

APPROVED Minutes

Village Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 6:30PM

The regularly scheduled Board Meeting was called to order by Mayor Retzlaff who led the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30pm.

In Attendance: Trustee's Prucnal, Cieszki, Casell & Kibbe, CEO Czechowski, Crew Chief Cavanaugh, Assistant Village Attorney Traff, Village Clerk Kaluzny, Superintendent of Public Works Czelusta, Liz Melock, Village residents: Doug Becker, Dick Kegler, Phillip Zorbrest, and Charles Trotter (Drescher & Melocki).

Absent: Trustee Casell

Charles Trotter (Drescher and Melocki) presented the Audit findings for fiscal year 2024-2025. A copy of the report is available in the Clerk's office.

MOTION by Trustee **Prucnal** and seconded by Trustee **Cieszki** to approve the minutes from Village Board Meeting 2/10/2026. On the question, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee **Kibbe** and seconded by Trustee **Prucnal** to approve the Bills on Abstract # 18 dated 2/24/2026 totaling \$58,824.79. On the question, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee **Prucnal** and seconded by Trustee **Kibbe** to approve the revised DPW monthly report from December 2025. On the question, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee **Cieszki** and seconded by Trustee **Prucnal** to approve Payroll # 4 totaling \$59,913.03. On the question, 4 ayes, carried.

MOTION by Trustee **Prucnal** seconded by Trustee **Cieszki** to set a Public Hearing for Tuesday, March 26, 2026 at Village Hall, 13336 Broadway, Alden NY 14004 at 6:35pm to propose Local Law #1, 2026 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established under General Municipal Law section 3-C.

Note: A local law authorizing 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, 2026, 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.

MOTION by Trustee **Prucnal** seconded by Trustee **Cieszki** to approve Superintendent of Public Works, Dan Czelusta's recommendation to declare the 2014 Ford Explorer VIN# 1FM5K8AR7EGA50139, mileage 89,816 as Surplus, and to dispose of it appropriately.

NOTE: To be auctioned off.

MOTION by Trustee **Kibbe** seconded by Trustee **Prucnal** to approve CEO Joe Czechowski's recommendation to accept the proposed modification to the existing site plan for Black Water Acres/Glenn Wetzl, to approve the development of Town House Apartments at 130 Slade Drive, as recommended by the Village of Alden Planning Board, with the following conditions:

1. Satisfaction of all comments and conditions submitted by the Building Department and Department of Public Works.
2. The newly calculated and submitted sanitary sewer flows, as presented, are hereby accepted as part of this approval.
3. No changes/impacts to the previously approved SEQRA submission/approval have been identified.

MOTION by Trustee Cieszki seconded by Trustee Prucnal to approve Mayor Retzlaff's recommendation to adopt the Annual Audit Report for Budget year 2024-2025, prepared by Drescher & Malecki, LLP.

MOTION by Trustee **Kibbe** and seconded by Trustee **Prucnal** to approve Mayor Retzlaff's recommendation to accept the resignation of Jill Depczynski, Village Treasurer, effective Friday, February 20, 2026.

MOTION by Trustee **Cieszki** and seconded by Trustee Prucnal to approve Mayor Retzlaff's recommendation to accept the resignation of Jill Depczynski, Deputy Village Clerk, effective Sunday, April 5, 2026.

MOTION by Trustee **Kibbe** and seconded by Trustee **Prucnal** to approve Mayor Retzlaff's recommendation to appoint Elizabeth Melock to the positions of Village Treasurer / Deputy Village Clerk, effective Thursday, March 12, 2026, through (second) Tuesday, April 11, 2028. Starting salary of \$75,000.00 / annually (pro-rated) for the 2025-2026 budget year.

MOTION by Trustee **Kibbe** and seconded by Trustee **Prucnal** to add the following fee schedule to chapter A220, Fees, of the Village Code for SWPPP inspections (Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan):

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Inspection Fees:	
The following SWPPP Inspections will be required, as determined by the Village of Alden, in quantity and frequency:	
<u>DESCRIPTION:</u>	<u>FEE:</u>
1) Start of construction	See Below
2) Installation of sediment control measures	See Below
3) Completion of site clearing	See Below
4) Completion of rough grading	See Below
5) Completion of final grading	See Below
6) Close of construction season (if applicable)	See Below
7) Completion of final landscaping	See Below
8) Establishment of landscaping in public areas (if applicable)	See Below
9) Project completion	See Below
10) Weekly inspections to verify owner/applicant's weekly inspections	See Below
NOTE: All inspection fees listed above, as applicable, associated with an approved SWPPP Permit shall be paid by the applicant at actual costs incurred for said inspections by the Village of Alden. All fees shall be paid to the Village of Alden within thirty (30) days of the date of invoice sent to the applicant.	

Business from the floor: Phillip Zorbrest, resident of Kellogg St addressed the Board with his concerns regarding the poor state of Kellogg St. Mayor Retzlaff indicated the road will be milled and paved with money from the CDBG grant.

Mr. Becker commended the DPW in their snow removal efforts. He also inquired about the new Treasurer's salary and whether it included benefits. Mayor Retzlaff concluded that the salary is separate from benefits.

Mr. Kegler raised a few concerns. One of them being whether sidewalks on Kellogg were going to be the same standard size as the rest of the Village sidewalks. It was conveyed that they would in fact be the same. He also inquired about the new Village Treasurer and her place of residence. Mayor Retzlaff reminded Mr. Kegler that the Board passed a motion years ago to open up employment opportunities to anyone within Erie County. Mr. Kegler then expressed concern over Mr. Becker's initial request in having his water charges dropped down to 1 month ago. Mayor Retzlaff let Mr. Kegler know that was discussed in work session and Mr. Becker was provided with an answer after some deliberation. Mr. Becker then expressed the Board has the "power" to waive fees. Trustee Prucnal addressed Mr. Becker in stating the Board is unable to do so as it would cause a ripple effect for other residents in similar situations throughout the Village.

Liz Melock addressed the Board thanking them for the opportunity to work for the Village.

Village Clerk Kaluzny-Welcome Liz

Superintendent of Public Works Czelusta-MS4 report is on the website for Public review.

CEO Czechowski-Received the rodeo app. Will be further discussed at the Public Hearing on March 10, 2026.

The Trustee's and Mayor Retzlaff welcomed Liz and stressed that she will be a tremendous asset to the Village.

MOTION by Trustee **Prucnal** and seconded by Trustee **Kibbe** to adjourn the regularly scheduled Board Meeting at 7:11pm. On the question, 4 ayes, carried.

I respectfully submit,

Ashley Kaluzny

Village Clerk