

MINUTES – AlfredVillage Board of Trustees Meeting

June 14, 2011

Present: Mayor Clark, Trustees Bowden, Rasmussen; Clerk-Treasurer Koegel; Police Chief O’Grady, DPW Superintendent McNulty; Code Enforcement Officer Cagle, Planning Board Chairperson Wenslow, approximately 23 members of the public and 1 member of the press

1. **Meeting Opening** – Mayor Clark opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Community Discussion** – Open forum to discuss ideas, suggestions; communicate activity
 - a. **Mayor Introductions** – Mayor Clark stated since he has been Mayor he has tried to keep the taxes down, has held meetings with the college presidents and staff about improving support, and is trying to keep the infrastructure maintained.
 - b. **Streets and Water**
 - i. **Summer Water Project (Hill/High Street)** – This summer will include the completion of the water improvement project, taking pipes from 4” to 8” and improving pressurization and flow.
 - ii. **Summer Paving Project (South Main Street)** – This summer will also include a paving project to coincide with the state’s paving of Main Street.
 - c. **Wastewater Plant**
 - i. **Anaerobic Digester** – Trustee Bowden talked about the project underway and praised Chief Operator Costello and Asst. Operator Rosenberger for their capabilities in the necessary alternative processing during this transition.
 - ii. **Chesapeake Bay Limits** – Mayor Clark summarized the issue regarding lowering of various limits by the DEC, noted that we joined a coalition for the purpose of preventing these restrictions without justification, and anticipates meeting later this month with the DEC for discussion.
 - d. **Planning Board**
 - i. **Comprehensive Plan** – Trustee Rasmussen described Planning Board procedures and requirements, and stated the Board makes decisions in keeping with the intentions and goals of the comprehensive plan.
 - ii. **Main Street Grant** – Trustee Rasmussen described the Main Street grant that is underway, with \$325,000 from the Department of Community Renewal for energy, façade and structural improvements to residential and commercial properties in a target area. Mayor Clark commended the Planning Board as one of the hardest working boards he has ever seen.
 - iii. **Fraternities** – A guest asked whether the fraternity on Sayles Street is legal. Code Enforcement Officer Cagle confirmed it is legally recognized as a fraternity, since it was grandfathered unless the use was dropped, and our records don’t show such discontinuance. Chair Wenslow said there is a subcommittee working closely with Alfred State College on where else in the village they may be included in future zoning. A committee report is expected in September.
 - iv. **Code Enforcement Office** – Trustee Rasmussen and Planning Board Chair Wenslow praised Code Enforcement Officer Cagle for his work in the office and with the Planning Board since he began the position in the fall of 2010.
 - e. **Colleges**
 - i. **College-Village Meetings** – A guest requested periodic updates to the community, through meetings or publications, about discussions with the colleges, bringing up

MINUTES – AlfredVillage Board of Trustees Meeting

June 14, 2011

the figure of 91% of the property value in the village being tax exempt. Trustee Rasmussen reported that she talked to a SUNY staffer who says there's nothing in the law that states they can't pay for services. She gave two options as being: 1) a municipal fee per student enrolled, or 2) a public safety fee service invoice. When the next closest community with high tax-exempt property was noted as Cobleskill, with 72% of property value tax-exempt, it was reported that they are considering dissolving their public safety department to the county. The guest said it would be a bad idea to dissolve police to the county because that would bypass the schools' responsibility. Mayor Clark said the discussions with the schools will continue.

- ii. South Hall – A guest asked if the Code Enforcement Office would check on South Hall to ensure the safety of the building, and suggested that it might be a location for murals.
- f. Voting Districts – Upon request, Mayor Clark filled in guests on the proposed election district consolidation. The village is filing an injunction based on the election commissioners' not following state requirements for notification and registered voter thresholds. Mayor Clark asked Town Supervisor Tom Mansfield if the town would support the village in this position, and Supv. Mansfield said he would not speak for the board without first discussing it with them. Legislator Doug Burdick said the Houghton district is unhappy with the proposed consolidation as well.
- g. Dog Law – Enforcement of the village dog law was discussed, and it was agreed that informational material be distributed with the August water bills.
- h. Fire Department – Immediate Past President of A.E. Crandall, Bob Pipal said the department has been seriously short of volunteers for some time, and requested village members to assist in sending out word to the colleges and faculty. About 30-40 volunteers are needed, and they must live or work in the service area, which includes the Town of Alfred.
- i. Community Discussion – Former Mayor Gary Ostrower thanked the board for inviting the community for such a discussion, and Trustee Rasmussen suggested that the practice continue twice a year, at the January and June board meetings.

3. Guests

- a. Alfred Community Theatre–David Snyder reported on a meeting with Alfred 21st Century Group about the Village Hall Theater chair restoration project. There is \$2,500 in a certificate of deposit for restoration, and there were seats found in the attic of the parish house. A plaque to recognize donors is being discussed.

4. Minutes

- a. **May 10, 2011** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Rasmussen to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 10, 2011 as written. All members present were in favor. Motion passed 3-0.

2. Bids

- a. **Hill/High Street Water Project** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Rasmussen to approve bid advertisement to be opened July 6th at 1:00 in the Village Clerk's Office. All members present were in favor. Motion passed 3-0.

MINUTES – AlfredVillage Board of Trustees Meeting

June 14, 2011

- b. **South Main Paving**–A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Rasmussen to approve bid advertisement to be opened July 6th at 1:00 in the Village Clerk’s Office.All members present were in favor. Motion passed 3-0.
5. **New Business**
 - a. **Village Band** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Rasmussen/Bowden to spend \$500 from band reserve for 2011. All members present were in favor. Motion passed 3-0.
 - b. **Code Office Temp. Assistant**–A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Rasmussen/Bowden to advertise for a temporary assistant to work in the code enforcement office at \$8.50/hour; within the budgeted allowance of 80 hours or \$700 maximum. All members present were in favor. Motion passed 3-0.
6. **Old Business**
 - a. **Procurement Policy** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Rasmussen to adjust the procurement policy, section 5a ii to reflect the change in state law to a higher threshold on products/service (\$10,000 to \$20,000). All members present were in favor. Motion passed 3-0.
7. **Reports**
 - a. **Mayor**
 - b. **Alfred Alive Economic Development**
 - c. **Police** – Chief O’Grady gave the report for May.
 - d. **Youth & Recreation**
 - e. **Planning and Zoning Board**– Trustee Rasmussen gave the report for the June 2nd meeting.
 - f. **WWTP**– Trustee Bowden gave the report for May.
 - g. **Streets/Water**
 - h. **Housing/Code Enforcement**– Trustee Rasmussen gave the report for May.
 - c. **Clerk-Treasurer - 2010-11 Fiscal Year** – Closed within budget
8. **Working Groups**
 - a. **Property Taxes – Assessed Value and Exemptions** – Trustees Dosch and Rasmussen will continue to research and talk with the assessor as needed.
9. **Water/Sewer Billing**
 - a. **Account E255** - Owner had leak in basement and running toilet. Requests credit for sewer portion of bill, \$367.85, for amount of leak that didn’t go through sewer system. Historical use for this account has averaged 5,000 gallons per quarter. The associated sewer charges for that use would be \$19.90. We cannot determine which portion of the rest of the sewer charge is associated with which leak. The remaining \$347.95 divided in half is \$173.98. **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Rasmussen/Bowden to issue credit in the amount of \$173.98 for the estimated amount of the leak that bypassed the sewer system. All members present were in favor. Motion passed 3-0.
10. **Fiscal Summary**
 - a. **May 31, 2011** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Rasmussen to acknowledge receipt of the fiscal summary and financial statements for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2011, excluding the long-term asset update. All members present were in favor. Motion passed 3-0.
11. **Bills**

MINUTES – AlfredVillage Board of Trustees Meeting

June 14, 2011

- a. **Abstract 2011-12B** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Rasmussen to approve payment of the bills from Abstract 2011-12B in the total amount of \$30,985.15 as detailed below and on the abstract list distributed to the board. All members present were in favor. Motion passed 3-0.
 - i. General Fund \$19,144.40
 - ii. Water Fund \$3,647.47
 - iii. Sewer Fund \$5,628.28
 - iv. Capital Projects Fund \$2,565.00
 - b. **Abstract 2012-1** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Rasmussen/Bowden to approve payment of the bills from Abstract 2012-1 in the total amount of \$203,831.15 as detailed below and on the abstract list distributed to the board. All members present were in favor. Motion passed 3-0.
 - i. General Fund \$26,560.24
 - ii. Water Fund \$5,318.20
 - iii. Sewer Fund \$7,482.06
 - iv. Capital Projects Fund \$164,470.65
12. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.
- 13. Upcoming Meetings**
- a. Next Regular Board meeting Tuesday, July12, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn L. Koegel, Clerk-Treasurer