

Town of Alexandria
Regular Meeting
July 19, 2023
6:00 pm
Alexandria.statdvr.com
Audio/Video

Call the town board meeting to order at 6:00 by Supervisor Sweet.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Councilman Fayette -- Present
Councilman Kring – Absent
Councilman Thomas – Present
Councilman Thomson – Present
Supervisor Sweet – Present

Public Hearing for Town of Alexandria Brush Pit Local Law # 3 - 2023

Motion by Councilman Thomson to Open Public Hearing on Town of Alexandria Brush Pit Local Law # 3 – 2023 Seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried all in favor.

Discussion: No one from the audience had any comments.

Motion to Close Public Hearing by Councilman Thomson Seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried all in favor.

Motion to adopt Town of Alexandria Brush Pit Local Law 3-2023 by Councilman Thomas Seconded by Councilman Thomson

**Town of Alexandria Brush Pit
LOCAL LAW # 3 - 2023**

Use of the town brush pit is strictly limited for the exclusive benefit of real property located within the Town of Alexandria and for Town taxpayers. Nothing from outside of the Town of Alexandria is allowed in the pit.

The town brush pit is a seasonal operation, opening on March 15th and closing November 15th yearly. No exceptions.

There will be a \$250 commercial seasonal fee for all commercial users.
The town brush pit only accepts tree wood, limbs, branches, brush, and leaves.
There will be no dumping on the shoulder of the road:

The above regulations will be strictly enforced by the code enforcement officer or his/her designee, and any violations of Local Law # 3 will be subject to a fine per offense as follows: First violation fine \$1,000. 2nd violation \$2,000. 3rd and all following violations \$4,000.

Violations of this law may be enforced in any court having jurisdiction over such matters at the discretion of the Town.

Use of the Brush Pit will be monitored by cameras: All violators will be Prosecuted!

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Sweet	<u>X</u> YES	___ NO	
Councilman Fayette	___ YES	___ NO	<u>X</u> ABSENT
Councilman Kring	<u>X</u> YES	___ NO	
Councilman Thomas	<u>X</u> YES	___ NO	
Councilman Thomson	<u>X</u> YES	___ NO	

Motion Carried all present in favor.

Motion by Councilman Thomas to pay Abstract # 7 from 6/21/2023 – 7/19/2023 in the amount of \$444,102.79 except for 3 bills that Highway Superintendent needs to sign off on first. Once he has signed off on them, they can be paid. Seconded by Councilman Thomson. The board still wants to get the bills for review by Wednesday the week before the meeting. Supervisor Sweet will write a letter as to their expectations. Motion Carried with all in Favor.

Motion by Councilman Thomas to approve minutes from 6/21 seconded by Councilman Kring. No discussion motion carried all in favor.

Public Concerns: To one expressed any concerns.

Mr. Kingsley from Goose Bay Reclamation Corp. (GBRC) spoke to the Town Board and attendees on problems they've had in Goose Bay, what has been done about the problems in the past, and what they think should be done about the problems going forward and how the Town can help them.

GBRC is a volunteer not-for-profit organization, and it was formed in 2008 when residents around Goose Bay realized that the Bay was degrading right before their very eyes. The organization is focused on the restoration of, and then the preservation of Goose Bay. A grassroots organization gets funding from memberships, donations and fundraisers and grants. There web site can be found at <https://goosebayreclamationcorp.org>

Milfoil is the biggest problem both ecologically and recreationally. Milfoil is an invasive species which forms very dense mats of vegetation and propagates very easily. Once it gets in a bay it starts to take over the water. It crowds out native plants and when it dies back in the winter and falls to the bottom it begins to decay, which takes oxygen out of the water. When the oxygen level goes down, fish leave. This affects the spawning of several species of fish. That's the ecological side.

On the recreational side, the milfoil is so thick that it's hard to get a boat or jet ski through it. Swimming is very uncomfortable, and tubing is pretty much out of the question. Unfortunately, we can't eliminate the milfoil completely. Once it's in there if boat prop goes through it, cuts it off, makes fragments which grow into these plants and eventually the stuff comes back. So, we must control it.

In 2015 there was an experiment done with DEC at the south end of Goose Bay on about 40 acres, with an approved herbicide for milfoil control that had never been done on an open bay. Funding cost was about \$50,000 with \$25,000 coming from Goose Bay reclamation and \$25,000 from Senator Richie's Office. GBRC managed the project and executed the project, including writing the permit for DEC, grant writing, found the contractors and managed the contractors contracted to do the studies and water sampling. That it was very successful. Since then, working with DEC has been very easy.

In 2017, there was another project covering close to 100 acres. Again, funded with about \$75,000 from the state Senate and \$25,000 from the Goose Bay Reclamation. The GBRC scope for that project was about the same as in 2015.

2018 and 2020 over those two years another 300 acres was done using herbicide. That was under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The Town was the lead agent, and that project was done with the Town, Goose Bay Reclamation and Mud Lake. It was a good model for pulling together these larger projects which are required out there to knock milfoil down.

The town Harvester was out in 2021 and 22 and about 30 acres were done by machine compared to the 400 acres done by herbicides. GBRC did apply for fundraising this year and were unsuccessful mainly because they did not have the 50% cost sharing. It costs about \$1,000 to \$1,200 per acre to use the herbicides and they would like to do 100 acres per year.

Town of Alexandria can help by continuing to support the projects, help to identify funding sources and help to advocate to the state for these projects. Supervisor Sweet is going to set up some meetings with the new legislators so they can meet the group and hear what is needed.

Reports:

1. Engineer Reports: Rob Campany reported the Butterfield Lake pavilion they are working on the sketches / drawing hope to have done within next week, probably can't get a contractor this season.

Swan Hollow Culvert: Brian Crumbly from Barton & Loguidice of Syracuse looked at Culvert on Swan Hollow Road. A couple of takeaways if you want to replace the culvert, he feels it would be covered

under a NYS Grant Program for small Bridge and Culverts project that will cover up to 1.5 million Dollars. Last round there was no match but not sure then the next round of grants will be available and with grant money there are reports and evaluations and several steps that will be required.

Rehab of the culvert could be done with a steel liner made to fit and slip it inside of the culvert it would need to be grouted and the head wall repaired. He is worried about the scour pool downstream and there is probably scouring under the concrete and would need to be filled in. Call in scheduled with the engineer on Thursday to answer any questions. He doesn't think there is any danger of it falling, but it should be inspected periodically, and you could reduce it to a single lane and push traffic towards the inside of the bridge which is in pretty good condition.

Route 26 Water line replacement is due to start tomorrow weather permitting, equipment and everything is on site. Minimal interruption in service and only for a couple of houses.

Route 12 Sewer Fourth Coast sent everything to bond council today. As soon as Bond Council has the resolution Rob requested the Town Board have a special meeting to approve so they could have it to send in with the grant application for WQIC.

Otter Street Sewer needs a SEQR and lead agency resolution so they can put in an application for funding for this project also.

**Board Resolution # 123
Resolution to Declare Lead Agency Status**

At a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Alexandria, Jefferson County, New York held at the Municipal Building at 46372 County Route 1, Alexandria Bay, New York, 13607, on July 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Sweet, and upon roll being called the following were:

PRESENT: Brent Sweet, Supervisor
Ronald Thomson, Councilmember
Gene Kring, Councilmember
Shawn Thomas, Director of Finance

ABSENT: Michael Fayette, Deputy Supervisor

WHEREAS the town of Alexandria is undertaking the Town of Alexandria Otter St. Sewer District Project (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS the Council of the Town of Alexandria must evaluate all proposed actions submitted for the proposed construction of the Project and consider any impacts it may have on the environment in light of the State Environmental Quality Review Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder (SEQR); and

WHEREAS the Council of the Town of Alexandria desires to serve and act as the lead agency for the purposes of (SEQR); and

WHEREAS to aid the Council of the Town of Alexandria in determining whether the Action may have a significant impact on the environment, Part 1 of a Long Environmental Assessment Form ("EAF") dated July 19, 2023, has been prepared by the Town's engineer and a copy of which has been filed with the Town Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Town of Alexandria, NY that:

The Council of the Town of Alexandria makes the following findings and determinations with respect to the proposed project:

1. The foregoing recitations are incorporated herein and made a part hereof as if fully set forth hereafter.
2. The Project is classified as a Type 1 action for the purposes of SEQR.
3. Part 1 of the EAF as prepared by the Town Engineer is accepted as presented.
4. The Council hereby declares lead agency status for the purposes of the SEQR review for the Project.
5. The Town's Engineer is hereby directed to forward Part 1 of the EAF to the other involved

Agencies together with notice that this Council desires to serve as lead agency and seek the consent thereto.

6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

A motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilman Kring, and seconded by Councilman Thomas and upon roll call vote of the Board was duly adopted as follows:

Supervisor Brent Sweet,	YES <u> </u> X <u> </u>	NO <u> </u> <u> </u>	Absent <u> </u> <u> </u>
Councilman Fayette	YES <u> </u> <u> </u>	NO <u> </u> <u> </u>	Absent <u> </u> X <u> </u>
Councilman Thomas	YES <u> </u> X <u> </u>	NO <u> </u> <u> </u>	Absent <u> </u> <u> </u>
Councilman Thomson	YES <u> </u> X <u> </u>	NO <u> </u> <u> </u>	Absent <u> </u> <u> </u>
Councilman Kring	YES <u> </u> X <u> </u>	NO <u> </u> <u> </u>	Absent <u> </u> <u> </u>

CERTIFICATION:

I, Sandra Caputo, Town Clerk of the Town of Alexandria, do hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Alexandria held on July 19, 2023, and it is on file and of record and that said resolution has not been altered, amended or revoked and it is in full force and effect.

Sandra Caputo, Town Clerk

Motion by Councilman Kring to approve Board Resolution 123 to declare the Town Lead Agency in the Otter Street Sewer Project. Seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried all in favor.

Supervisor Sweet inquired if they had anyone lined up to do the pipes at Butterfield Lake, Rob said not yet but he had several companies in mind.

2. Highway Report: Work is continuing on Swan Hollow Road, once we get the road reprofiled we will start more construction on Dorr Road. Tomorrow we will be leveling out several intersections where our roads meet the state. Our plows are beginning to hook in. I would like to hear or see a real report on Swan Hollow culvert. Also, I would like to move forward with Castle Cable for our fire alarm system. We already have their internet system, and they service us 24,7. I do not think it makes sense to compromise the good service we already have. Thank you, Mike.

Zoning Report: June Report 17 Permits, 3 subdivisions, 1 variance granted, 7 violation letters sent, 3 lot lines. Total money taken in \$1,850.

Water and Sewer Report. 2 pumps have been replaced. Working on building to get it put up and they are looking forward to being able to put equipment inside.

Water & Sewer Committee Report. 2nd Quarter water bills have gone out.

Kathy Viens acct # 123 on Route 192 came in and questioned her water EDU rate Currently being assessed 1.5 for their property that used to be two parcels and the house next door burnt down and they bought the property and combined the lots. She said Rusty Johnson came in and took out all of the infrastructure and took away the house and they should only be charged 1 EDU.

David Roberts Account # 2022 has done a change of use on the Finn’s Restaurant to a Head Shop. If this has been passed the EDU rate for that property should also be changed. They are currently being charged 2.5 EDU for water and sewer. This should change to 1.75 EDU (1 for a single-family residence and .75 accessory business on same parcel). I will check with Norris to confirm.

Councilman Thomas spoke about Hax Field. One of the fields is not in good shape and consideration should be given to finding another site for athletic fields. The school is promoting their athletic department and we should be following suit.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Alexandria Bay Rising's Alan Fraccola met with Supervisor Sweet and walked an area of Bonnie Castle Stable with the discussion of purchasing property for an amphitheater and service building. Supervisor Sweet informed Alan that the Board would need to see maps and details. He hopes to have what they need to the Board by the next meeting.

2. New Copier was addressed by Sandy. At the last meeting we discussed the quotes and the board wanted to know on average how many pages do we use per year. We were told by our current copy company that we use about 25,000 black copy's and 16,000 color copies per year. A Spec sheet for the 3 copiers was provided with Xerox having more security features. Kyocerta gave up to 26,400 black copies and 16,800 color copies free before a per page price came in, but their service contract was substantially higher. Calculating the use of 26,400 black and 16,000 color for all three companies, came up with the following prices Xerox \$7,581, Kyocera \$6,928 and Sharp \$6,464. After discussion motion by Councilman Thomas to purchase Xerox copier even though it is more money because of the added security features, local company and superior machine pending that the money is in the budget. This copier is used for the Courts and security is very important. Seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion passed all in favor.

3. EFPR amended agreement will be discussed in executive session.

4. Pricing for erecting DPW metal building.

- 1. North Country YDIY \$28,000
- 2. HH Construction & Excavation \$32,300
- 3. Mercer General Contracting \$46,500

Discussion of prices, Jamie and Jay talked to all the contractors, and they all know what is expected on the project. Jamie and Jay were very happy with HH Construction with the job of the pad pour. Motion by Councilman Thomas to go with HH Construction on the preference of the Department Heads Jay & Jamie. Seconded by Councilman Kring Motion carried all in favor.

5. Horse statue at Bonnie Castle Stable is going up for sale. Discussion on taking a picture and doing article in TI Sun. Removal will be on the purchaser. It will go on Auction International.

6. Fire alarm system at town highway buildings. Discussion about the differences in bid. The highway department will be responsible for putting the conduit underground to run the wires in. Discussion on monthly monitoring fees. Motion by Councilman Thomas to go with Citizens Telephone going with Highway Superintendent's recommendation in the amount of \$8,869.29 for the 2 part quote for both inside highway building and outside building as long as monitoring can be done by Citizens. Seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion carried all in favor.

New Business

1. P&L given on Ice Arena and the amounts that the different groups are paying. Operating statement and balance sheet also given for June.

2. Budget Transfers # 4 7/19/2023

Account	DR	CR
General A		
13552.01 Assessment – Equipment	\$ 250.00	
71804.01 Spec Fac - Docks – CE	\$ 1,000.00	
81604.01.000.66 – Refuse – Brush Pit	\$ 5,000.00	
88101.01 – Cemeteries – PS	\$ 2,000.00	
599.01 Appropriated Fund Balance		\$ 8,250.00
To cover expenses due to extra cost of keeping docks, brush pit & cemeteries		
General B		
73104.02.000.33 – Youth – Cans Distribution	\$ 6,700.00	
2651.02 – Cans & Bottles Redemption (Rev to 5/9)		\$ 1,714.56
599.02 – Appropriated Fund Balance		\$ 4,985.44
To cover monies paid to youth groups. Includes \$ collected in 2022 but it was not distributed until June 2023.		
RW Sewer		
99019.09 – Interfund Transfer	\$ 103,218.52	L&P Fees – Peterson Case

599.01 Appropriated Fund Balance			\$ 103,218.52
CB Water			
83404.19 CB Water Transmission / distribution CE	\$	75.00	
83104.19 CB Water - Equipment			\$ 75.00
To cover expenses within its own fund.			

Motion by Councilman Thomas to approve budget transfers Seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion carried all in favor.

3. Junk law violation status reported by Attorney Silver that notice of violation has been completed. A personal delivery service will be used, and the property owner will be served this week. The landowner can request a hearing of the town council within so many days. If they do, we will do that in August. If they don't request a hearing the Town Board will continue with the enforcement phase.

4. EFPR engagement letter to discuss in executive session.

5. Supervisor Sweet provided Attorney Silver and the Board with a copy of Jefferson County Snow & Ice Agreement for review. No action at this time will be discussed at the next meeting.

6. The Highway Superintendent requests \$150,000 to be added to his budget for additional road repairs on Barnes Settlement Road. Motion by Councilman Kring to put \$150,000 into Highway DA from _____ for repair of Barnes Settlement Road repair. Seconded by Councilman Thomson.

7. Moratorium renewal. Supervisor Sweet explained that the Marine business / Island District moratorium is due to expire in September and he would like to extend the moratorium at the next meeting. Attorney Silver said this can be done by Resolution and he will draw up a resolution for the next meeting.

8. Resolutions?? Rob Campany said we are good for now.

Motion by Councilman Thomas to adjourn to executive session to discuss litigation and employees seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion carried all in favor.

Motion by Councilman Kring to come out of executive session seconded by Councilman Thomson. Motion carried all in favor.

Motion by Councilman Thomas to adjourn until next meeting August 16, 2023, Seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion carried all in favor.