

Approved BOARD MINUTES February 14, 2023

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

PRESENT: Mayor Prucnal, Trustees: Refermat, Pruitt and Becker, Attorney Trapp. Clerk Galbraith, CEO Czechowski, Superintendent Pruitt, Patrick Cavanaugh, Shawn Eastland, Ralph Airey Mr. and Mrs. and Cody Scott.

Absent: Trustee Casell

MOTION by Trustee Becker seconded by Trustee Pruitt, to approve the minutes dated January 24, 2023. On the question –no comment, 4 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Pruitt seconded by Trustee Refermat, to approve for payment bills on abstract dated February 14, 2023.

Payroll \$ 46,180.61

Abstract \$ 166,437.19 On the question –no comment, 4 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Refermat seconded by Trustee Becker, to approve the following monthly reports: Fire/EMS, court, E.C. Sheriff, fire, DPW, Perma (annual). On the question –no comment, 4 ayes, Carried.

Public Hearing – Local Law #1, 2023, 2% Tax Cap

MOTION by Trustee Becker and seconded by Trustee Pruitt, to leave the regular meeting and enter into the Public Hearing for Local Law#1-2023, 2% Tax Cap. 7:35 pm.

On the question – no comment, 4 ayes, Carried.

A local law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established under General Municipal Law section 3-c by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Alden. It is the intent of this local law to allow the Board of Trustees of the Village of Alden to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2023, that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law section 3-c. The purpose of this local law is to provide flexibility for the Board of Trustees and to protect both the Village and the residents from any actions of the State of New York. The board is not anticipating exceeding the tax cap, but need to protect themselves if they cannot stay under the cap. They can repeal the local law if it is not necessary. There was no public comment.

MOTION by Trustee Pruitt and seconded by Trustee Becker, to leave the Public Hearing and re-enter into the regular meeting. 7:37 pm. On the question – no comment, 4 ayes, Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Grant writing course by Grant Writing USA, Erie County: Association of Erie County Governments meeting, sales tax for January up 14.06% greater than last year, Village Officials meeting and Disaster Preparedness Advisory Board meeting agenda and minutes. RBC Wealth Management report. NYS: NYCOM summary of Executive Budget proposal, NYS Class information. Town of Alden: agenda, notice they will not be giving a fireman’s exemption this year, need more clarification from NYS. Alden Central School is also not considering the exemption at this time. Requests: Alden Community Scholarship Foundation, Alden Car, Truck and Cycle Show for 2023, Alden Hook and Ladder Fire Company, Brownie Troop 31905 and Town of Alden concerning splash pad, the village requires more information on this. Attorney Trapp – concerning FOIL request and water master meter correspondence.

MOTION by Trustee Refermat and seconded by Trustee Becker, to file as received all.

correspondence. On the question –no comment, 4 ayes, Carried.

Resolutions/Appointments/Requests/Motions for February 14, 2023

MOTION by Trustee Pruitt, and seconded by Trustee Refermat , to approve the fire/ems calls for January 14-27, 2023. On the question: no comment, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee Refermat, and seconded by Trustee Becker, to approve the request from the Alden Car, Truck and Cycle Show, July 30 as follows: use of West Main St. from Community Center to the corner of West Main Street and Broadway and The Firemen’s Memorial Bandstand Park. Road sign for no parking the night before, from West Main St. By the park to Broadway, to have show cars on West Main Street. Road blocks for West Main St./Broadway, West Main St. up to the Community Center and church to Broadway and a dumpster for Gazebo Park. On the question: no comment, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee Becker, and seconded by Trustee Pruitt, to approve the following for the Alden Dollars for Scholars Foundation: use of village street to hold 16th annual 5k race on Thursday, June 22 at 6 pm and erect 2 signs in Firemen’s Memorial bandstand Park from June 12 – 22, 2023. ON the question: no comment, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee Pruitt, and seconded by Trustee Becker, to approve Brownie troop 31905 request to use fireman’s park on March 4 from noon – 4 pm, to sell Girl Scout cookies. On the question: no comment, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee Refermat, and seconded by Trustee Becker, to authorize Mayor Prucnal to sign the agreements with the Alden Car, Truck and Cycle Show, which includes an Escrow Agreement On the question: no comment, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee Becker, and seconded by Trustee Pruitt, to authorize Mayor Prucnal to the sign the approval of Erik Bartus into Fire/EMS membership as voted on by the Alden Hook and Ladder Fire Co. On the question: no comment, 4 ayes, carried.

Motion by Trustee Becker and seconded by Trustee Pruitt, to adopt Local Law #1-2023 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established under General Municipal Law section 3-C.

Roll call vote: Trustee Becker - aye.

Trustee Pruitt - aye

Trustee Refermat – aye

Trustee Casell -absent

Mayor Prucnal – aye On the question: no comment, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee Becker and seconded by Trustee Pruitt, to authorize Mayor Prucnal sign the contracts and notice to proceed with Union Concrete and Construction Corp. for the Elm Street Reconstruction Phase 2 project at a cost \$521,790.00 to commence work on or before April 3, 2023. On the question: no comment, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee Pruitt and seconded by Trustee Becker, to transfer \$750.94 from FX8320.454 to FX8330.412 for the budgeted item, LMI pump. On the question: no comment, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee Pruitt and seconded by Trustee Becker, to transfer \$325.00 from FX8320.454 to FX8330.413 for the budgeted item, dr900 meter for cl2 & iron. On the question: no comment, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee Becker and seconded by Trustee Pruitt, to authorize Mayor Prucnal to execute the agreement with the Village of Springville, with respect to shared services involving a Sewer Treatment Operator. On the question: no comment, 4 ayes, carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/DEPARTMENT

Clerk Galbraith – There is an opening for a Planning Board member. We are also seeking an Alternate Crossing Guard. We have one complete petition for the March election for Trustee. We are working on the budget.

Attorney Trapp – Executive Session – grievance. Nothing from Better Buffalo.

CEO Czechowski – will not be at next meeting Feb. 28. Executive Session to discuss litigation – Birch Creek Run. There is a question of reimbursing for ZBA/PB training. We do budget for 1-2 members per year to attend a meeting, but if more than 1-2 members, or for a 2-3 day conference – not budgeted for. Trustee Refermat – can board members do training for free online? CEO - yes

Superintendent Pruitt- no smoking signs are up. 3 guys going to NYSRWA for training. There is a new gas meter at the DPW. The garbage truck repair was over \$9,000. Recycling is going up from \$5 to \$70 per ton.

Trustee Becker– we need to look at equalizing the garbage charges/dumpster fees, to make them fair for all residents. We should be looking for seasonal employees now.

Trustee Refermat- Policy manual updating progressing. Need to schedule union contract negotiations.

UNFINISHED AND TABLED BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Trustee Refermat, and seconded by Trustee Becker, to exit the regular meeting and adjourn into an Executive Session with a moment of silence for May 'Traci Mezydlo, Andrea DiChristina and Terry Wachowiak – former Village Administrator & Clerk/Treasurer 7:54 pm. On the question –no comment, 4 ayes, Carried.

Motion by Trustee Becker, seconded by Trustee Pruitt to adjourn from the executive session at 8:24 p.m., On the question –no comment, 4 ayes, Carried.

Motion by Trustee Refermat, seconded by Trustee Pruitt to adjourn at 8:25 p.m., On the question –no comment, 4 ayes, Carried.

I respectfully submit.

Sue Galbraith,
Village Clerk