

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

April 8, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Alfred was held at 7:00 pm Thursday, April 8, 2010 and opened by Supervisor Tom Mansfield with the pledge to the flag. Board members present were Tom Mansfield, Jerry Snyder, Mary Stearns, Fion MacCrea and Donn Lang. Also present were Assessor Sue Putt, Jamie Mansfield and Janice Burdick. Representing the Press was Justin Head. Arriving at 7:30 was Codes Enforcement Officer Steve Kilmer.

Assessor

Sue Putt explained that in 2007 the Town did a revaluation of the Town. At that time the Town entered into a six year plan with the state. This is the third year and the state mandates that everyone get a notice of their assessment whether it changed or not. Those notices were mailed today. The State pays up to \$4.20 per parcel if maintain a 100% equalization rate. This year the state informed Mrs. Putt that the Town may not be at 100%. Mrs. Putt argued with them and should that we are at 100% and they finally agreed. Mrs. Putt explained that she is going back four years to look at every sale to make sure they were valid sales. The state is now doing away with Annual Aide – we will still get maintenance aide this year. The new plan is the 1st year you get up to \$5 per parcel. Then you don't have to do anything for 3 years but you will continue to get your maintenance aide. Then the 4th year you have to do a total revaluation and the state will pay if you are at 100%. Then you will get \$2 per parcel. But if you don't maintain 100% the Town would have to pay the state back.

Mrs. Putt commented that the overall assessment decreased due to the fire in the village and apartment building in the village being torn down.

Jerry Snyder asked who was in charge of the State Mandates. Mrs. Putt suggested contacting your state Congressman. Mr. Snyder also asked Mrs. Putt what she would like to see for a state policy to which Mrs. Putt replied that she would like to see them stay out of our business. Mrs. Putt stated that in her opinion it was the states way of not paying the maintenance aide (by saying we weren't at 100%).

Mrs. Putt stated that one thing that would make her job easier would be if everyone had fire numbers. When she first started there were no pictures so she has been trying to get pictures of all properties but sometimes hard to match to owner when no fire numbers. Other concern was trying to get building permits from the Village. Supervisor Mansfield informed Mrs. Putt that the Town is working on getting fire numbers. It was in the works when The Sport's Center burned down. Once they reopen should be able to get them going again. Mrs. Putt stated that after Grievance Day she will be doing more field work and taking more pictures. Most of the Village now has pictures so she will be working mostly in the Town. Tom Mansfield asked if Mrs. Putt saw any problem with Grievance Day this year and she responded that last year they lowered everyone that came in. This year she is sending them a letter to make sure the Board of Assessment Review understands that they are to assume she is right unless the property owner can prove otherwise. Grievance Day is May 26th from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

Code Enforcement Office

Steve Kilmer reviewed the permits he has issued and inspections conducted. Tom Mansfield asked him about permits from the Village and Mr. Kilmer stated that he has a work study student coming and will be working on getting copies together for the Assessor,

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of March 11 and the Special meeting of March 25th were approved with a motion by Fion MacCrea, seconded by Jerry Snyder and carried 5-0.

Police Report – Reviewed written report.

Monthly Report – The monthly report was reviewed. Received CHIPS Payment.

Correspondence

- February Court receipts and distribution.
- Mary Stearns printed out the pamphlet on how to Audit Justice Records – several pages.
- Houghton Conference sponsored by Southern Tier West – 5/5/10.

General Abstract #4-2010 – Vouchers #43-50 in the amount of \$13,201.17 were approved with a motion by Jerry Snyder seconded by Fion MacCrea and carried 5-0. Tom Mansfield reported that he came in prior to the meeting and looked over all vouchers and initialed them.

Highway Abstract #4-2010 – Vouchers #50--63 in the amount of \$16,430.39 were approved with a motion by Jerry Snyder seconded by Donn Lang and carried 5-0.

Highway Report – Jamie Mansfield reported that they only had to plow a couple of times last month. J. Mansfield helped the County out on 3/14 and 3/26 by sanding it until they could get there.

- Patching potholes. Broomed short roads and working on intersections.
- Drove all seasonal roads to see what kind of shape they are in.
- Took Mack back to Rochester due to starting hard. Found the Douser Valve in the injector needed an electric solenoid to shut off the fuel system when truck was shot off. This caused the motor to loose fuel pressure causing it to start hard. This has now been fixed.
- Replaced 2 front bearings on John's sander. Removed all the wings on the trucks. In the process of sandblasting and painting them.
- Cleaned up around the outside of the shop. Took steel, aluminum and old barrels and sluice pipe to the junk yard. Received \$1189.00.
- Submitted a list of sluices and ditches that need to be replaced or worked on.
- Getting price on power washer – would like one with a warranty.
- Meeting with County on Monday regarding East Valley Bridge.
- Need to start thinking about renting an excavator and when. J. Mansfield is also checking with the County.

Resolution #2- 2010 Allegany County Inter-Municipal Mutual Aid Agreement. Motion to approve by Donn Lang, seconded by Jerry Snyder and carried 5-0.

Supervisor's Report: Revised Windmill Law.

1. Mary Stearns feels it is too strict. Also concerned about Comprehensive Plan.
2. Fion MacCrea – feels State won't sue since they don't have to abide by the law. Tom Mansfield stated he feels the College is going to go ahead and do what they want regardless of the local law.
3. Mary Stearns asked what is considered enough opposition to keep Empire Wind from proceeding?
4. Mary Stearns and Fion MacCrea feel Town should opt out tax exemption on the windmills.
5. Jerry Snyder stated that shouldn't do anything out of fear of a lawsuit. Need to do what is right for the community. If the College goes ahead and proceeds with the windmill project they will have to answer to the community. Fion MacCrea agreed and have to look at the revenues for the Town.

After further discussion a motion was made by Jerry Snyder to approve the final draft of Local Law #1-2010 Wind Energy Facilities – Amendment to Local Law #3-1990 Local Zoning Law and schedule a public hearing. The motion was seconded by Fion MacCrea and carried 5-0.

Financial Committee – March 2010 bank statements were reviewed. A motion to approve the bank statements was made by Mary Stearns seconded by Jerry Snyder and carried 5-0.

Other Business – J. Mansfield stated that he received a call from the railroad – they did an inspection on the Hamilton Hill overpass and it did not pass inspection, Want to shore it up which could make that road narrower.

Board would like to send a letter to Court Clerk Teresa Jaycox letting her know they are supportive of her and appreciate her service to the Town.

A motion to adjourn at 10:00 pm was made by Jerry Snyder seconded by Fion MacCrea and carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice L. Burdick
Town Clerk

