**A Message to Alden Residents Regarding Recent Comptroller Audit Findings**

The Town of Alden has recently been the subject of audits conducted by the New York State Comptroller’s Office, covering both the Supervisor’s Office and the Town Clerk’s Office. These audits were initiated to ensure proper financial management and public accountability — values this Town Board takes very seriously.

The findings speak for themselves. The audit of the Town Clerk’s Office raised significant concerns about unprocessed payments, incomplete records, and a failure to meet basic statutory responsibilities.

We want to be clear with residents: the **Town Board has taken every possible step** to hold the Clerk accountable. However, because the Clerk is an independently elected official, our authority to take direct disciplinary action is extremely limited. We have filed formal complaints with the appropriate oversight agencies and continue to pursue every available channel to ensure accountability.

To protect taxpayer interests and restore financial clarity, the Town Board has hired an independent forensic auditor to determine the proper ownership of unrecorded or misapplied funds. This process is ongoing, and we are committed to full transparency throughout.

The audit of the Supervisor’s Office identified separate financial issues that occurred during the 2022 and 2023 fiscal years, under the prior administration. The current administration has already corrected these deficiencies. Internal controls have been strengthened, procedures updated, and staffing changes made to ensure these problems do not recur.

We understand the frustration these findings have caused and share in residents’ concern. While our authority is constrained in some areas, **our commitment to responsible, transparent governance is not.** We will continue working diligently to resolve these issues, protect taxpayer interests, and restore full trust in every part of town government.

**Town of Alden Supervisor**  
**Alden Town Board**