

Approved BOARD MINUTES October 11, 2022

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: Pruitt, Refermat, Becker and Casell. Clerk Galbraith, Superintendent Pruitt, Attorney Trapp, Shawn Eastland, Patrick Cavanaugh, Earl McCartney, and Tom Steffan.

Absent: CEO Czechowski

MOTION by Trustee Becker, seconded by Trustee Pruitt, to approve the minutes dated September 27, 2022. On the question – Trustee Casell – should reflect that the board entered into Executive Session but did not close the regular meeting at that point. 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Becker seconded by Trustee Casell, to approve for payment bills on abstract dated October 11, 2022.

Payroll \$ 41,513.95

Abstract \$ 72,744.91

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

MOTION by Trustee Pruitt seconded by Trustee Casell, to approve the following monthly reports: DPW, Court, Building Inspector and Alden Central School. On the question – Trustee Casell – please correct the units of measure on the flow rates on DPW report, 5 ayes, Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Erie County – sales tax remittance and farewell ceremony for Maria Whyte. Requests from Dr. Lauri and Alden Chamber of Commerce. NYS – co aim funding, \$15,891. Addendum for Elm St. Road Reconstruction. List of capital projects and current balances. Letter from Mayor Prucnal concerning reservations on upcoming ZBA variance. Shirt design options for village emblem on shirts. Health insurance increase projections. WIIA reimbursement protocol. Town of Alden agenda and PERMS update.

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

MOTION by Trustee Refermat, seconded by Trustee Becker, to leave the meeting and enter the Public Hearing 7:35 pm On the question-no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

Public Hearing – Community Development Block Grant Funding (CDBG)

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs. The NYS CDBG program provides financial assistance to eligible cities, towns, and villages with populations under 50,000 to develop viable communities by providing decent, affordable housing, and suitable living environments, as well as expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income.

This grant is designated to be used on the south side of Broadway.

Tom Steffan, W. Main St- interested in water issues, does not drink the water, expensive and corrosive on plumbing. Superintendent Pruitt – we are looking at a Broadway connection, we will need to draw more water with the proposed increase in development. We have taken measures to decrease the magnesium and calcium. The water is very safe. Mayor Prucnal – we had a request from a town resident, asking to hook up to our water. Darien is adding another water district - involve 8,400 linear feet of 8” diameter PVC water main within existing right-of-way along Walker Road. The water main will serve approximately 20 units and is designed to provide 164 gallons of water per household per day. It comes with a hefty projected \$1,000,000 price tag, and the average debt service and water bill for an average household is estimated to be \$1,572. Per year. This figure is derived from a typical usage of 60,000 gallons of water per year at a rate of \$6.32/1,000 gallons. And a debt service of \$1,193 per year for the next 38 years. There is also a onetime cost to hook up and connect and also well separation cost (approx. \$200-\$600 per unit). Trustee Casell – compare the water reports, ECWA gets its water from Lake Erie. Lake Erie has more violations and chloroform issues, 5 times a year or more. We have had the same issue, once every 50 years. If we do go to Erie County water, it would produce a 20% increase in average bills and the system to prepare for ECWA to acquire would cost the village over \$10 million in upgrades in preparation. Tom Steffan thanked the board for their time. The board will be submitting to submit Broadway Connection to the ECWA, as their #1 ranking.

MOTION by Trustee Refermat seconded by Trustee Casell, to close the second Public Hearing and re-enter into the regular meeting, 7:49 pm On the question- 5 ayes, Carried.

Resolutions/Appointments/Requests/Motions for October 11, 2022

MOTION by Trustee Becker and seconded by Trustee Pruitt, to approve the request from Frank R. Laurri, MD and Associates PC to use the Community Room for Alden patients for education on the following days from 11 am – noon: November 15, December 20, January 17, 2023, and February 21, 2023. On the question: who is Frank Laurri? It is for the physician who was in Dr. Johnson’s office in the village. 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Refermat, to hold Halloween in the Village on Monday, October 31, 2022, from 6-8 pm. On the question –no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Becker, to approve the floating holiday to be used for November 25, 2022, for all village offices, at the discretion of the department heads.

On the question: Trustee Refermat questioned the motion, Casell and Becker withdrew their consent of the motion, and it was tabled for now.

MOTION by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Refermat, to approve the following resolution: Community Development Resolution At a meeting of the Village Board held on October 11, 2022, the board authorized Mayor Prucnal to sign, submit and execute the contract with Erie County Community Development Block Grant (ECDBG) program in

the amount no greater than \$100,000 for the following project upon approval of ECCDBG.

1). Broadway ECWA Connection

On the question: Trustee Casell – is this in our target area? The water will reach some of the low-income area.

This motion was revised on Oct. 25 minutes to reflect the amount of the grant as \$150,000, not \$100,000

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Becker – aye

Trustee Pruitt - aye

Trustee Refermat –aye

Trustee Casell -aye

Mayor Prucnal- aye 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Refermat and seconded by Trustee Becker, to adopt the following resolution: Pursuant to section 15-104(3)(a) of the Election Law of the State of New York, please take notice that one (1)one-year term for Village Trustee, shall be filled at the Village election to be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, in the Community Room of Village Hall, 13336 Broadway, Alden, New York from 12 noon until 9:00 PM. Term to expire March 31, 2024. On the question –no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Pruitt and seconded by Trustee Refermat, to approve the Alden Chamber of Commerce’s request for the following: install 10 trees in Firemen’s Park before November 30. electric to trees for Dec. 3 at 5 pm, removal of the trees after January 3, 2023, and installation of the snowflakes throughout the village prior to Dec. 3. This is for their annual Christmas in the Park event. On the question –no comment, 5 ayes, Carried.

MOTION by Trustee Casell and seconded by Trustee Refermat, to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION TO AMEND 2022-2023 SEWER FUND BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Village of Alden has approved the purchase of lab HVAC unit replacement in the 2021-2022 budget using funds from the Sewer Reserve, and

WHEREAS, this equipment is now available, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Village Clerk/Treasurer is hereby directed to amend the 2022-2023 Sewer Fund budget as follows:

Increase General Ledger account G511 – Appropriated Reserves in the amount of \$5,600 and

Increase Appropriation account G8130.292 - Sewage Treatment /Equipment in the amount of \$5,600

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

Earl McCartney – Exchange St. questioned the temporary building over the Exchange St. connection. Superintendent Pruitt explained that the hot box could not be obtained and the DPW would be constructing a structure and placing it in the spring.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/DEPARTMENT

Superintendent Pruitt No longer a charge for electronics. There is an addendum for Elm St., the reconstruction will be in the spring. Will send letter to the residents to keep them informed. 2 bid openings next week for capital projects. Trustee Casell – Elm St. reconstruction? We knew about it July 17, what was the delay? Superintendent Pruitt – we had to prepare a new bid packet, work with MWBE requirements. We will still be eligible for the \$100,000 CDBG money but will not be eligible for second round consideration for 10 years, due to not meeting the deadline.

Attorney Trapp – anything on Severyn? Pruitt – no. Attorney and CEO are working on local laws. ZBA meeting in two weeks.

Trustee Casell – we used to get paid for recycling and now we currently pay \$5 per ton under current contract. We currently pay \$57/ton for garbage. Our current contract is going to be expiring and we need to get in front of it for budgetary reasons, as recyclables will be more costly. Attorney Trapp – will look at the contract. Trustee Casell – ECWA usage extremely high for last month, do we check the usage? The Sept DPW report said 67,000 gallons, yet we were billed for 303,000. Pruitt – check meter every day, higher usage due to Zoladz and wells 3&4 being down for 2 weeks.

Mayor Prucnal – in March we made a motion to inspect the water tank, anything on that? Superintendent Pruitt – will look into it, it has not been done yet, thought we were holding off due to financing. Mayor Prucnal – gave Pruitt a white board to track projects. Mayor has a meeting with Legislator Todaro concerning the Exchange St. Railroad crossing. Code Red agreement is for 3 years. The map is set up and will begin Nov. 1. There will be training for those that will be allowed to post on the system and a meeting for the general public. Trustee Casell tried to log on, program to register for village is confusing

UNFINISHED AND TABLED BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Prucnal requested that Trustee Pruitt and Superintendent Pruitt leave the Executive Session.

Motion by Trustee Becker, seconded by Trustee Casell to exit from Executive Session and return to the regular meeting, 4-0 at 8:58 p.m. Trustee Pruitt rejoined the meeting.

Mayor Prucnal directed Trustee Refermet to interview all employees as the Chair for the Personnel Committee with respect to the Village's policies and the working environment in the Village. Further discussion by the entire Board took place in an attempt to define the scope of the review and to have a discussion on any open issues.

The Board then discussed a potential inter-municipal agreement with the Village of Springville with respect to a loan of a Water and Sewer Operator and Superintendent Pruitt was instructed to contact Springville to discuss the parameters of the employee use.

Motion by Trustee Becker, seconded by Trustee Casell to adjourn the regular meeting, 5-0 at 9:12 p.m.

I respectfully submit.

Sue Galbraith,
Village Clerk