

Approved BOARD MINUTES December 22, 2020

Motion by Trustee Warmus, seconded by Trustee Prucnal to enter an Executive Session at 6:57 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Prucnal, seconded by Trustee Kibbe to adjourn from the Executive Session at 7:27 p.m.

The Village Board meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mayor Casell, who led the pledge to the flag.

Due to Covid-19 this meeting was conducted wearing masks, and social distancing.

The public was invited to join by following social distancing guidelines.

PRESENT: Mayor Casell, Trustees Warmus, Overhoff, Prucnal & Kibbe, Superintendent Sitzman, Clerk Galbraith, Attorney Trapp, Eugene Nuwer, Erik Maderer, Patrick Cavanaugh, Doug Becker, Pat Meyer, Mary Refermat, Andy Janiszski, Ralph Airey, Paul Werner, Brett Sitzman and Patrick Martino-Waste Management.

Absent: CEO Czechowski

MOTION by Trustee Warmus, seconded by Trustee Prucnal, to approve the minutes dated December 8, 2020. no comment, 5 ayes. Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Kibbe, seconded by Trustee Prucnal, to approve for payment bills on abstract dated December 22, 2020.

Payroll	\$45,577.94
Abstract	\$43,177.98

On the question – no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Overhoff seconded by Trustee Warmus, to approve the following monthly reports: fire/EMS. On the question – no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Town of Alden – agenda, Local Law #42020 “rezoning property on Broadway & Two Rod” and new fire contract. Alden Central School – middle school newsletter & board notes. CEO Correspondence – Creighton co 130541 Broadway, J & M Construction co. discussion on bike path, Mayor Casell – Reimbursement for CDBG Broadway streetscapes. NYCO M– updates. Erie County – mortgage tax distribution \$9,067.05 RBC Wealth portfolio 41 letters and emails supporting keeping the DPW remain as the refuse collection and not outsource it and solicitation from Government Capital.

MOTION by Trustee Overhoff and seconded by Trustee Prucnal, to file as received all correspondence. On the question –no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

Resolutions/Appointments/Requests/Motions for December 22, 2020

MOTION by Warmus and seconded by Trustee Kibbe, to approve the following companies to perform electrical inspections in the Village of Alden for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, as per submitted applications:

- Commonwealth Electrical Inspection Agency
- New York Electrical Inspection Agency

- Independent Electrical Contractors New York Chapter Inc. On the question – no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Warmus and seconded by Trustee Prucnal, to approve Temporary Business Signs for the following businesses as per submitted applications, to expire on December 31, 2021:

- Alden Pools & Play, 12890 Broadway
- Alden Pharmacy, 13203 Broadway
- Berried Treasures, 13226 Railroad
- The Whistle Stop Inn, 1338 Exchange Street
- EG Tax, 13221 Broadway
- Henry’s Candy & Gifts, 13237 Broadway
- Elwood Jordans Insurance, 13361 Broadway
- LaPaloma Pizzeria, 13268 Broadway
- The Pink Cow, 13119 Broadway
- H&R Block, 13186 Broadway on the question – no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Warmus, and seconded by Trustee Prucnal, to close the Village offices, and DPW staff on December 24 at noon, all day December 25, 2020 and January 1, 2021. On the question – no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Kibbe and seconded by Trustee Overhoff, to authorize Mayor Casell to sign the annual software support contract with Williamson Law with regards to Building & Codes Enforcement with BCE Mobile software. On the question – no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Kibbe, and seconded by Trustee Prucnal, to authorize Mayor Casell to approve the temporary extension of the current fire protection agreement which maintain the current boundaries with negotiations to take place in 2021 on a successor agreement and further to authorize the Mayor to execute the extension agreement with the Town of Alden.

Roll Call Vote: Trustee Warmus – nay
 Trustee Overhoff – nay
 Trustee Prucnal – aye
 Trustee Kibbe – aye
 Mayor Casell -aye

On the question – Trustee Warmus, I would like reduced amount stated for the record. Mayor Casell – overview of history – the fire protection contract has not changed in the pas 70 years up to now. 8/12 – met with Supervisor Adamski and the four fire companies, where it was agreed upon for a 1.5% increase for all 4 fire companies or \$155,000/each. The only changed proposed by the village was to have the chief sign the agreement as opposed to the fire company president. 11/17 public hearing with 3 fire companies excluding the Alden Hook & Ladder Fire Company, and boundary map changes. 11/18 after Public Hearing – Supervisor Adamski called the Mayor and asked if the village fire dept would cover the south east corner of the town for \$25,000? The Mayor said no, and the Supervisor counter offered for \$35,000, adding West Main St., Sandridge and the south east corner, breaking up the existing district. 12/1 – Town of Alden passed new fire district with 3 departments, excluding Alden at a rate of \$183,000 each. 12/15 that district was rescinded. After a lot of negotiation, the village consented to cover the prior fire district boundaries for the safety and protection of the community for \$35,000. The fire dept does a fantastic job and covers 50% of the calls in the town. Trustee Overhoff – the fire dept. does a good job and will still respond. Do not agree with the \$35,000, will never get back to the amount

the other 3 receive. It is ridiculous, the town should pay Alden the same amount as the other 3 companies, if not more. Mayor Casell – the village and fire dept. have offered to meet with the town board many times. The village fire dept will maintain coverage and a high-quality service.

MOTION by Trustee Overhoff, and seconded by Trustee Warmus, to approve the Fire/EMS calls December 5, 2020 - December 18, 2020. On the question – no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

BUSINESS FROM FLOOR-

Mary Refermat – 13611 Broadway, concerning Waste Management (WM), speaking from personal experience our employees do a fantastic job, neat and clean, I appreciate the job they do. Waste Management containers are huge, and they are hard to move in ice and snow. Our equipment is paid for and our DPW employees are village residents. They love their job and community and are timely and dependable. WM is not dependable, no set schedule. We should keep what we have now.

Paul Werner – 13329 Maple Ridge, I agree with her whole heartedly. Our guys do a great job, contractors have no work ethics. People do not mind paying more to keep it local.

Pat Meyer -13358 Park St., why now is this an issue? Mayor Casell - for the 3 years I have been on the board we have been asked to look at it. Trustee Warmus – talked about it for a couple of years. Superintendent Sitzman – about 10 years. Mayor Casell – brought up before but would need to release 2 employees. Since then, 1 employee have left, so now was the time to move forward. Meyer – who votes? Everyone is happy to pay more to keep it inhouse. Mayor Casell – that seems to be the resounding message, everyone is saying the same thing.

Trustee Prucnal – not 1 person thought we should change, and we should keep it local. Board is evaluating everything, equipment needs, repairs, cost effectiveness, taking all in account, including business dumpsters. Not an easy process, looking at all the numbers.

Trustee Overhoff – need to update equipment, have \$99,000 in budget for DPW equipment, \$103,000 in Equipment reserve.

Superintendent Sitzman – if and when new packer put on. Other truck severe structural damage needs \$15,000 in repairs both needs major work.

Overhoff - \$41,000 out of garbage fund for retirement, etc.

Sitzman – have to still pay it, but to the contractor.

Mayor Casell – if not doing garbage, would revert to other funds.

Sitzman – budgeted for a position, not filled.

Overhoff - \$32,000 in DPW Reserves

Sitzman – equipment for refuse and garbage, used to budget \$25,000 yearly, not enough to transfer every year to the reserve fund.

Overhoff – new truck with tipper and automated arm?

Sitzman – would not consider

Overhoff – workers do a fine job picking up garbage, never blown over, cost more to go to totes, will businesses pay more? Sitzman – possibly.

Sitzman – a lot of work went into this proposal; the numbers are right. We could have called the town, I am pissed, I spend months on this, it is now political not financial.

Overhoff – people will pay more to keep it.

Sitzman – Bob, you said even if they save \$1, we should do it, you are the one who pushed for it. \$11/unit savings with recycling 2 times a month. Equipment repairs, additional tipping.

Mayor Casell – refuse is getting heavier and heavier, should investigate tippers

Sitzman – getting tippers and totes, repairing trucks is expensive, but is too rough on our guys.

Bidders went thru a lot of work.

Mayor Casell – most important, 3 Trustees are up on the board.

In the Early Files of the Alden Advertiser, it was 25 years ago that dissolution of the village was desired by some. This could come again, you all must remain vigilant, the potential is real, and we need to retain village services.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/DEPARTMENT

Trustee Warmus – Merry Christmas everyone.

Mayor Casell – I feel blessed, humbled and honored to represent he village. The board does a great job. It is a great honor to serve the community.

UNFINISHED AND TABLED BUSINESS:

Emergency Contact System -Pat working on it diligently, hoping to send test email soon.

Bike Path – moving forward

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Kibbe seconded by Trustee Prucnal, to adjourn from the Regular meeting with a moment of silence for William Gadd Jr. and Joan Kruger 8:19 p.m.

I respectfully submit

Sue Galbraith,
Village Clerk