

Town of Albion
Regular Monthly Meeting
May 14, 2024

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

Supervisor Faulkner called the meeting to order at 6:34pm, then led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Approve Supervisor's books & files that were audited prior to the meeting. **Motion made by Councilman Mowers seconded by Councilman Holcomb to accept Supervisor Faulkner's 2023 books & files the Board audited prior to the regular monthly meeting. Motion carried. Adopted (3-0) Councilman Mowers – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Stowell – aye. Supervisor Faulkner abstained.**

Supervisor Faulkner accepted the resignation of William Adams as his Deputy Supervisor and has appointed Councilman Holcomb as his new Deputy Supervisor.

Supervisor Faulkner then stated that on general abstract #4, bill #88 the appropriation numbers should be "A"5132.2 & "A"5132.4 not "DA"5132.2 & "DA"5132.4. Mrs. Ford would correct her mistake.

Sexual Harassment & Workplace Violence training will be at the Municipal Building on Wednesday, June 5th at 9:00am (about 2 hours). This is REQUIRED TRAINING for EVERY person that works for the Town.

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

- Camp Zerbe's bathroom is up and close to being usable.
- Oswego County's 19th Annual Career Summit will be on Wednesday, June 5th at the County Fairgrounds. Any 8th graders interested should contact the Youth Bureau at 315-349-3451.
- Legends Field in Oswego will have their 1st Tournament of the Year with a Grand Opening-Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, on Friday, May 17th at 4:45pm. The 1st pitch is to be thrown by Dignitaries of Oswego County.
- Rabies Clinics are going on. To call for an appointment contact the County Health Dept. for the nearest clinic near you at 315-349-3564. Suggested donation is \$7.00 per pet.
- Office for the Aging has sent out their Human Services Committee update.
- Mr. Yerdon has given the board a list of County Offices to use instead of the county directory to use for easier reference.

- “Help Me Grow Program” is a new program that will serve families with children 0-5 years of age. Those interested can call 2-1-1 and ask for “Help Me Grow”. For more information visit: www.icpoc.org/OCHMG or email any questions to oswegocountyhmg@icpoc.org
- Oswego County is Hiring: Their Help Program has been approved, and the positions to be filled can be without taking a civil exam for a one-year period. After the Help Program ends, the person hired can stay with no exam. Contact humanresources@oswegocounty.com

Mr. Justin Rose asked if the public could attend the Legislative meetings, Mr. Yerdon stated yes, the meetings were open to the public.

2) Fire Dept.: Chief Holcomb submitted his April 2024 report & financial report – they had 28 calls.

- He has set up a special account to track all expenses related to the storage building. If anyone is interested in seeing it, Supervisor Faulkner has the info in the grant paperwork.
- Chief Holcomb received a quote from Service Alert Systems for fire protection for the storage building: \$1,875.00 & from Elite Electrical Innovations to extend wiring for fire protection: \$3,620.00 with the total coverage amount = \$5,495.00. There will now be three zones (M.B. #1; F.D. #2; storage bldg., #3). **Motion made by Councilman Holcomb seconded by Councilman Mowers to accept Service Alert Systems quote for \$1,875.00 & Elite Electrical Innovations quote for \$3,620.00 with total fire coverage to the storage building = \$5495.00. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Councilman Stowell – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.**
- The Town received \$5200.00 for the old fire truck out back of the municipal building.

3) Assessor: Mr. Maxwell reported on the following:

- Sales have dried up; he believes there are not any new sales in Albion.
- He will be available on 5/24/24 from 8am-noon by phone & on 6/4/24 from 1pm-4pm in his office for Grievance Day.
- Have an issue with a resident on Sheepskin Rd, the owner has an RV that he believes should not be taxed on. However, the resident has put on skirting, a front porch, has hooked up water, septic & heating. Mr. Maxwell stated it’s not drivable since it’s attached to the ground so therefore is taxable.
- Supervisor Faulkner stated he had learned at the Tug Hill Conference that the Town would not get anything out of a re-val., it would just keep everyone on the same level. An instructor from the Tug Hill Commission conference stated that right now it’s tough to keep anyone’s equalization rate at 100%.

4)CEO/BI: Mr. Marsden was absent, but Councilman Mowers read his report for April 2024.

- Mr. Marsden would issue appearance tickets to those in violation if the violations have not been taken care of within ten days. He is handling the Trey property on ST Rt 13.
- Mr. William Adams stated that his neighbor has done some ditching in front of his home on Albion Cross Rd. Supervisor Faulkner stated that Hwy Supt. Cronk would handle this when he gets back in town tomorrow.

5) DCO: Mr. Cronk was absent but submitted the following report to Supervisor Faulkner:

- A poodle was found on Hog Back Rd in really bad shape from possibly being hit by a car. Mr. Cronk took it to the vets where they treated it and took care of the dog for five days. The dog was euthanized due to its injuries. The town will be getting a bill for \$175.00.

6) Hwy Supt.: Mr. Cronk was absent but submitted the following report:

- The workers have taken care of the fallen trees throughout the township.

- The shoulders have been cut and the brush has been removed from S. Albion Rd in preparation for paving.
- Stone has been hauled for Mattison Rd & the new salt shed.

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- 24” pipe has been installed on Smokey Rd. Gutchess Lumber Company has been sent a bill from the Town for \$1000.00, for their truck’s damage to the pipe.
- The new salt shed is halfway done.
- Supervisor Faulkner stated he has talked with Gabe Yerdon – the town may not be eligible for a grant for the salt shed; but the town does have the money – he would need to amend the budget.
- The 284 form from the county needs to be completed & signed. The Town has \$300,000.00 set aside. He will make the corrections regarding S. Albion Rd & Mattison Rd before he sends it back to the county.
- Mr. Cronk has come to an agreement with his secretary & her pay. The Town budgeted the position for \$2500/year (\$17.36/hr.); she will work three hours per week and will receive \$208.33/month. Since she started back in February, she will get a check for \$625.00 to cover the months of Feb., Mar., April. **Motion made by Councilman Mowers seconded by Councilman Holcomb to pay the Hwy Secretary \$208.33/month beginning in May 2024, and a one-time catch-up check of \$625.00. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Mowers – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Stowell – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.**
- Supervisor Faulkner & Hwy Supt. Cronk will discuss the requirements for a MEO position, then Mrs. Ford will put the ad in the paper.
- There will be a special meeting to discuss Hwy pay on Friday, May 17th at 10:30am. Mrs. Ford will notify the paper and update the monthly schedule on the website/boards.
- Councilman Holcomb received a quote of \$795.63 for the lights that would go on the new Hwy Supt.’s pickup. The Board will wait until two more quotes are obtained before deciding. Supervisor Faulkner stated that the new pickup received under coating & a bed liner.
- The time clock at the Hwy barn was discussed. The Town spends around \$27.00/month for the system they have now; with the seasonal workers & part-time workers it would be easier if they just had a punch clock instead of a fingerprint one. Supervisor Faulkner would research the options.
- Hwy Foreman Bennett would like to get a fuel counter for the white pickup that has a portable gas tank. The Board will investigate the cost.

7) Planning Board: Chairman Rossbach was absent. He did send Supervisor Faulkner an email regarding “light zoning”.

8) Tug Hill Circuit Rider: Ms. Heidi Tompkins gave the following report:

- She thanked all those who attended their conference on May 1st-2nd.
- Their annual report “Headwaters” is done and available.
- The next Commission meeting will be on Monday, May 20th at 10am in Central Square.
- She stated the Tug Hill does help with Comprehensive Plans. The first step is to create a Planning Board & Zoning Board. Supervisor Faulkner would ask Mr. Matt Johnson from the Commission for assistance with developing a comprehensive plan & zoning.
- Discussion was made on who would enforce zoning. Ms. Tompkins will give copies of the Town of Redfield’s Zoning Law to Supervisor Faulkner.

- Ms. Tompkins also gave Mrs. Ford a copy of her 2024 Tug Hill Announcements.
- 9) Supt. of Cemeteries: Mrs. Walter was absent but submitted her report for April 2024. The total revenue was \$478.00 (1 full burial = \$400.00; 1 foundation = \$75.00; 1 vault placement = \$3.00).

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10) NOCA: Liaison Goodnough was absent but submitted the following email report to Supervisor Faulkner:

- Finances remain strong.
- Call volume has declined; however, 94% of calls have been answered – which is an improvement from the last few months.
- They have had increases in staffing.
- They are in the progress of discussing increases to the operational capabilities for ATV, River & Wilderness calls in the “back country”.

11) Town Clerk: For the month of April 2024 as follows:

- Total take in/disbursed = \$87.50 (Town = \$82.50; NYS Ag & Markets = \$5.00).
- Issued: 5 dog licenses; 2 copies of marriage licenses; 1 junkyard license.
- Sent out 10 dog license renewals for May; 7 late dog license notices for April (gave until 05/14/24).
- Petty cash is at \$25.00 (as of 04/30/24).

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

12) Supervisor: Monthly report for April 20-24 was given to the Board prior to the meeting. A full copy will follow the minutes in the Official Minute Book. **Motion made by Councilman Stowell seconded by Councilman Holcomb to accept the report as submitted. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Stowell – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.** Ms. Tompkins stated the NYS DEC have specific grants for salt sheds; she would research this for the Town.

Town of Albion
Resolution #3 of 2024
Change of Grievance Day

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Albion, Oswego County, New York, at a meeting of said Board on the 14th day of May 2024, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town of Albion Town Board has found it necessary to change Grievance Day, normally falling on the 4th Tuesday of May, NOW, THEREFORE, the Albion Town Board states that Grievance Day will be held June 4th, 2024, from 4:00pm to 8:00pm, at the Altmar/Albion Municipal Building.

Dated this 14th day of May 2024

Motion made by Councilman Stowell seconded by Councilman Holcomb to accept resolution #3 of 2024 as read. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Stowell – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.

Audit Bills: General bills; abstract #5, bills #116 - #151 = \$148,867.70. Councilman Stowell stated he would abstain on bill # 130 until more information was obtained. **Motion made by Councilman Mowers seconded by Councilman Holcomb to accept and pay all general bills for May 2024 as submitted. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Mowers – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Stowell (yes to all but #130); Supervisor Faulkner – aye.**

Hwy bills; abstract # 5, bills #60 - #77 = \$79,295.42. Questions were asked on bills #64, #65. #67, #70 & #71. Supervisor Faulkner would get more information on these before paying them. **Motion**

made by Councilman Mowers seconded by Councilman Holcomb to accept and pay all Hwy bills for May 2024 as submitted, and after the questions on the above bills are answered. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Mowers – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Stowell – aye (abstained from bill#77); Supervisor Faulkner – aye.

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Old Business: 1) Playground: Mr. Adams received a quote from Willy Goat of \$17,000.00 (not including installation). Councilman Holcomb stated he knew a town resident that installs playgrounds. **Motion made by Councilman Stowell seconded by Councilman Holcomb to accept the quote of \$17,000.00 from Willy Goat for the new playground equipment. Motion carried. Adopted (4-0) Councilman Stowell – aye; Councilman Holcomb – aye; Councilman Mowers – aye; Supervisor Faulkner – aye.**

2) All the town trucks that were listed on Auctions International have been sold.

New Business: 1) The Tax Collector’s books for 2024 will be audited on June 11th at 6:00pm prior to the regular board meeting at 6:30pm.

2) Supervisor Faulkner briefly went over the highlights of the State Budget and the effect it will have on the town: (No more zoom meetings, No new COVID funds). He would not go any further on the water infrastructure for Albion.

3) The town received a Thank You card from the Williamstown Senior Citizens.

4) He went over the changes to the fund balance sheet as per the NYS Auditor: eliminating A1620.42 Building CE cleaning, lawn & snow and replaced it with A1620.1 Building PS cleaning & A1620.11 Building PS lawn & snow. Also created A1110.11 Municipal Court Monitor & new Total rows for General & Hwy. These will help to accurately track payroll and make monitoring & tracking easier. Thanks to Councilman Mowers & IT guy Mr. Chris Daly with their help setting up the TV in the meeting room for presentations.

5) The Town will work with the Tug Hill Commission to create a comprehensive plan.

6) Supervisor Faulkner picked up several books relating to zoning at the conference.

7) Councilman Mowers would like to purchase a LED sign for community information. He received three quotes and out of the three Amazon was the lowest at \$439.00 (with a 3 yr. warranty) for an 18”x40” sign. The Board will wait until next month to decide.

Public Comment: 1) Councilman Stowell mentioned a problem on Mill St. Mrs. Ford explained that issue with the property owner on ST Rt 13 wanting access to Mill St. through property owned by another resident. This has nothing to do with the Town, the property lines do not show any easement.

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

Supervisor Faulkner called the meeting to a close at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy J. Ford
Town Clerk