

**Approved BOARD MINUTES March 24, 2020**

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, Warmus, Daluisio. Clerk Galbraith, Attorney Trapp, Loren Prucnal, Shawn Eastland, Sue DeWitt, Alden Advertiser

Absent: Trustee Overhoff, Superintendent Sitzman, CEO Czechowski,

**MOTION** by Trustee Daluisio, seconded by Trustee Warmus, to approve the minutes dated February 25, 2020. Carried.

Approval of the minutes of the March 10, meeting was tabled till April 14 – as Trustee Warmus and Mayor Manicki was not at the meeting and could not approve, leaving less than a quorum.

**MOTION** by Trustee Casell, seconded by Trustee Daluisio, to approve for payment bills on abstract dated March 24, 2020. Carried.

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| Payroll  | \$40,109.16 |
| Abstract | \$52,141.89 |

**MOTION** by Trustee Warmus seconded by Trustee Casell, to approve the following monthly reports: Feb. Treasurer’s Report, March Ethics Committee. Carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Minutes from Town of Alden & Assoc. of Erie County Governments. Erie County: village tax relevy & Corona Virus update. NYS: grant Action News & Comptroller Fiscal Stress Score – same as last year. Thank you from 5K, resignation from Sarah Hinsken, yearly member report from PERMA.

**MOTION** by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Daluisio, to file as received all correspondence. Carried

**Public Hearing – Water Rate Increase**

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

Mayor Manicki - **Water:** Rate increase of \$.10 or 1.67% to \$6.10

Capital projects: Two permanent connections to ECWA. Grant funding 40%. Crittenden Rd: Erie County is doing a complete reconstruction of the road from Broadway to the Spring Creek bridge. They have given us the opportunity to repair any village infrastructure in the right of way. We will be abandoning a line that is over one hundred years old and connecting those customers to a newer, larger line.

No public comment.

**MOTION** by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Warmus to leave the Public Hearing and re-enter the regular meeting 7:37 pm. Carried.

Resolutions/Appointments/Requests/Motions for March 24, 2020

MOTION by Trustee Warmus and seconded by Trustee Daluisio, to accept the resignation of Sarah Hinsken, Village Court Clerk effective March 9, 2020. Carried.

MOTION by Trustee DALuisio and seconded by Trustee Casell, to approve the Fire/EMS calls for Feb. 29- March 13, 2020 Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Daluisio and seconded by Trustee Casell, to approve the Village Clerk's request that all unpaid delinquent water and sewer accounts be re-levied to the 2020-2021 village taxes. Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Warmus and seconded by Trustee Daluisio, to declare the 2014 Ford Suburban, 1FM5K8AR5EGA50138 Chief's vehicle as surplus as of March 30 and to sell it to Crittenden Fire Department for \$6,000. Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Warmus and seconded by Trustee Casell to approve a sign permit for Alden Bakery & Café, 13256 Broadway, as per submitted application. Carried.

#### **Public Hearing – Garbage Rate Increase**

Motion by Trustee Warmus and seconded by Trustee Daluisio to leave the regular meeting and enter the Public Hearing 7:45 pm. Carried.

Mayor Manicki - **Refuse:** Refuse and recycling rate will rise to \$205 from \$197.40. 4% increase. First one since 2017.

No public comment.

MOTION by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Warmus to leave the Public Hearing and re-enter the regular meeting 7:47 pm. Carried.

#### **BUSINESS FROM FLOOR-**

##### **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/DEPARTMENTS:**

**Clerk Galbraith** although the office is closed, and doors are locked, there will be someone in the office and we are still receiving payments. We accept credit card payments on-line or over the phone. There is also a drop box located between the two back doors with 24 hr. access. The unpaid water/sewer bills will be re-levied to taxes in April.

**Superintendent Sitzman** – written report submitted & read by mayor Manicki.

Staffing: the DPW staffing has been reduced approx. 40% with priorities being directed to water, sewer, and refuse services. Staff are on a rotating schedule to maintain staffing.

Projects -Streetscape: the contractor is gearing up to resume work and complete the project. I am working with our engineers to address several claims from the contractor for extra work. I am requesting a schedule from the contractor so we can inform the businesses and minimize business access and disruption.

Wastewater Project: The contractors are working on final punch list items to finish up phase 2. I will be working with GHD to proceed with phase 3, Collection System very soon.

Baxter Outfall Project: I have discussed a few issues with our engineer which could reduce the cost of the project. Once I receive an answer, I will review the proposed project with the homeowners, and we will be able to proceed to bidding.

ECWA Connections: Our engineers are going to reach out to the Health Dept and the ECWA for answers to outstanding questions on the Exchange St connection. We have decided to proceed with bidding of this connection as waiting for design of the Broadway connection could unnecessarily delay the Exchange St connection. The engineers are going to proceed with documentation to EFC for the grant funding and will be submitting a proposal for the engineering on the Broadway connection.

New Plow Truck: Our new plow truck is near completion and should be received soon.

**Trustee Daluisio** – Please take time to fill out your Census, it only takes a few minutes.

**Attorney Trapp** – Cable television: still no contract nor any further word from Spectrum. In light of the work shutdowns, I do not think we will get anything until the end of May at the earliest

Internet: The Village will have to decide on the speed that they want if they want everything on one bill

Prosecution: All cases are off through the end of April. We are still scheduled at this point for 4:30 on May 4th.

Ambulance collections: although we can prepare the paperwork, we cannot file any new cases or file any default motions until the Courts open again which will not be until May

Policy manual: I plan on reviewing the manual and making updates over the next few weeks

Sexual Harassment training: completed but a few stragglers which I will deal with in May

Car show: documents completed and out for signatures

Local Laws: Joe and I are still working on them

Better Buffalo case: still waiting for a decision from the Federal Court judge which I do not think we will see before the Fall

Zoladz and Homecourt: Waiting to hear from Dougherty on a plan

Norfolk Southern: still have not heard anything but I recommend that we continue to make the base payment under the original agreement for the one section. I believe the original cost was \$50 rather than the \$75 that somehow got changed years ago

Bankruptcy: while we have no new pending cases, expect that to change the longer companies, restaurants, and taverns are required to remain closed. You might want to address this in your budget

Crittenden Road waterline: I heard from the engineer last week and sent him a duplicate copy of the revised agreement. On Monday I heard from the County Attorney and sent her another duplicate copy as well

Solid waste: Once the company is sold, we may hear from the purchaser which means we may want to look at the figures again

**Mayor Manicki** – the office is closed but a clerk is here all day and the DPW is down to basic services recycling, refuse, water, emergency services, splitting workers schedules.

Trustee Casell - will there be brush pick up? I see stuff out already with the nicer weather. Mayor Manicki – will check with Superintendent of Public Works.

### **Public Hearing – Tentative Budget**

Motion by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Daluisio to leave the regular meeting and enter the Public Hearing 7:55 pm. Carried.

Mayor Manicki - **General:**

Spending \$2,520,842. Up \$125,000 or 5.2%.

Tax Rate: \$6.51 up \$.11 Tax levy up \$16,000 or 1.178%. Within the cap.

Capital projects: DPW building repairs, Baxter storm sewer outfall repair  
The complete tentative budget is posted on the village website  
No public comment.

MOTION by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Warmus to leave the Public Hearing and re-enter the regular meeting 7:57 pm. Carried.

Due to the current Corona Virus and Social Distancing, limiting meeting size, the board did not make a motion on the Public Hearings. Instead they will leave it open for public comment, either written or emailed to the clerk, before a decision is made on April 14.

**UNFINISHED AND TABLED BUSINESS:**

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Trustee Daluisio seconded by Trustee Casell, 7:58 pm. Carried.

I respectfully submit

Sue Galbraith,  
Village Clerk