waiss adjourned the Meeting.

Minutes recorded by Town Attorney Jennifer L. Strong – March 17, 2025
Minutes transcribed by 1st Deputy Town Clerk Linda J. Marzolf – April 04, 2025