

## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

June 19, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Alfred was held at 7:00 pm Thursday, June 19, 2008 and opened by Supervisor Jeanne Cartwright with the pledge to the flag. All board members were present. Also present were Chief of Police T. O'Grady, Codes Enforcement Office Steve Kilmer, Janice Higgins-Burdick, and Jamie Mansfield. County Legislator Brent Reynolds arrived at 8:00 pm.

**Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of May 8, 2008 were approved with a motion by Tom Mansfield, seconded by Jeff Johnston and carried 5-0.

**Police Report** - Chief O'Grady reviewed the written report. Noted that May had been a fairly busy month for this time of year – 115 calls in the Town. Several complaints of people stealing copper wiring off the railroad tracks.

### **Codes Enforcement** –

- Steve Kilmer reviewed his written report. Reported on permits issued and residents he met with. Several complaints on Henry Bauer property next to the Antique Store including smell of dead animal and garbage. Mr. Kilmer explained that he is taking Mr. Bauer to court in the Village on June 25, 2008 and at that time will issue tickets for his Town properties. Also received a written complaint on Mr. Bauer's property on Jericho Hill known as the "Cow Palace".
- Reviewed Zoning Law regarding farm animals. Mr. Kilmer's interpretation is that farm animals are allowed on land in the Ag. Zone with less than 10 acres as long there is enough land for the type of animal.
- Barbeque Bandits – selling out of shed on weekends at Way-to-Gro. It is a commercial building and is considered an expansion of Way-to Gro's business. Steve Kilmer will talk to them and give them till next meeting to get a permit.
- Tom Mansfield expressed a concern of dumping by Steve Kilmer on Rt. 244. Mr. Kilmer explained that he is removing clean fill from Alfred University and putting it in the low spot next to John Ninos' building. After they are done, it will be covered up.
- Jeff Johnston asked if there is anything in the NYS code that requires a house to be sided. Mr. Kilmer stated that it has to be weather proofed.
- Phil Curran asked if Mr. Kilmer had checked on the Equestrian Center's sign. Mr. Kilmer stated he will check on it Friday.
- Rental Inspections – Reviewed the Village of Alfred's Housing Law. Mr. Kilmer stated that he has recently learned that the State is saying that this is a violation of Civil Rights – may want the Town attorney to review it. Phil Curran stated that that is probably why Hornell waits until the apartment is empty to do an inspection. Jeanne Cartwright asked how it is enforced if they won't let you in and Mr. Kilmer stated that he sends them a letter.

**Assessor- Grievance Day** - Board of Assessment denied Sugar Hill's request for tax exemption. Jerry Snyder read from the Sugar Hill documents that say if Sugar Hill Corporation dissolves. The land goes back to the Town. Phil Curran stated that he feels every effort should be made to get it back rather than have it go to the Allegany County IDA. Jeanne Cartwright asked if the Town Board should talk to the Sugar Hill Corporation again and Jerry Snyder responded yes, rather talk to them here than in Court.

### **Review of Monthly Report** – all ok.

**Sugar Hill** - County Legislator Brent Reynolds arrived at 8:00 pm and reported that at this time Sugar Hill Corporation has not made a decision on whether to take the Town to Court over their tax exempt status. Jeanne Cartwright asked Mr. Reynolds about Sugar Hill reverting back to the Town and Mr. Reynolds asked what the Town would do with it. Phil Curran added that if it gets turned over to the IDA the Town loses everything. Mr. Curran added that he would like to see them granted some sort of Tax relief – tax exempt until building is sold or leased. Mr. Reynolds stated that is a good thought and wondered if it could

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be done on vacant land too. Mr. Reynolds added that the Sugar Hill Corporation's books are open any time if the Town wants to look at them. Mr. Reynolds added that the concern isn't paying taxes on the vacant land as much as it is paying on a \$250,000 building. Right now trying to get money for a water tower up there. After much discussion the Board was all in agreement that they do not want to see the County IDA take it over.

**County Business** – Mr. Reynolds reported that the County is looking to get out of the landfill business in the next five years. Look for landfill costs to go up. Court House addition will be built onto the current courthouse.

**Correspondence** –

- Ag and Markets – noncompliance with boarding stray dogs. Jeanne Cartwright will contact them and see what the problem is since there haven't been any dogs since the last report.
- LaBella Engineering Firm – offering to do a presentation on Windmills at no cost.
- Equalization Rate – 100%
- County Clam Bake tickets available from any County Legislator.
- 2% Reduction is State Aide payments from Office of Real Property Services.

**General Abstract #6-2008** – Vouchers #76-91 in the amount of \$16,434.24 were approved with a motion by Tom Mansfield seconded by Phil Curran and carried 5-0.

**Highway Abstract #6-2008** – Vouchers #66-80 in the amount of \$13,154.60 were approved with a motion by Jerry Snyder seconded by Jeff Johnston and carried 5-0.

**Highway Report**

- Reviewed written report.
- Graded more roads, rolled and salt brined.
- Borrowed Almond's brine truck.
- Started mowing.
- Patching pot holes and working on shoulders to get ready for oil and stoning.
- Sluice pipes on Ormsby and Lynch Roads.
- Trimming trees and helped remove a tree on East Valley due to storm.
- Took more steel and scrap to salvage yard.
- Grader needed new core for radiator.
- John Perkins will be having surgery on his fingers 7/7/08 and Fred Greenthal is having a spot removed from his arm on the same day.
- July 10<sup>th</sup> – Village is borrowing loader and the Town will be up there helping them.
- Suggested renting an excavator for a month at a cost of \$4000.
- Attended Highway School at Cornell 6/2-6/4
- CHIPS Project – replaced sluice pipes on Waterwells and Moland and will oil and stone. Next will be Lynch Road and Oak Ridge – grade and oil and stone. Under the CHIPS program all signs could be replaced that aren't up to code. Mr. Mansfield noted that Andover is buying a 10 wheeler with their CHIPS money. Jerry Snyder stated if you could get by with using an excavator for only one month a year – the Town could rent for 43 years at \$4000 and not have to worry about any repairs and would get a new one every year – feels that is the way to go.
- Phil Curran suggested a container be placed at the Town building for residents to place scrap metal in. Jamie Mansfield will look into this.

**Committee Reports:**

Jerry Snyder reported that he attended the Village meeting. They will probably be renegotiating the Police Contract.

.A motion to adjourn at 10:00 pm was made by Tom Mansfield seconded by Jeff Johnston and carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted, Janice Higgins-Burdick Town Clerk

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