

Town of Albion
Regular Monthly Meeting
February 13, 2024

Present: Supervisor Mike Faulkner
Councilman Vern Mowers
Councilman Corey Holcomb
Councilman Steve Steinfeld
Recording Secretary: Amy J. Ford, Town Clerk
Absent: Councilman Rick Stowell

Supervisor Faulkner called the meeting to order at 6:30pm then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Previous Monthly minutes (Organizational & Regular 01/09/24 & Workshop 01/18/24): **Motion made by Councilman Steinfeld seconded by Councilman Mowers to accept all sets of minutes as written. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Steinfeld – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.**

Motion made by Councilman Holcomb seconded by Councilman Steinfeld to re-appoint Ms. Valorie Rose to the Planning Board for a three-year term (01/01/24 – 12/31/26). Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Steinfeld – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.

Reports: 1) Oswego County Legislator Herb Yerdon: Mr. Yerdon reported on the following:

- Oswego County shifts planned Disc Golf Course to Camp Zerbe.
- AmeriCorps have positions available at Camp Hollis, Camp Zerbe, Camp Foundations, the Bridge House Brats, Summer Sun & Fun Program.
- Camp Hollis is now hiring Counselors, Lifeguards, Activity Leaders, Kitchen Staff, Co-Directors, Nurses, Waterfront Director, Office Manager, Night Security & weekend Host/Hostesses.
- The Legislature committee list is out, and Mr. Yerdon is on the Public Safety & Human Service Committees.
- Oswego County Fire Coordinators Office has submitted their 2023 Year End Report.
- Oswego County 911 Center has submitted their 2023 Year End Report.
- Oswego County Probation Dept. submitted their Public Safety Committee Report.
- Oswego County EMS submitted their report on activities planned for 2024.
- Oswego County Emergency Management Office submitted their Public Safety Committee Report plans for 2024.

2) Tug Hill Circuit Rider: Mr. Baxter was absent, but his assistant Heidi Tompkin read his report as follows:

- The Commission in conjunction with the State Comptroller will be holding a workshop on municipal fraud prevention & detection on Thursday, February 29th from 7 – 8:30pm in Boonville, NY.
- The 2024 Tug Hill Local Government Conference deadline is approaching (April 1st).
- Mr. Baxter is still looking to schedule the first Salmon Rivers Council of Governments meeting sometime in March 2024.

- The Tug Hill Commission will have a meeting on Monday, March 18th at 10am in Pulaski, NY and a meeting on Monday, May 10th in Central Square, NY.

Ms. Tompkins then gave her report as follows:

- Reminder of the Association of Towns 2024 Annual Meeting & Training School in NYC February 18th to 21st.
- Reminder of the 2023-2024 Volunteer Fire Infrastructure & Response Equipment Grant Program is open until April 30th at 5pm.
- Reminder of the NYS Archives training webinars – she included the topic, date & time for each. Also, the NYS Archives has announced they are accepting applications for their 2024-2025 grant cycle.
- The NYS DEC 7 the Commission will be holding a four-part Winter Wildlife webinar series with the 2nd webinar on Tuesday, February 20th at 6pm.
- NYSERDA will be holding a webinar on Thursday, February 29th from 12pm – 1:30pm.
- The Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) will be holding two information sessions in February.
- NYS Local Technical Assistance Program Center will be holding an ongoing series of free foundational webinars.
- On April 7th – 9th, the NYS Planning Federation will be holding their 83rd Annual Conference at the Saratoga Hilton.

3) CEO/BI: Mr. Marsden reported for January; he stated he has given Mrs. Ford a file of closed permits to process. He's just getting over COVID, so if anyone has any questions or concerns, they can call him or send him an email.

4) Fire Dept.: Chief Holcomb submitted his report for January – they have responded to 21 calls.

Supervisor Faulkner then went over the following:

- The grant has been submitted and will be assigned a single overseer soon.
- Supervisor Faulkner would like the Boards approval for Councilman Stowell to be the 2nd signer for the grant process. **Motion made by Councilman Steinfeld seconded by Councilman Mowers to have Councilman Stowell as the 2nd signer for the grant process if Councilman Stowell agrees. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Steinfeld – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye Supervisor Faulkner – aye.**
- The Board agreed that the contractors who are working on the Fire Dept. storage building could receive their pay without waiting for the next board meeting since they were awarded the bid. They will be paid once they have completed their job.
- Chief Holcomb stated that all the installation has been put up.

5) DCO: Mr. Cronk was absent. Supervisor Faulkner stated that Mr. Cronk received a letter from the NYS Ag & Markets stating they have done their annual DCO Inspection & Municipal Animal Shelter Inspection, and both were rated satisfactory.

6) Hwy Supt.: Mr. Cronk was absent; Supervisor Faulkner & the Board went over the following:

- The Board needs to decide on the new plow truck, it will take 18-24 months to be delivered. Supervisor Faulkner will double check Tracey Road Equipment & Henderson Equipment for prices; the Board will decide at next month's meeting. Both Tracey & Henderson are state bid.
- Purchasing a new pickup for the Hwy Supt. and keeping the old one for the workers to use. **Motion made by Councilman Holcomb seconded by Councilman Steinfeld to move**

- **ahead and purchase a new F250 4x4 super cab pickup for the Hwy Supt. from Burdick Ford in Central Square with the total being between \$62,870.00 & \$63,855.00. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Steinfeld – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.**

Mr. Cronk had stated to Supervisor Faulkner the following:

- that he's getting culvert pipes for Mattison Rd (4-12") & Barber Rd (2-12") & 1-12" to cut up if needed. He also has received permission from the landowner to do the work on Mattison Rd.
- The Hwy workers have picked up over 100 tires that were dumped all over the town roads. He has been working with the Police on this.

Motion made by Councilman Mowers seconded by Councilman Holcomb to approve the construction of the salt shed/barn. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Mowers – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Steinfeld – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye. Supervisor Faulkner will reach out to the Tug Hill Commission for assistance with the grant.

7) Planning Board: Mr. Rossbach was absent, there was nothing to report.

8) Supt. of Cemeteries: Mrs. Walter was absent but submitted her report for January 2024 – there was no revenue.

9) Assessor: Mr. Maxwell was absent but sent the following report via email:

- He's been keeping up with all inquiries about the Senior Exemptions notices that he has sent out. He only needs the first page of the federal income tax statement or a copy of their social security award letter.

10) NOCA: Mr. Goodnough reported on the following:

- Finances are still strong.
- Calls are up. NOCA is being called out further into the County due to other ambulance corps being over inundated. They are doing basic mutual aid like what the Fire Dept's do for each other.

11) Town Clerk: For January 2024 as follows:

- Total take in/disbursed = \$222.00 (Town = \$167.50; NYS Ag & Markets = \$32.00; NYS Dept. of Health = \$22.50).
- Issued: 24 dog licenses; 7 certified death certificates; 1 marriage license.
- Sent out: 10 dog license renewals for February & 5 late dog notices for January (gave until 02/16/24).
- Petty cash is \$25.00 as of 02/01/24.
- Submitted to the Board the 2023 Year End Report (attached to monthly report).
- Completed a FOIL request and received payment of \$5.00 for it.
- Gave Supervisor Faulkner a check for \$675,697.04 for their part of the 2024 Tax Warrant, she also sent \$200,000.00 to the County Treasurer towards their part.
- Supervisor Faulkner stated there were grants available for record management, Mrs. Ford stated she would look into them.

Motion made by Councilman Steinfeld seconded by Councilman Holcomb to accept the report as read. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Steinfeld – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.

12) Supervisor: January 2024 report was given to the Board prior to the meeting and a copy will follow these minutes in the official minute book. **Motion made by Councilman Steinfeld seconded by Councilman Mowers to accept the submitted report. Motion carried. Adopted (4-**

0) Councilman Steinfeld – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye. Supervisor Faulkner then reported on the following:

- The new Intra-Fi account with NBT Bank is now paying 5% interest.
- The account the previous Village of Altmar had with British/American Tobacco Company has now been corrected with the town's address and the missed dividend checks from 2022 to present will be re-issued and the total will be over eleven thousand dollars.

Audit Bills: General bills, abstract #2, bills \$ 18 - #52 = \$21,112.93. **Motion made by Councilman Steinfeld seconded by Councilman Mowers to accept and pay all general bills for February 2024 as submitted. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Steinfeld – aye; Councilman Mowers (abstained from bill #41) – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.** Hwy bills, abstract #2, bills #14 - #32 = \$26,755.59. **Motion made by Councilman Holcomb seconded by Councilman Mowers to accept and pay all Hwy bills for February 2024 as submitted. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Councilman Steinfeld – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.**

Old Business: 1) Playground equipment: Supervisor Faulkner has information for a nice playground for around \$30,000.00. The ARPA money needs to be used this year if the town wants any money back. He will have more at the next monthly meeting.

2) Town emails: The town's IT guy Chris Daly has the town's emails un & running. If anyone has a question, they are to contact Mr. Daly at either his phone or email address.

3) The water at the municipal building will be tested tomorrow; possible water treatment will be needed.

New Business: 1) Newsletter for residents: Councilman Steinfeld has brought up the idea of a town newsletter. Supervisor Faulkner has talked with Ms. Camilla Wade that handles newsletters, and she gave a quote of 642 addresses at \$.20 cents each (\$128.40). The board decided a quarterly newsletter would be enough. Supervisor Faulkner will get more information for the next meeting.

2) Water & Infrastructure Grants: Supervisor Faulkner would look for more information about getting water for the town.

3) The town's AUD/AFR (Annual Financial Report) for 2023 has been completed and submitted to the State Comptroller.

4) The town has received a letter from the State DOT – their study has shown that the speed reduction for Dugway is unwarranted.

5) Farmer's Dirty Job's has increased their costs by \$20.00 due to the County raising their rates.

6) Chief Holcomb asked the board if once the interior of the storage building is completed and the heating work begins, if he could contact Glider Oil Company to install a 500 gal. fuel/propane tank near the fence line. The Board agreed to his request.

Adjournment: **Motion made by Councilman Steinfeld seconded by Councilman Mowers to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Steinfeld – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.**

Supervisor Faulkner called the meeting to a close at 7:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy J. Ford, Town Clerk