

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

February 14, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Alfred was held at 7:00 pm Thursday, February 14, 2008 and opened by Supervisor Jeanne Cartwright with the pledge to the flag. Board members present were Jeanne Cartwright, Jeff Johnston, Tom Mansfield, Phil Curran and Jerry Snyder. Also present was Chief of Police Tim O'Grady, Mayor Craig Clark, David and Aurora Palmer, Chris and Lily Marcy. Janice Higgins-Burdick, and Jamie Mansfield.

Guests: Mr. Palmer stated that they live on Lynch Road and own property down to East Valley. They hope to put in a doublewide at 4783 East Valley for Mrs. Palmer's sister and husband. In order to do that they need to run the electric line about 8/10 mile from the nearest pole. Mr. Palmer stated that NYSEG told him that the poles would be in the town road right of way. Mr. Marcy added that they need to get the electricity in place before they can start construction. Tom Mansfield asked how far into the Town's right of way would it be. Mr. Palmer stated that if it came from the Alfred direction it would be 5/10 miles – from Andover 3/10 mile which would be the preferred way. Mr. Palmer added that they can either have NYSEG do it or contract it out – if contract it out they would own the line and be responsible for maintenance. Phil Curran stated that he felt that the Town needed to talk to NYSEG and find out what exactly they need from the Town. Chris Marcy stated that he assumes they need something in writing from the Town. Jeff Johnston asked if the Board can tentatively approve it. To speed things up. Phil Curran stated that they probably don't need permission from the Town. Jeff Johnston asked if the Palmer's own that stretch of land and were told no – it is owned by the Marks. After further discussion it was decided that NYSEG would be notified to find out exactly what, if anything, is needed from the Town.

Approval of Minutes - The minutes of the January 10, 2008 meeting were approved with a motion by Tom Mansfield, seconded by Phil Curran and carried 5-0.

Police - Reviewed the written report for January and the 2007 Annual Report. Mayor Clark thanked the Town for housing Village Court while the Village Hall was being renovated. The Village Hall is just about finished.

Codes Enforcement – Steve Kilmer submitted a written report as requested by the Town Supervisor. Discussion followed on the Alfred Collision property and the amount of cars that are being stored there. Mr. Kilmer stated in his report that he will continue to contact DEC to set up a meeting.

Assessor – Reviewed written report submitted by Sue Putt, Assessor. Sugar Hill has requested a tax exemption – they have received a 501c-3 status as a charitable corporation. Supervisor Cartwright stated that she feels the Assessor should make the decision whether or not to grant them tax exempt status – ultimately the decision is hers. If the Board wants to get involved. A PILOT can be worked out. Assessor Sue Putt states that she doesn't feel it should be a burden on the people who pay taxes. Jeanne Cartwright stated that she feels this is not going to help Sugar Hill – they need more aggressive help to get something up there. After further discussion it was decided that for now to let the Assessor make the decision.

Monthly Report – Received Triennial Aide for reval.

Correspondence:

- Dan Burling – CHIPS Funding for this year – less than previous years
- Allegany County – adding to Ag. District

General Abstract #2-2008 – Vouchers #23-34 in the amount of \$22631.91 were approved with a motion by Jeff Johnston seconded by Tom Mansfield carried 5-0. This includes the cost of \$216.00 for the Supervisor to attend school in Rochester. Tom Mansfield suggested the Town look into getting a bundle package with Frontier for the phone to save on that expense. Also, will be able to eliminate one line once DEC allows their computer to be switched to Road Runner.

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Highway Abstract #2-2008 – Vouchers #12-25 in the amount of \$60144.80 were approved with a motion by Phil Curran seconded by Jeff Johnston and carried 5-0.

Highway Report

- Reviewed written report.
- Jamie Mansfield reported that they are 160% over the limit on salt – cost increases by 10%. County is letting the Town buy it from them to keep the cost down since the County has not used all of their allotment.
- New pickup has arrived.
- Plowed and sanded 26 times since last meeting.
- Sunday – bad day. Fan broke on 2006 International – 2nd time that has happened. Covered under warranty and getting a replacement for the 2004 truck. John Perkins caught the railroad tracks and broke the wing mount. Sent Fred Greenthal out with grader – engine access plug blew out and all the oil went out causing the V belt to shred. Everything is now fixed.
- Installed “Bump” sign on Waterwells – sluice pipe is collapsing and will have to be fixed in the spring.
- Grant for Excavator – been pushed back to March due to State Budget.

Supervisor: Attended school in January in Rochester – training for new Supervisors, Board members, etc. Found it very helpful. Feels money should be budgeted every year for training – owe it to the Town people to be up to date and current in policies. Will be attending Government Financing School in April. Motion was made by Jeff Johnston to approve the Supervisor attend Government Financing School in April, seconded by Tom Mansfield and carried 5-0.

Supervisor Cartwright stated that she is still planning on visiting all the local businesses.

Discussion on changing Highway Superintendents term from 2 years to 4 years. Believe it would have to go up to Public Referendum. Phil Curran stated that the advantage to a 2 year term is that it forces the elected official to do a good job – people remember that after two years. Jamie Mansfield added that a 4 year term would be nice. Jeanne Cartwright added that we should at least look into it to see how to do. The Board of Elections will be contacted.

Other Business:

- Reviewed the Code of Ethics. Next month the Procurement Policy and Investment Policy will be reviewed.
- Supervisor Cartwright attended the Village meeting Tuesday.
- Motion by Phil Curran to appoint Janice Higgins-Burdick Registrar of Vital Statistics, seconded by Tom Mansfield and carried 5-0.
- Planning Board members will be contacted and told of training.
- Tim O’Grady reported that the County is trying to get the State DOT to take over County Rd 12 in return the County would maintain State Roads in Whitesville.

A motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm was made by Jeff Johnston, seconded by Phil Curran and carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Higgins-Burdick
Town Clerk