

## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

July 13, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Alfred was held at 7:00 pm July 13, 2017. Board members present were Dan Acton, Mary Stearns, Jerry Snyder, Bob Ormsby, and Fion MacCrea. Guests were Anne Koegel, Ray Champlin, and Matthew Snyder. Also attending were Town Clerk Janice Burdick and Highway Superintendent John Billings. Representing the press were David Snyder; *The Alfred Sun* and Jason Jordan of the *Evening Tribune*. The meeting was opened by Supervisor Acton with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Guests: Ann Koegel.** Ms. Koegel was present to express concern about the property next door to her. She is asking Steve Kilmer, Codes Enforcement Officer, to go up there and check it out. Ms. Koegel stated that there is garbage all over. She also stated that she has never had trouble with her spring until now and feels it is due to all the garbage in the lawn. Also, the lawn hasn't been mowed and supposedly remodeling but the electricity isn't on so doesn't feel he really is. Supervisor Acton explained that per the law for property maintenance lawn would have to be mowed. Ms. Koegel asked why the owner wasn't required to get a dumpster to put the garbage in. Mr. Acton explained that there are certain things the Town can make people do and certain things they can't make them do. Ms. Koegel responded that she is tired of living next to a dump. Ms. Koegel then went on to express concern of the condition of brush on Terbury Road – if you meet a car coming in the opposite direction, your car gets scratched from all the growth. Nothing has been done in quite a while. Feels it needs to be gotten under control. John Billings responded that the highway crew has been making the rounds, just haven't gotten to Terbury yet.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of 6/8/2017 were approved with a motion by Jerry Snyder seconded by Mary Stearns and carried 5-0.

Police Report: Reviewed written report.

**Monthly Report:** ok

**Correspondence:** None

**General Abstract #7-** Vouchers #84-95 in the amount of \$10304.35 were approved with a motion by Mary Stearns seconded by Jerry Snyder and carried 5-0.

**Highway Abstract #7-** Vouchers #102-119 in the amount of \$28949.62 were approved with a motion by Jerry Snyder seconded by Dan Acton and carried 5-0.

**Highway Report:** Reviewed written report.

1. Grinding took 3 days. Due to so much rain had to be delayed.
2. Hope to oil and stone Kenyon and Sherman Roads August 2<sup>nd</sup>.
3. Mowed shoulders, ditch work on Waterwells and graded. Will be reworking all dirt roads.
4. FYI – Right of way on all roads is 25' from the center of the road.

Dan Acton commented that one of the things that have happened over the years is that the roads are getting higher so the ditches are getting deeper. Fion MacCrea asked when they replace a sluice can they bring it up so this doesn't continue. John Billings responded that they can try to put clay under it to raise it. Dan Acton added that if you raise one it seems like you would have to do them all. John Billings stated that the County puts large rocks in. Jerry Snyder asked how many miles of ditching do they do and J. Billings responded they have done 3 miles so far. Maybe a total of 5 miles. Mr. Snyder stated that he is trying to look at a long term plan so all the roads will get done. Discussion continued on ditching with Mr. Snyder diagramming the problem we currently have and why the road needs more

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slope. Mr. Snyder added that the problem with drainage exists because the roads are higher, concerned that the ditches are so deep that someone, especially a student, will go into the ditch and then be a fatality. Mr. Snyder added that they need to ditch and slope at the same time. Dan Acton stated that with the ditches the depth they are now, doesn't see how you could do it with the grader. Fion MacCrea suggested experiencing raising the sluice pipes and see how it works. Mr. MacCrea added that in certain areas such as the top of Lake Road to Waterwells, if sluice is raised a foot, allows the ditch to silt in some to raise the ditch. Matt Snyder commented that if continue to keep doing it the current way the roads are going to get narrowed.

**Supervisor's Report:**

- John Lang case settled. Mr. Lang pled guilty, will stop business immediately and pay Town Legal fees.
- Notice from North Wind that they are looking to put a 31 Turbine Wind Farm in West Union and Greenwood.

Shared Services Panel - Supervisor Acton stated that at the last meeting the Supervisors were asked to go back to their Boards and see what subjects they want to pursue. Services being considered are: Assessor, Codes Enforcement, Justices. Tax Collector, Health Insurance and Waste Water. Jerry Snyder suggested it should be put right back to the Governor and the state should show by example and Mr. Acton added that it was mentioned at the meeting that the Town's aren't the problem. Mary Stearns stated that she feels roads should be in there and shouldn't just be the Towns and Villages but include the County and State Highway Departments. That is where most of the money for the Towns is spent. Fion MacCrea added that the County Planning Board addressed the possibility of shared services with the County and sharing of equipment. Mrs. Stearns suggested if the Highway crews are all working 4 days; stagger them so that day equipment can be shared.

**Unfinished Business: Special Use Permits in the Ag. District**

Discussion continued with no decision at this time. Fion MacCrea suggested that an owner-operated business with less than x number of employees be considered.

**Town Clerk** – Reviewed written report.

**Other Business** – John Billings requested the Town take over the cost of his cell phone. Stated that he used it for Town Business and had to increase his usage plan. Mr. Billings was asked if other Superintendent's phones are paid by the Town and Mr. Billings stated that Andover was told when his current contract was up they would look into and that Almond pays their Superintendent's. It was noted that that expense is not in the budget. Jerry Snyder asked Mr. Billings to bring in previous bills and current bills and when the Board starts work on the 2018 Budget will consider it.

Mary Lou Wells upset with the way road was trimmed in front of her house. Does not want the Town to trim any of her trees, John Billings stated that if a tree falls in the road from her property she will be liable for any damages.

**Bank Statements** - A motion by Mary Stearns to approve the Bank statements was seconded by Dan Acton and carried 5-0.

A motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm was made by Mary Stearns seconded by Dan Acton and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted, Janice L. Burdick, Town Clerk

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