

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

October 9, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Alfred was held at 7:00 pm with all Board members present. Also present was Town Clerk Jan Burdick. Guests were Brad Price, Town Historian Doug Clarke, Mark Klingensmith, and Elsie Cushing.

The meeting was opened by Supervisor Acton with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Fion MacCrea, seconded by Mary Stearns and carried 5-0 to approve the minutes of September 11, 2014.

Police Report – No Police report.

Codes Enforcement Officer – No written report. Dan Acton reported on his meeting with CEO Steve Kilmer regarding Short's building on Rt 244. Mr. Kilmer feels the only way Short's will enclose the building is if the Town cites them and then will probably end with a legal issue. Mr. Kilmer felt there are other buildings in the Town with similar issues and didn't feel it would be worth going to court over. Mr. Acton agreed that it isn't work getting into a legal battle.

Monthly Report – 1st CHIPS payment received and State Aide.

Correspondence:

- Board of Elections – Voting on November 4th.
- State Comptroller's Office – Audit of Justice Records. Mary Stearns and one other Board member will do this.
- District V meeting – October 14th Town of Allen. Mary Stearns stated she may go to this.

General Abstract #10, vouchers #111 – 119 in the amount of \$7089.81 were approved with a motion by Jerry Snyder seconded by Dan Acton and carried 5-0.

Highway Abstract #10, vouchers #126-139 in the amount of \$98600.24 were approved with a motion by Fion MacCrea seconded Mary Stearns and carried 5-0. This includes the new pickup and CHIPS projects. Jerry Snyder questioned the amount that was spent on asphalt for Lake Road. Felt this is a very expensive short term fix and a waste of money. Dan Acton stated that he had a conversation with former Highway Superintendent Jamie Mansfield about the soft spots on Lake Road and that was his plan. Jerry Snyder added that he was under the impression that they were going to grade it and dig out the soft spots instead of paving over them.

Highway Report – No written report.

Town Clerk – reviewed written report

Supervisor's Report –

- Spoke with Tim Timbrook, regional DOT Engineer regarding Baker's Bridge. A public hearing will be held in the spring to discuss the options for the bridge. One option is to close the bridge and reconfiguring the highway on Rt. 21 at the blinking light. The last thing they want to do (DOT) is to rebuild the bridge; Residents do not want to see the bridge closed. Concerns about closing the bridge included assess for the Fire trucks to Rt. 21. Bob Ormsby added that at the least keep it open as a pedestrian bridge due to its' historical value. Dan Acton stated that he will contact Senator Cathy Young.
- Garage Doors for shop – It was noted that only one door was included in the 2014 budget. Former Highway Superintendent Jamie Mansfield felt they could be paid for with FEMA money. (Note: no – cannot pay out of FEMA money).

- Supervisor Acton signed the Road mileage Inventory report.
 - Copy of STARUPNY application from Alfred State College and College of Ceramics. SUNY application included properties that are currently on SUNY property. College of Ceramics included Sugar Hill, Ceramic Corridor and properties in Hornell. This program gives companies a 10 year tax exemption. Jerry Snyder asked what the original requirements for the Ceramic Corridor were and thought that after 3 years they were supposed to move out. Intent of Sugar Hill was to provide a location for them to move to. Some of the businesses in the Ceramic Corridor have been there since it was started. Mr. Snyder added that the purpose of Sugar Hill was to generate revenue, now they want to give it away. Town spent a lot of money building that road. Mr. Snyder and Mr. Ormsby objected to having the Supervisor sign this. After further discussion the Board felt their reason for opposing this should be sent to the College of Ceramics. Reasons for objection:
 - Town invested several thousands of dollars building the road for Sugar Hill.
 - Sugar Hill Corporation was set up to generate revenue to help with the Town's tax burden and provide a location for start up businesses and create jobs.
 - Inclusion of Sugar Hill is in violation of original intent to create jobs and tax revenue.
 - Town has an existing means to provide property tax relief for new businesses.

Mary Stearns added that Sugar Hill was a nice idea but when the time came for a company to set up there, Hornell IDA offered them all kinds of tax breaks so they located in Hornell instead. Dan Acton asked if in this decision is the Board representing Town residents and are they preventing businesses from establishing in Sugar Hill? Jerry Snyder suggested putting an article in the *Alfred Sun* and get input from the residents. Bob Ormsby expressed concern that there is all ready so much tax exempt property, why add to it. Fion MacCrea asked what incentives there are for businesses going into Sugar Hill and was told there is a business exemption through the Town. A motion was made by Dan Acton to not sign this document, seconded by Jerry Snyder and carried 5-0. After reviewing the document further, Fion MacCrea noted that signing it just agrees that you received it and discussed it. Jerry Snyder stated that he was ok with signing it as long as the reasons the Board were against it were included. A motion was made by Dan Acton to rescind the previous motion to not sign, 2nd by Fion MacCrea and carried 4-1 with Bob Ormsby voting no. A motion to sign and include a letter of concerns stated above, was made by Dan Acton seconded by Mary Stearns and carried 4-1 with Bob Ormsby voting no.

Planning Board – County Planning Board will review Zoning Law amendments.

Historians Report – Doug Clarke reported that he hasn't had time to do as much as he would like to. Would like to interview some of the elders of the Town. Has a Facebook page and will link it to the Town website. Asked what the Town would like him to do – would be glad to write an article for the *Alfred Sun*. Mr. Clarke was thanked for his service to the Town.

Old Business - Sale of pickup. Sealed bids will be accepted until 7:00 pm at the November 13, 2014 meeting. A public hearing will also be held that night for the 2015 Budget. A public hearing will be held in December for the Local Law amending the Zoning Law.

Bank Statements - A motion by Mary Stearns to approve the Bank statements was seconded by Fion MacCrea and carried 5-0.

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A motion to go to executive session at 8:50 pm to discuss personnel was made by Dan Acton, seconded by Fion MacCrea and carried 5-0. Executive Session was adjourned at 9:05 pm with a motion by Dan Acton seconded by Jerry Snyder and carried 5-0.

A budget workshop was scheduled for October 23rd at 7:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 pm by Jerry Snyder, seconded by Bob Ormsby and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice L. Burdick,
Town Clerk