

Village of Alexandria Bay
Regular Meeting
October 08,2024
5:30 pm
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Audio/Video

Mayor Putnam called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Trustee Fulmer – Present
Trustee Millett – Absent
Trustee Strough – Present
Trustee Caputo – Present
Mayor Putnam – Present

Public Comments / Concerns: Ted Kielecki- Parking on Bolton Ave. He would like more no parking signs, so people understand where they can't park. Mayor Putnam says we will have Jarret put more no parking signs down through there.

Craig Garlock – Says to put a one way on Bolton and on Catherine That way there is only parking on one side of the street. Just an idea.

Correspondence: Judith Fulmer- There are 15 copies of courtesy letters of people saying thank you for the courtesy ticket and not a hefty fine. We get anywhere from \$2-\$10 from people who forget to put their quarter in.

Discussion on the minutes of last meeting. August 13th, September 10th and Joint Fire District meeting on September 26th. **Trustee Fulmer** made a motion to approve Minutes. **Trustee Stough** Seconded it. All in favor-Aye.

Paying of Bills: Trustee Fulmer made a motion to approve **Abstract #4**. **Trustee Strough** seconded it. All in favor-Aye.

Trustee Reports:

Trustee Strough- The Golf Course. The boys have been up there top dressing all the tees. They have been plugging a lot of the fairways. They plugged the greens. They had a prisoner in there. They have been cutting a lot of the brush up around the tennis courts and stuff like that. We have a speed roller up there they put it out for bid. Bruce told me a couple years ago and tried to get rid of it. They tried to sell it, and no one bid on it. Bruce would like to give that to Hunter for a trade. Hunter would come in and do some spraying on the golf course for us, for \$1500.00. **Trustee Strough** made a motion to trade the speed roller for services from Hunter. **Trustee Fulmer** seconded it. All in favor-Aye.

Police Report: The police department had 9 complaints, 1 arrest, 0 tickets issued and 1 warning. Also 0 parking tickets were issued and 0 warnings. 3 Building checks.

DPW Report: Jarrett- “I think I will need a motion to surplus a few items.”

Attorney Burrows- “Yes you will need a motion for unwanted, unneeded surplus equipment.”

Trustee Caputo- “I will make the motion to put the old street sweeper and 2015 cop car on Auction International bid surplus” **Trustee Strough** seconded it. All in favor-Aye.

Jarrett- “We hauled 400 tons of sand in. We have 200 tons of salt stored in Collins Landing. I have another 100 tons in holding in the port. The leafer is set to go with the boxes on. The big plow truck is put together. Chamber had a water leak, so we fixed that. Water is off at the cemeteries for the season. We had 2 hydrants in the past couple of weeks get hit. One was up to the school, it spun it around about ¾ of a turn. There was a police report done on that. I have all the information and pictures. As it stands right now, we just have to twist it back around. The other one was sheered off at the top. We believe we have enough parts that we can fix it. I would like to remind everyone we will start leafing and please keep the brush out of the leaves. It takes the guys a long time to peel the brush out of the leaves before we can suck them up. Mowing and cleaning of the Riverwalk has been going on. We hauled the topsoil, and the cushion for the golf course. Clean up around the golf course especially around the tennis courts has started. I’ve been working with National Grid up on Anthony Street Extension. It’s been a long process. There are about 4 big cotton wood up there that need to come down. They gave in and are having Nelson come in and drop them, if we get rid of them. I will address the no parking signs on Bolton Ave and see what I can do on Church Street too.

Zoning Report: Mr. Shimel went to a FEMA meeting on flood plain maps. They have been working on it for about 4 years and they are still not done. The biggest change is now the map will be digitalized. The map really helps those that need Flood Plain Insurance but it’s only in draft form. Could be a couple more years before it’s finalized. There are still 67 parcels in the village that are in the flood plain. That doesn’t include the Town. In Swan Bay there has been a bunch that has been increased but also retracted out of it. It may change again before they get the final draft form.

I would like permission from the Trustees to hire someone to serve papers to a business. With my experience with people with drugs and guns and stuff. We’ve hired, in Orleans, we’ve always hired someone to serve them. \$50 to serve it.

Mayor Putnam- “Do you have somebody in mind?”

Mr. Shimel- “Theres a company in Watertown that I use. George Associates or something. That’s their primary business.

Trustee Caputo- “I’ll make the motion to authorize you to have somebody serve it.”
Seconded by **Trustee Fulmer**. All in favor- Aye.

Trustee Caputo- “We had our meeting for the Joint Fire District on August 28th. Both the Town and the Village approved dissolving the Fire Department and forming a joint.....actually the dissolution wont happen until the 30 day referendum period is up, but we agreed to join a Joint Fire District. We named our Commissioners, that is not official until October 26th, 2024. That Tuesday the 29th we will do our swearing in, so if anybody wants to be here to see the swearing in of the Commissioners. They will have their first official meeting. I believe they’re going to try to set the budget in place that day. They’ve already been unofficially working with us getting ready for the next step. It looks like they’re well on their way. I’m excited. Anybody not know who the Commissioners are? It’s in the paper. We have Court Rutherford as the Chairman. Shookie Millett. Those are the 2 from

the Village. The 3 from the Town that were appointed were Jameson Wills, Dave Johnson, and George Dobbins.

Chris Vaphiadis- “Is it an administrative and financial consolidation? I guess I don’t understand how it affects the equipment?”

Trustee Caputo- “Right now the Village owns the equipment, but the reality is and why a lot of Villages are getting out of the fire department business is because when we sit here and have a meeting like this the fire department doesn’t get enough time. Quite honestly none of us are SME on fire departments. We in my opinion weren’t giving them a good fair deal of what they wanted. Where now this Board of Commissioners have to go to school to oversee that fire department. There’s very strict regulations and they’re almost like their own little municipality but it’s only for the fire district. They set their own budget. It’s completely open to the public. You’re welcome to go at any time.

Chris Vaphiadis- “So the village and the other villages that are associated with this district, they lease the equipment to the district?”

Trustee Caputo- “What will happen is, if we own the equipment, we are going to donate it to them for \$1.00. The majority of it has been donated by taxpayers. The new fire truck we are getting was donated by Mr. Fitz Simmons. We don’t want them to have to go out and buy all new equipment or pay for it.”

Project Reports: BCA- Gregor- “We had a progress meeting last Thursday. One of the topics was on the meters. The contractor TI Sales has received the contract to proceed. They are actually shipping meters tomorrow. Our next progress meeting is scheduled for November 7th, 2024, at 4pm. No news on the Community Development Block Grant. There’s still anticipation that that’s going to happen sometime this fall. Possibly before Election Day. We will know in the next Month if those announcements are made. Should definitely be by the end of the year. That’s all really with the Water Project. The design is still continuing on everything we reviewed last week. An update on the phone line for the lift. Verizon has completed the installation of the phone line to the lift. Now it is up to the lift supplier to complete the connection. One thing for the lift is it is required to have a 24-hour dial out. So essentially on the lift if there’s an emergency and the lift stops working, there has to be the ability to call out. Has to be someone who is available 24 hours a day. My suggestion was, you currently use STAT for security and that’s a 24-hour staffed live phone line. The only other thing is the drains. Tim Maloney was on site and was able to get the drains opened up so they should be draining properly now.

NEW BUSINESS: Craig Garlock- “This July I got a water bill, and I noticed it was much higher than usual. We went down and found a leak down there. This is probably a Month after they actually read it, I guess. We found the leak and called the village.”

Walt Dingman- “Yes. I had Pat and Kevin come down just to check the meter. From April 2nd of this year to July 8th, the meter said we used 479,000 gallons of water. The same time period of April 2nd to July 9th of last year, we used 131,000 gallons of water. Quite a discrepancy. So, they took a reading that day, right there, Pat and Kevin. In that month period since the reading, it had used 31,000 gallons of water. So, we are questioning the 479,000 gallons.”

Craig Garlock- “We hadn’t fixed the leak yet either. At that time, we didn’t find one, but that leak was fixed after they made the reading for the month in between after the last bill. We were 131,000 gallons the year before versus 479,000 gallons or something close to that.

We are kind of wondering what could happen. “

Trustee Fulmer- “Well if you had a leak and used the water, we will forgive the sewer fees connected to that. We never forgive the water.”

Craig Garlock- “Is there a possibility it could not be at the leak because we tested it right after we got the bill within a month. We hadn’t done anything to fix anything. We didn’t have a leak that we were aware of, and we used 31,000 gallons a month. Which is about what we would use in a month and so it’s normal. That first billing was half a million gallons of water, and we don’t have any use of it then. “

Trustee Fulmer- “If we find where the numbers were reversed or something then we can work with the water. If we can’t then we forgive the sewer fee for that.”

Craig Garlock- “Well like I say, I don’t think it was a leak, because if it was a leak somebody would have it, would still be leaking when we went and tested it. It would have been extravagant, right? It would have kept on the same degree and if it was just a hose on the docks running, people would see that and shut it off. I’m looking at there should be another possibility here that I’m hoping we can find. The other property I paid the water bill and then the tenant came in and paid it also. I didn’t want her water to be shut off.”

Trustee Fulmer- “We will look into it. I will make a motion that we apply a credit to the other account.” **Trustee Strough** seconded it. All in favor-Aye.

Mayor Putnam- “We need a motion; we have a Shred-it coming in. There’s all kinds of old inventory here.”

Trustee Fulmer- “There is a closet with about 20 boxes that we want to get rid of in our efforts to clean up. I will make the motion to approve Shred-it.” **Trustee Strough** seconded it. All in favor-Aye.

Chamber of Commerce- “We submitted a packet. We are looking for approval for the dates for our visitor’s guide for the events for 2025.”

Trustee Fulmer- “I don’t know who is going to bring it up, but it is in here for Pirate Weekend, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.”

Mary Compo- “Our proposal in there is for one Pirate Weekend.”

Trustee Fulmer- “I will make a motion to approve the 2025 event calendar from the Chamber of Commerce.” **Trustee Caputo** Seconded it. All in Favor-Aye.

Clean up Week- November 4th-November 8th.

Pro-Housing Resolution- Trustee Fulmer motioned to become a Pro-Housing Community. **Trustee Caputo** Seconded it. Roll Call Vote.

Mayor Mike Putnam- Yes

Trustee Sandra Caputo- Yes

Trustee Judith Fulmer- Yes

Trustee Doug Strough- Yes

Trustee Greg Millett- Absent

Kris Kringle- Trustee Fulmer made a motion to have Kris Kringle December 7th, 2024.
Trustee Strough seconded it. All in Favor-Aye.

Public Concerns- None

Adjourn- Trustee Fulmer made motion to adjourn the meeting. **Trustee Caputo** seconded it. All in favor-Aye.