

**PUBLIC HEARING
2021 BUDGET**

November 12, 2020

The Public Hearing for the presentation and comments from the public on the 2021 Budget was opened by Supervisor Acton at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

All Board members were present. Also attending via Zoom were Bill Dailey, Christel and Jason Rodd, Catherine Chambers, and Jim Ninos. Others present were Highway Superintendent Bob Halsey. Present in the Town Clerk's office were Town Clerk Janice Burdick and Garrett Whittall. (Please note, there may have been others participating in this Zoom meeting that I did not catch.)

Public Hearing 2021 Budget: Supervisor Acton opened the Public Hearing with the Pledge to the Flag. Supervisor Acton stated that the budget was kept below the Tax Cap. It was also noted that there is an anticipated 20% decrease in State Aide which includes the Aide to Municipalities and CHIPS Funding. Pave NY and Extreme Weather revenue have been eliminated the NYS. The \$3500 that for the trade in of the pickup was added back in. Christel Rodd asked if anything was budgeted for the sidewalk project and was told no. Being there were no further comments the Public Hearing was closed at 7:05 with a motion by Dan Acton, second by Matthew Snyder and carried 5-0.

Regular Monthly Meeting: The regular monthly meeting was opened at 7:05 pm by Supervisor Acton.

2021 Budget: A motion was made by Dan Acton, seconded by Wendy Dailey and carried 5-0 to adopt the 2021 Budget as presented. It was noted that the budget next year may have to go over the tax cap to avoid using too much fund balance.

Opening of Bids for Town Land Sale: One sealed bid was received by Garrett Whittall in the amount of \$15222.00. Supervisor Acton stated that the Assessor informed him that land was selling for between \$1000 - \$1500/acre. This land comprised of approximately 30 acres. Mr. Whittall explained why he bid so low – not prime real estate, been a dumping site for years with a lot of garbage still on the land. He wants it to protect his property that borders this. Matthew Snyder stated that he has walked the property and it isn't prime but there are considerable portions of the land that could be put to good use. Bill Cleveland asked if it would be better to advertise in the Spring and feels if the Assessor valued it at \$30,000-\$35,000 should rebid it. Mr. Whittall stated that he did not feel the Town would ever get that much for it – doesn't feel it is worth that much. Mr. Cleveland added that that bid doesn't come even close to funding the cold storage building. Mr. Acton added that he is inclined to not accept this bid due to figures the Assessor gave him and Fion MacCrea and Matthew Snyder agreed. Wendy Dailey stated she feels the Board should go and look at the land before deciding what to get for it. Mr. Whittall stated that since he was the only bidder, maybe he could go look at it with the Assessor and then negotiate a price, would appreciate the courtesy of the Board working with him and trying to negotiate a price. Mr. Acton informed Mr. Whittall that it is Town property and would have to rebid it. Cannot negotiate a deal with him.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the October 8, 2020 regular meeting were approved with a motion by Matthew Snyder, seconded by Dan Acton and carried 5-0.

Police Report – reviewed written report.

Code Enforcement Officer- there was no report this month. Wendy Dailey asked what was going on on Pleasant Valley Road and was told a horse barn and riding arena. No permit application has been submitted yet.

Monthly Report: All ok. First CHIPS reimbursement has been received.

11/12/2020

Correspondence:

- Alfred Community Solar/Buffalo Solar Solutions: Bill Dailey has been in touch with them to make sure they comply with the Solar Law. Will need Building Permit, SEQR and Special Use Permit.

General Abstract #11-2020- Vouchers #101--113 in the amount of \$4557.55 in the General A Fund; Voucher #13 in the amount of \$3328.16 and #11 in the SF Fund in the amount of \$3442.50. A motion to approve the bills was made by Bill Cleveland, seconded by Dan Acton and carried 5-0. Bills included new LED outdoor lights and new door for shop and dog kennel.

Highway Abstract #11-2020 Vouchers #104-117 in the DA Highway Fund in the amount of \$9045.12 and Vouchers #48-50 in the DB Fund in the amount of \$3697.31 were approved with a motion by Fion MacCrea, seconded by Matthew Snyder and carried 5-0.

Highway Report: Mr. Halsey reviewed the written report. Took dog kennel down and cleaned that area up. Helped the County with sanding on County Rt 12. Pulled shoulders, swept roads, graded roads and finished mowing. Helped Town of Canisteo and Town of Andover. Supervisor Acton thanked Mr. Halsey for all his good work.

Supervisor's Report:

Dan Acton, Wendy Dailey, Bill Cleveland, Jim Ninos, Pete McClain, and representatives of Clark-Patterson- Lee walked the area of the proposed new sidewalk. From Dollar General to the intersection of Sugar Hill Road. There is 16' from the center line of the travel lane, up to 5' tree line then the sidewalk. Some easements will need to be acquired. There will be flashing lights at Dollar General with a crosswalk to Tinkertown. Also, bus shelters on both sides of the road. Next to Stearns's where the culvert and guiderail are, the sidewalk would follow the same line that is currently there up to Stearns's house which would then only require 1' onto his property. The two white posts leading into Alfred Rural Cemetery would have to be moved back.

The crosswalk at Sugar Hill would have flashing activated lights. Street lights are being worked on by the engineers and will have to be approved by DOT. Property owners will also have to be notified. Matthew Snyder asked how far the water line is going to go into the Village? Mr. Ninos responded it will go all the way to Pine Hill Drive and Spruce Street. It will probably be started in the Spring and Mr. Ninos added that most of the water lines are under the road.

Other Business: Wendy Dailey reported on the committee she is on representing the Town along with representatives from the Colleges, community and Village. The purpose of the committee is to address inclusiveness, police reform, etc. They have developed a survey asking form input and Mrs. Dailey encouraged everyone to fill it out. They are looking for a sense of inclusiveness in the Alfred community and that feed back will go into a review of policies that the Governor has initiated. Mrs. Dailey stated that they have been meeting weekly. The QR code is available of the Village website. If don't have a smart phone hard copies are available at the Village Hall. Supervisor Acton thanked Mrs. Dailey for serving on this committee.

Planning Board: Dan Acton asked Bill Dailey about the Unified Solar Permit Application put out by the state. Mr. Dailey will look at it and see if parts of it can be adapted for the Town's application process for Solar developments. Mr. Acton stated that Jason Whitwood is moving out of Town creating a vacancy on the Planning Board. Roger McGraw's name was presented and all felt he would be a good choice.

New Business: Matthew Snyder asked if there are any other Solar projects being proposed. Possible one on McAndrews Road that would be about 500 acres and on possibly on Sibley Road. Jim Ninos added that Allegany County is becoming quite a hub for Solar Farms.