

Approved BOARD MINUTES February 28, 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, Casell, Pruitt and Becker, Attorney Trapp. Clerk Galbraith, Superintendent Pruitt, Patrick Cavanaugh, and Shawn Eastland.

Absent: CEO Czechowski,

MOTION by Trustee Becker seconded by Trustee Refermat, to approve the corrected minutes dated February 14, 2023. On the question –correct committee reports, 4 ayes, 1abstain. Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Becker seconded by Trustee Pruitt, to approve for payment bills on abstract dated February 28, 2023.

Payroll \$ 40,526.49

Abstract \$ 31,404.01, On the question –no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Pruitt seconded by Trustee Becker, to approve the following monthly reports: Fire/EMS, Planning Board. On the question –no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from town resident with concerns about the development behind Tops and address the need for affordable senior housing. Complaint from Railroad resident concerning fence repair. Information for Code Red from the Town of Alden. NYS: NYClass information, NYS Comp case update. Request from a Planning Board member to pay for training at an annual convention. Notification of bankruptcy from Avaya.

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

Resolutions/Appointments/Requests/Motions for February 28, 2023

MOTION by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Becker, to approve the fire/ems calls for January 28 – February 10. 2023. On the question –no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Becker and seconded by Trustee Pruitt, to accept Superintendent Pruitt’s recommendation to terminate the employment of Reiner Gucinski for cause.

Roll call vote: Trustee Becker - aye.

Trustee Pruitt - aye

Trustee Refermat – aye

Trustee Casell -aye

Mayor Prucnal – aye On the question: no comment, 5 ayes, carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/DEPARTMENT

Clerk Galbraith – working on budget, election on March 21 for 1 year trustee, banners are being renewed and new applications coming in by April 1. There will be two work sessions to discuss the budget on March 15 & 29, 6 pm.

Attorney Trapp – Executive Session – personnel

Superintendent Pruitt- read a letter to the Village Board,

I have worked here at the DPW for over 34 years now and I have 39 years in with the Fire Company. I have made it my life to take care of this Village and I am proud and feel I have done a good job. I have also come to the conclusion that I will never be able to truly make the changes that need to happen to fix the DPW. I believe no Superintendent should ever have to be treated and undermined so badly by members of the Village Board the way I have. I knew going into this position I had a ship to right, but I never would have imagined a group of employees working with Loren and Mary would be chopping holes in the other side of the boat. I can not and will not work for a Board that would rather believe the exaggerations and lies from employees and not even have the decency to come and talk to the Superintendent before spreading those lies to other Board members, then making rash decisions. The stress and sleepless nights worrying how to manage all of this is not good for my health or wellbeing. All I wanted to do is leave this place better than I found it and hopefully transition the next Supt. In better than I was, but neither will happen. With that said, I here by notify the Village Board I will be retiring at the end of April 2023, it will be the 28, 29 or 30. I will give you an exact date after filing my paperwork with State retirement. It's time for me to move on and figure out what's next for my life. Respectfully, Mark A Pruitt

Trustee Pruitt– fire truck purchase? Mayor – 2 years out. Would like to see a Fire Chief at least once a month for meetings. What is going on with time clocks? Mayor – looking at the instructions. Mark and Jeannine will not be at the next meeting. Executive Session – Board relations

Trustee Refermat- Verizon charges us long distance for 585 numbers, can we look into this? Spectrum Business? Attorney Trapp – watch on alarm, what carriers we can use.

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 7:54 pm. On the question –no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

Motion by Trustee Casell, seconded by Trustee Refermat to adjourn from the executive session at 9:29 p.m., On the question –no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

Motion by Trustee Refermat, seconded by Trustee Becker to adjourn at 9:30 p.m., On the question –no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

I respectfully submit.

Sue Galbraith,
Village Clerk