

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

July 12, 2007

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Alfred was held at 7:00 pm Thursday, July 12, 2007 and opened by Supervisor Alan Burdick with the pledge to the flag. Board members present were Alan Burdick, Tom Mansfield, Phil Curran, Jeff Johnston, and Alan Dewey. Also present were Jeanne Cartwright, Gerry Snyder, Village resident Doug Turner, Highway Superintendent Jamie Mansfield, and Town Clerk Janice Higgins.

Approval of Minutes - The minutes of the 5/17/07 and 6/14/07 were approved with a motion by Tom Mansfield, seconded by Phil Curran and carried 5-0.

Police - Reviewed the written report. Chief O'Grady is out of Town.

Codes Enforcement: Correspondence has been received from ISO regarding the Town's rating - going from a Class 4 which is good, to a Class 9. The main reason cited is due to NYS not adopting the latest version of the new international codes. To remain a Class 4, must write a letter by August 10 and by November 12, 2007 submit a new plan. Phil Curran suggested calling the Insurance Company to see if this rating really has any effect on homeowners. Each board member will contact their insurance carrier to see if it makes any difference.

Chrystal Drumm continues to have yard sales.

Review of Monthly Report - Mortgage Tax was much lower than the amount the Town has received in the past.

Correspondence:

1. Doug Turner - recommendations for making the assessment process easier for the Tax payers. Alan Burdick suggested tabling this until October. Jeff Johnston stated that some of the recommendations look to require more work by the Assessor. Alan Burdick stated that with a new term, it would be made clear that this would be part of the job. Phil Curran felt more research needs to be done before implementing any of the recommendations.
2. NYSORP - reminder that Assessor's appointment expires 9/30/07. New term will begin October 1 and be for six years.
3. Unified Court System - requires Town Board audit Justice records. Supervisor Burdick will contact the Judges and ask them to make their records available for this. After Board audits, must pass a resolution acknowledging that the required audit was done.

General Abstract #70-2007 - Vouchers #82-95, in the amount of in the amount of \$16,467.33 were approved with a motion by Tom Mansfield, seconded by Alan Dewey and carried 5-0.

Highway Abstract #7-2007 - Vouchers #82-94 in the amount of \$23,195.13 were approved with a motion by Tom Mansfield, seconded by Phil Curran and carried 5-0.

Highway Report -

- Reviewed written report.
- Working on CHIPS project - Randolph Road. Will oil and stone in late August.
- Replaced sluices on Randolph, Greene, Moland, and Waterwells.
- All shoulders have been mowed once.
- Trimming and cutting trees and trimming around signs.
- Took Oshkosh to Andover 4th of July parade.
- John Perkins has to have surgery on his fingers to remove the nail beds and repair nerve endings. Planning on having it done in August.

Pickup Truck - 1999 with 116,000 miles. If ordered one now on State Bid, would be the end of November before it was delivered. Jamie Mansfield stated that he would prefer a diesel. Cost on State bid for a diesel is \$30,008.15 vs. gas \$23,941.25. Both prices include a snow plow. Alan Burdick stated that it is needed but if we get it this year the first payment will be due in 2008 and also have large bond payment in 2008. If wait till January, won't have to make a payment until 2009.

Phil Curran - feels need to look at other options such as a 1 ton light weight dump truck vs. just a pickup. Jamie Mansfield stated that he doesn't feel a 1 ton handles as well in the snow. Phil Curran added that he feels this truck is so beat up because it is not made to plow - need a bigger truck. Mr. Curran also questioned if the Town is going to keep the truck until they fall apart or start trading every couple of years. Alan Burdick agreed that the Town should turn them over every couple of years. Mr. Curran added that if the Town is going to go on a replacement program, then go with the lighter truck. J. Mansfield asked about the policy for use of the pickup - policy states that it is to be parked at the Town in the summer. Mr. Mansfield explained that he would like to be able to take it home so he can go directly to the job site, especially after a heavy rain, can go directly to problem areas. A motion was made by Alan Burdick to amend the policy to allow the Highway Superintendent to take the truck home whenever he feels needed, but not to be used for personal use. The motion was seconded by Alan Dewey and carried 5-0. Jeff Johnston expressed a concern of the truck being parked in his driveway.

Drott - J. Mansfield stated that they are having trouble keeping the Drott running. Have 12 sluice pipes that need to be replaced and about 9 of them they can't get to with the loader. Andover has been helping but can't keep asking them. The Drott is overheating. Brakes won't release, down riggers stick, and can't get it to back up. A used one would cost around \$100,000.00. Phil Curran asked what piece of equipment would be most useful and Mr. Mansfield stated an excavator. Alan Burdick asked if it is worth rebuilding and Mr. Mansfield stated that it is old and not very efficient. Feels the ditch cleaning got behind is due to the machine being so slow and constantly breaking down. Jerry Snyder asked if it would be feasible to share the cost of a new or used one with another Town. Mr. Mansfield stated that he had talked to the Town of Almond about that. Would have to have a contract to clarify who pays for repairs, etc. Tom Mansfield added that the County could be asked to borrow one for a month. Jamie Mansfield will contact our County Legislators to see if that would be an option. Also, Jamie will check into rates to rent one.

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Supervisor's Report - Sewer District - from Dollar General up to the Village line cost will be about \$360,000.00. The proposed project probably will not happen due to the cost.

Union Negotiations - need to contact Bill Arnault and schedule a time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm with a motion by Tom Mansfield, seconded by Jeff Johnston and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice L. Higgins,
Town Clerk