

# MINUTES – Alfred Village Board of Trustees Meeting

---

January 8, 2013

**Present:** Mayor Clark; Trustees Rasmussen, Bowden, Dosch, Prophet; Clerk-Treasurer Koegel; Police Chief O’Grady, 5 members of the Planning Board, 15 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** – Members of the board discussed activity within village departments as noted in “Reports” below, and discussed with the public the following additional issues:
  - a. Bus Stop – A member of the public requested improvements in weather-proofing the roof, snow removal on benches and bulletin board material.
  - b. Hillcrest/Glen Stop Signs – Members of the public reported a high incidence of drivers running through stop signs in the neighborhood, and expressed concern about safety, especially during school bus stop times.
  - c. Tax-Exempt Properties & Bed Tax – A member of the public requested village study of the taxable status of college properties and enterprises under Section 4 of the NYS Tax code, to which Trustee Rasmussen replied much research has already been done; some college properties and enterprises do incur either taxes or pilots, and there are court decisions upholding tax exemptions if franchises serve primarily students. The same member of the public also suggested a “bed tax”, and requested the college rooming fees be compared to private rental fees to determine whether the college is earning profit on its housing.
3. **Minutes** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Prophet to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 11, 2012 and special meeting of January 2, 2013. Motion passed 5-0.
4. **Announcements** –
  - a. Budget Estimates – Request of Employees by Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Employee Evaluations – Request of all Trustees and Department Managers by Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Alfred Community Theatre: Showcase of Talent – This event will be held at the Alfred-Almond School Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 12, 2013. Admission is free and donations of food for local food pantries will be accepted at the door.
  - d. Hydrofracking and Property Values – Greg May will speak January 23, 2013 at the Almond Town Hall.
5. **New Business**
  - a. **Planning Board Members** –
    - i. **Marc Agnello Resignation** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Dosch/Bowden to accept the resignation of Planning Board member Marc Agnello. Motion passed 5-0.
    - ii. **Matthew Katz Appointment** – A motion was made and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Dosch to appoint Planning Board Alternate member Matthew Katz to permanent member. Motion passed 5-0.

# MINUTES – Alfred Village Board of Trustees Meeting

---

January 8, 2013

- c. **Property Tax Cap Override Law – Public Hearing** – The board reviewed the need for the annual law despite board intention to keep the tax increase below 2%, and noted the tax increase last year was 1.13%. **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Rasmussen/Dosch to set a public hearing on the property tax cap override law at 7:10 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2013. Motion passed 5-0.
- d. **Election Resolutions**
  - i. **Registration and Election Day** – **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Dosch to hold Village Registration Day on Saturday, March 9, 2013 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. and to hold the Village General Election on Tuesday, March 19, 2013 from 12:00 noon to 9:00 p.m., both at the Village Hall located at 7 West University St., Alfred, New York. Motion passed 5-0.
  - ii. **Election Inspectors** – **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Dosch/Bowden to appoint Zoe Coombs as Chairperson and Election Inspector, and Emily Ormsby as Alternate for the Democratic Party, and Tricia Napolitano (Election Day only) and Erion Clark (Registration Day only) as Election Inspectors and Kim Gayhart as Alternate for the Republican Party, all at a rate of \$9 per hour. Motion passed 5-0.

## 6. Old Business

- a. **Zoning Law – Congregate Housing** – Trustee Rasmussen described the Planning Board’s proposed change to introduce the term “congregate housing” in the zoning law.
- b. **Housing Law – Maximum Occupancy** - Trustee Rasmussen described the Planning Board’s proposed change to the housing law to increase the square footage required per occupant.
- c. **Zoning and Housing Law Changes – Public Hearings** – **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Dosch/Rasmussen to set a public hearing on changes to the Zoning and Housing Laws at 7:15 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2013. Motion passed 5-0.

## 7. Reports

- a. **Mayor** – Mayor Clark gave an overview of activity in the police department and discussed village finances, especially in the areas of retirement costs and infrastructure maintenance and upgrades. He also announced this will be his last term as mayor.
- b. **Wastewater Treatment Plant** – Trustee Bowden distributed a report in advance of the meeting and gave an overview of activity including the \$600,000 Digester Cover and \$250,000 Heat Exchanger bond projects and Chesapeake Bay compliance.
- c. **Planning Board and Housing/Code Enforcement** – Trustee Rasmussen distributed a report in advance of the meeting and along with members of the Planning Board gave an overview of activity including the following:
  - i. New York Main Street \$325,000 grant project
  - ii. Cornell Cooperative Extension \$3,000 Complete Streets project
  - iii. Zoning/Congregate Housing project; next step is to quantify use vs. zone before considering adjustment of zoning boundaries
  - iv. Code Enforcement Office
  - v. New businesses in the village: Hedgerow Farms Bakery; Paradise Pickup

# MINUTES – Alfred Village Board of Trustees Meeting

---

January 8, 2013

- d. Youth and Recreation Report – Trustee Prophet reported no activity.
- e. A.E. Crandall Report – Trustee Prophet reported the following:
  - i. Ladder Truck - A replacement ladder truck is expected to be delivered this week.
  - ii. Fire and Ambulance Membership – The Ambulance Company has gained additional trained volunteers, and this is expected to ease the workload on each individual volunteer; the Fire Department still needs new membership.
  - iii. Scene Management – Police Chief O’Grady will meet with the company leaders to talk about management of emergency vehicles on the scene.
- f. Streets & Water – Trustee Dosch gave the report and gave an overview of activity including progress on water meter replacement, now 2/3 complete and the following:
  - i. Street Ownership – An informal agreement has been reached with Alfred University and steps will be taken to formalize the agreement. A member of the public suggested the village should require payment for any streets transferred to the college.
  - ii. Commercial Water Rate – The village continues discussion with Alfred State College regarding the institution of the commercial water rate in 2012. Upon a request from a member of the public for an update, Trustee Rasmussen gave a step-by-step history of communications with both colleges over the past year. A member of the public suggested inviting both college presidents to an open meeting with the community to discuss the issue. The board briefly discussed next steps, including involvement of legal counsel.
  - iii. Hydrofracking Moratorium and Road Preservation Laws – A member of the public expressed concern that the town’s laws will not cover village property, and requested the board consider passing similar laws for land within its boundaries. A member of the public recalled an old ordinance that limits pass-thru trucks. Trustee Rasmussen agreed to work with Planning Board members to look into the matter and to provide an update within a short timeframe.
- g. Police – Chief O’Grady gave a written report in advance of the meeting and discussed the status of the bank robbery that occurred on January 4<sup>th</sup>, and dispelled rumors about a “rash” of burglaries in the area.
  - i. **Full-time Police Officer** – **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Dosch/Prophet to hire Dylan Burch as full-time police officer effective February 2, 2013. Motion passed 5-0.
  - ii. **Part-time Police Officer** – **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Dosch/Bowden to change Mark Collins from temporary full-time police officer back to part-time officer effective February 2, 2013. Motion passed 5-0.
- h. Clerk-Treasurer – Clerk-Treasurer Koegel gave a written report in advance of the meeting.
  - i. Allegheny County – Legislator Doug Burdick gave an update from the county.
- 8. **Fiscal Summary** – **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Rasmussen/Bowden to acknowledge receipt of the fiscal summary for December 2012. Motion passed 5-0.

# MINUTES – Alfred Village Board of Trustees Meeting

---

January 8, 2013

## 10. Budget Adjustments

- a. **A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Bowden/Rasmussen to adjust budget amounts due to water fund insurance claim for well pump control panel, as follows, motion passed 5-0:

- i. Water Fund:

1. Increase FX2680 Insurance Recoveries \$22,615
2. Increase FX83402 Water Dist. Equipment \$22,615

11. **Bills – A motion was made** and seconded by Trustees Prophet/Bowden to approve payment of **Abstract 2013-8** in the total amount of \$65,394.94 as detailed below and on the abstract list distributed to the board. Motion passed 5-0.

- i. General Fund \$38,981.25
- ii. Water Fund \$13,423.94
- iii. Sewer Fund \$11,966.67
- iv. Capital Projects Fund (2012 WWTP Project) \$1,023.08

12. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

## 13. Upcoming Meetings

- a. Next Regular Board meeting Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 7:30 p.m., following public hearings at 7:10 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn L. Koegel, Clerk-Treasurer