

MINUTES – Alfred Village Board of Trustees Meeting

May 10, 2011

Present: Mayor Clark, Trustees Bowden, Rasmussen, Prophet, Dosch; Clerk-Treasurer Koegel; Police Chief O’Grady, 5 members of the public and 1 member of the press

1. **Meeting Opening** – Mayor Clark opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

2. **Minutes**

- a. **April 12, 2011** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Rasmussen to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing of April 12, 2011 as written. All members were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.
- b. **April 12, 2011** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Rasmussen/Prophet to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 12, 2011 as written. All members were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

3. **Announcements**

- a. **Complete Streets Program**–5/24 at David Dubois’ home, all board members invited.

4. **Guests**

- a. **Alfred Community Theatre**– Dave Snyder reported on a recent meeting of the theatre group during which they discussed restoration of the chairs in the theater space. He explained that the group originally negotiated with the Alfred 21st Century Group for the Community Theatre to raise money by selling chair sponsorship and the Alfred 21st Century Group to restore the chairs. He stated further that the chairs were not all restored, and it is now uncertain how many chairs there are in need of restoration. The group is requesting village assistance in remedying the situation. Mayor Clark explained that the board approved the purchase of a new front door handle through a reserve fund designated for maintenance and repairs on the village hall, but there do not remain funds for renovation. Trustee Dosch agreed to look at the chairs in the theater space and talk with someone from the Community Theatre group about how to proceed.
- b. **Alfred State College**–Al Littell questioned whether the board had made progress in learning whether there exists a statute or policy that prohibits contributions of cash from public institutions like Alfred State College. He suggested that if it is a policy rather than a law, it might be more readily changed. Trustee Rasmussen replied that she had contacted a member of the senior counsel and is still awaiting a reply. Mayor Clark said he would call the senior counsel member himself to follow-up. Trustee Bowden agreed that the village should pursue the matter until we get a response.
- c. **Hot Dog Day**–Al Littell questioned whether Hot Dog Day is still good for the community and whether there could be better control over the drunkenness and fighting, considering the arrests and bad behavior he witnessed over the weekend. Chief O’Grady said this year was marked by a long day of rain that ended in the early evening, leading to large outside crowds. He continued that most of the arrests for open container and disorderly conduct were made with the sight to prevent more serious crimes from occurring later on, though whenever there was a call to a property for a disturbance the police were also there to respond.

5. **New Business**

- a. **Garbage Law** – **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Dosch/Prophet to approve Local Law #2011-2 Rubbish Law, revised with minor changes. All members were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

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- b. **Summer Employment** - **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Rasmussen to approve the following summer employees to work for the Village DPW at a rate of \$8.50/hour from May 16 through August 12. All members were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.
 - i. Alex Minnick – Streets Dept.
 - ii. Lucas Wales – Streets Dept.
 - iii. Vinson Hendrix – Wastewater Plant
 - c. **Summer Youth Program**–**A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Dosch/Prophet to approve the Contract with Alfred State College for the Summer Youth Program in the amount of \$5,500 (unchanged from 2010).
 - d. **“Community Conversation” change in Agenda format**–Trustee Rasmussen explained that she would like to invite the community to share their appreciation and complaints and give each board member an opportunity to give a short summary of what’s going on in their department. Mayor Clark stated he is in favor of setting a June meeting to start at 7:00 p.m. and begin the agenda with this format while keeping the reporting segment shorter.
 - e. **Village Broadside** – The village board agreed to submit information for a newsletter.
 - f. **Hydraulic Fracturing Technologies** – **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Dosch/Bowden to endorse (a) extending the moratorium on hydrofracking technology presently in place in the State of New York and (b) establishing a moratorium on hydrofracking within the Town of Alfred and the County of Allegany, New York. These moratoria should remain in effect until such time as the residents of these respective jurisdictions deem the hydrofracking technology in all aspects safe and protective of its people and lands, air and waters.” All members were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.
- 6. Old Business**
- a. **Election Districts/Polling Place**– Mayor Clark commended former Mayor Ostrower for his legwork on the proposed consolidation of polling places, which led to the discovery that Section 4-100, 3a of the NYS Election Law says clearly that a district cannot have more than 1150 registered voters. We slightly exceed that number, and, in all probability, will exceed it by a greater number during the presidential election campaign next year. Moreover, any change must be formally announced before February 15 of the year in which the voting occurs. On behalf of the village, Mayor Clark will write a letter to the election board asking that they delay until at least 2013 any consideration of a merger of districts until there may be compliance with the law and the district members have adequate notice of such consolidation.
 - b. **Procurement Policy** - **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Dosch/Prophet to revise Section 7b to include the bold section as follows. All members were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.
 - i. **Timing of Equipment Purchases**–All equipment purchases **over \$1,000** shall be made at the end of the fiscal year if enough budget funds remain. Any exception must be requested in writing with an explanation of the need to make the purchase before year-end, and must be granted in writing by the Mayor.
 - c. **Court Sign** – **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Rasmussen to authorize a purchase order to Joe Dosch Custom Woodworking in the amount of \$350 for a “Court” overhead door sign to match signs elsewhere on the building. [Price quote is at

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cost, and is the same price quoted for the “Police” in 2007.] All members were in favor, one abstention. Motion passed 4-0.

- d. College-Village Meetings – Mayor Clark stated the village met with the public safety departments of each college, and will have more meetings over the summer. He brought up a statement by Chief O’Grady that we might talk with other communities about regional shared services as well, and said we should keep this in mind as we go forward.

7. Reports

- a. **Mayor**
- b. **Tree Committee**– Trustee Dosch gave the report for April. NYSEG is planning to trim in May but will meet with the Committee first.
- c. **Alfred Alive Economic Development**– Trustee Bowden gave the report for April. The group met with representatives from the Wellsville Chamber of Commerce and discussed feasibility, advantages and disadvantages, and procedure of developing an Alfred Chamber of Commerce. Trustee Rasmussen commented that the group should be familiar with the Chamber of Commerce on a national level when considering use of the term “Chamber of Commerce”, as on the national level she believes it to be a source of corporate power and anti-democratic.
- d. **Police** – Chief O’Grady gave the report for April.
 - i. **Parking Meters** – **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Rasmussen/Dosch to only have 2-hour meters that only take quarters, on a replacement basis as meters break. All members were in favor. Motion passed 5-0.
 - ii. **Bicycles**–Chief O’Grady discussed plans to clean out the inventory of abandoned bikes by putting them up for auction in the summer; junk bikes in one lot, a couple to be auctioned singly by sealed bid, and the remainder to be sold for scrap.
- e. **Youth & Recreation**
 - i. Alfred Community Theatre will be active this summer.
 - ii. Alfred Village Band is planning to perform on Wednesdays in July.
 - iii. Carillon Series at Alfred University will be on Tuesdays in July.
 - iv. Children's Summer Recreation will be in early July at Alfred State College
 - v. Alfred University will have a Theatre Day Camp for grades 3-9, June 27- July 1 and then July 5-9. Alfred University will also have a residential High School Theatre Institute July 5-17.
- f. **Planning and Zoning Board**– Trustee Rasmussen gave the report for the May 5th meeting. A special meeting will be held May 12 to address additional NYMS grant applications and to discuss the rezoning of fraternities and sororities within the village.
- g. **WWTP**– Trustee Bowden gave the report for April.
- h. **Streets/Water** – Trustee Dosch gave the report for April.
 - i. Hill/High Street Water Project – Expect to proceed soon, still waiting on the Health Dept.
 - ii. Main St. Paving and Bump-outs – These will be installed after June 1st, and the paving will begin after July 4th.
 - iii. South Main Drainage – The sidewalk will be raised by 3” over 400’ to address the problem of water on the sidewalks and streets and make them safe for people to

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walk and drive on. Trustee Prophet requested that they look at drainage on the south side of Hill Street too.

- i. **Housing/Code Enforcement**– Trustee Rasmussen gave the report for April. A meeting has been proposed by Code Officer Cagle to find solutions regarding drainage/storm water runoff on South Main St. The review and evaluation following the six month probationary period was conducted.

8. Working Groups

- a. Property Taxes – Assessed Value and Exemptions – Trustees Dosch and Prophet will continue to research and talk with the assessor as needed.

9. Fiscal Summary

- a. **April 30, 2011** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Dosch/Prophetto acknowledge receipt of the fiscal summary and financial statements for the period ending April 30, 2011. All memberswere in favor. Motion passed 5-0.

10. Bills

- a. **Abstract 2011-12A** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Prophet/Dosch to approve payment of the bills from Abstract 2011-12A in the total amount of \$189,011.75 as detailed below and on the abstract list distributed to the board. All memberswere in favor. Motion passed 5-0.
 - i. General Fund \$61,411.66
 - ii. Water Fund \$6,320.68
 - iii. Sewer Fund \$81,385.06
 - iv. Capital Projects Fund \$39,894.35

11. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

12. Upcoming Meetings

- a. Next Regular Board meeting Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn L. Koegel, Clerk-Treasurer