

Town of Alexandria Regular Scheduled Board Meeting
Wednesday, December 11, 2019, 6:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance: Supervisor Brent Sweet, Councilman Ron Thomson, Councilman Mike Fayette, Councilman John Stine, Attorney Bob Slye. **Absent:** Councilman Jim Vancour, Town Clerk Jessy Hudon

Supervisor Sweet called the meeting to order

Approval of Minutes: Some changes/corrections requested to be made.

October 17, 2018: Regarding info on Comptroller audit, request correction to be changed from "audit to examination". Regarding discussion of Crowley & Halloran audit to change part in parenthesis from (per Dan Peterson's engagement letter) to (per the request of Dan Peterson's engagement letter). Regarding the Motorola radio \$1300 purchase, verified with HWY Superintendent the purchase was \$13,000, not \$1300. Lastly regarding the 17 EDU decisions, adding the reason why Supervisor Sweet and Councilman John Stine abstained; they abstained because they are part of the group of customers involved.

January 16, 2019: Motion to appoint Supervisor Brent Sweet and a second position (flexible on Councilman who attends) didn't explain for what. Needs to say: Motion to appoint Supervisor Brent Sweet and a second position (flexible on Councilman who attends) to the "Alexandria, Orleans and Clayton Joint Sewer Committee". Motion made by Councilman John Stine, Seconded by Councilman Jim Vancour. All in favor 5 ayes, zero nays. Motion passed.

June 19, 2019: Remove "Robinson's Garage". Reason, never called that. Robinson's garage was in Redwood, not on Rt 12. Regarding Report on DEC Mud Lake modifications; correct from "stop" logs to "core" logs, remove "reduce water level", replace with "reduce erosion". Regarding Redwood Sewer Report; after North Country add "Contracting".

November 20, 2019: Correct "Mayor" elect to "Supervisor" elect. Also correct on "Parker's Trailer Park" paragraph, make sure it says Deputy Supervisor before Ron Thomson's name.

Motion to approve minutes (with corrections) from October 17, 2018, November 7, 2018, December 19, 2018, January 16, 2019, June 19, 2019 and November 20, 2019 **made by Councilman Mike Fayette, Seconded by Councilman Ron Thomson. Discussion:** just want corrections made as described. All in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Councilman Jim Vancour absent. **Motion passed.**

Approval to pay bills:

Discussion: Question, why are we paying 3 Brothers (Tree Service) \$500 to cut down trees when in the same billing period we're buying chains and parts for chainsaws (for DPW) and we're not doing it. Supervisor Sweet asked retired DPW worker Dean Smith if they (DPW) cuts down trees and limbs, he responded "it depends on how big they are". He advised the DPW doesn't what they can and if they can't do it they would hire it done. Councilman Mike Fayette commented if the HWY Supervisor was here (at the meeting) he would have asked him.

Motion to approve the bills made by Councilman Mike Fayette, Seconded by Supervisor Brent Sweet. Discussion, none. All in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Absent, Councilman Jim Vancour. **Motion passed.**

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Privilege of the Floor

Discussion: Citizen John Huddleston commented on the last months meeting and the discussion regarding HWY Superintendent Mike Tibbles when he spoken about (by the Board). He advised the HWY Superintendent should have been spoken to before the meeting. Councilman Stine added he could have been here (at the meeting) to defend himself. Councilman Thomson said communication between the Highway Superintendent and the Board is terrible. Supervisor Sweet stated that the Highway Superintendent is supposed to be at these monthly meetings so things can be discussed and decided on and he (the Superintendent) chooses not to attend.

Citizen Dean Smith commented that as far as he is aware the Board has no "jurisdiction" over the Highway Superintendent other than to control the \$\$, Supervisor Sweet advised correct. Councilman John Stine commented he's been on the Board and around for a lot of years and the Board and the Superintendent used to sit down and discuss things. That doesn't happen anymore. Councilman Mike Fayette stated when Mike Tibbles (HWY Super) paved the parking lot 2x at the HWY barn, the \$\$ came out of the General Fund, which he (Tibbles) has no control over. He claimed it was taken out of his own \$\$ (HWY) and was advised 2x not to do it and it was done anyway. It was supposed to go to streets in Redwood. Councilman Fayette also commented we just paid \$2000 for a camera on a pole outside of the HWY Barn out of General Fund and will get a monthly bill on it that will also come out of General Fund.

Discussion: Ron Randall Rt 12 property status. Paperwork was sent to Attorney Slye. Mr Randall offered he will have property surveyed at his own cost. Attorney Slye stated the Town will pay for the survey, then there will be a minimum bid at auction which is the cost of the survey. Attorney Slye will prepare the notice of public bid and auction.

Motion to contact Lafave, White, McGivern to do the survey and create a description made by Councilman John Stine, **Seconded** by Councilman Ron Thomson. Discussion, been a long time working on this. All in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Absent, Councilman Jim Vancour. **Motion passed.**

Fuel Bids: 3 different company's provided bids. Suburban only bid on propane. Mirabito was the low bidder on 5 categories. We have already been with them for a few years now. Supervisor Sweet's recommendation is to award the bid to Mirabito. Councilman Thomson pointed out they are low on every single one (category).

Motion to accept the fuel bid from Mirabito made by Councilman John Stine, **Seconded** by Councilman Ron Thomson. Discussion, none. All in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Absent Councilman Jim Vancour. **Motion passed.**

Discussion: Update on burned trailer at Parkers Trailer Park, Attorney Slye went over process for posting a notice to Mr Lawton to clean the property. Norris has to post it on the property once signed, then it has to be served personally. We will have to hire a process server because he keeps refusing any mail that has been sent to him.

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Discussion: Update on Grossman St Armour targeted examination (water & Sewer), in 2018 they found that the late fees were not passed on to the relieves to Jefferson County. Supervisor Sweet verified it was for all of the water districts, and it amounts to a large sum of money. A complete report should be ready within 3-4 days. There's evidence of late fees that were waived. On some of the late fees that were waived there were explanations as to the reason, and some there were no explanations. There will be a final report available to the public for the next meeting. Supervisor Sweet stated he and some others (Mike Fayette, Dale Raymo, Jamie Papin & others) are not happy with this UBMax software. Even Molly at the Village (Clerk-Alexandria Bay) is not happy with it and are running into problems. Supervisor Sweet stated we (the Town) want to start looking at other programs. A motion was already passed (recently) that no late fees were to be waived without going in front of the Board and from this report it's obvious that they were (before).

Discussion: Update on Crowley Halorhan targeted examination. Supervisor Sweet received an email today that there would be a report next week. He was advised that some requested information that was requested was received from Jessy (Town Clerk) and Nicole (Clerk to Supervisor) on Monday.

Budget Transfers: Motion to accept budget transfers made by Councilman Ron Thomson, Seconded by Councilman John Stine. Discussion, none. All in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Absent Councilman Jim Vancour. Motion passed.




Town of Alexandria	December 11, 2019		
Summary of Suggested Budget Transfers - #10			
FYE 12/31/19			
	ACCOUNT	DR	CR
GENERAL A			
A11104.1.4 - Judicial - CE		\$ 200.00	
A12201.1.2 - Clerk to Supervisor - PS		\$ 5,000.00	
A13304.1.4 - Tax Collections - CE		\$ 40.00	
A14204.1.4 - Law - CE		\$ 11,500.00	
A64104.1.4 - Ec Opty & Dev - CE		\$ 3,500.00	
A69894.1.4 - Community Enhancement - CE		\$ 1,155.00	
A71404.1.1 - Rec-Arena Manager - PS		\$ 7,000.00	
A71401.1.1.14 - Recreation - FT - PS			\$ 7,000.00
A71404.1.4 - Recreation - CE		\$ 4,000.00	
A71404.1.41 - Recreation - Electricity			\$ 2,000.00
A71404.1.42 - Recreation - Heat Fuel			\$ 2,000.00
A81604.1.4 - Refuse/Garbage - CE		\$ 500.00	
A12201.1.1 - Deputy Supervisor - PS			\$ 2,000.00
A12201.1.1.3 - Budget Officer - PS			\$ 500.00
A12202.1.2 - Supervisor - Equipment			\$ 1,000.00
A13204.1.4 - Auditor - CE			\$ 6,000.00
A13554.1.4 - Assessor - CE			\$ 5,000.00
A14104.1.4 - Clerk - Equipment			\$ 3,000.00
A51322.1.2 - Garage - Equipment			\$ 4,395.00
For reallocation of spending in accounts due to overspending. Law is up due to law suits, zoning issue, etc. Recreation are transfers from one Rec fund to another. Clerk to Suppr is due to increase to 40 hrs. This takes it to end of Dec. Chamber is using up some of their balance. Comm Enhancement is over, due to Streetscape pmt to DANC.			

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HIGHWAY DA					
DA51481.3.1	- Serv Other Gov'ts - PS	\$	5,200.00		
DA90308.3.8	- Employee Benefits - SS	\$	1,700.00		
DA51302.3.2	- Machinery - Equipment			\$	2,500.00
DA51484.2.4	- Serv Other Gov'ts - CE			\$	3,000.00
DA90508.3.8	- Unemployment Ins			\$	1,400.00
For reallocation of spending in accounts within the same fund.					
HIGHWAY DB					
DB51121.4.1.202	- Perm Imp - PS	\$	2,850.00		
DB51122.4.2	- CHPS - Perm Imp Hwy	\$	3,400.00		
DB14204.4.4	- Legal Fees - CE			\$	1,900.00
DB51101.4.1	- Road Maintenance - PS			\$	-950.00
DB51104.4.4	- Road Maintenance - CE			\$	3,400.00
For reallocation of DB expenses within the DB fund.					
REDWOOD SEWER					
SS81201.9.1	- Sanitary Sewers - PS	\$	3,300.00		
SS81204.9.4	- Sanitary Sewers - CE	\$	24,000.00		
SS90308.9.8	- Employee Benefits - SS	\$	100.00		
SS81101.9.1	- Sewer Admin - PS			\$	900.00
SS81104.9.4	- Sewer Admin - CE			\$	1,200.00
SS81201.9.13	- HI Buyout - PS			\$	825.00
G3989	- EPG Project - NYS Grant (Receivable)			\$	15,000.00
Appropriated Fund Balance					
To reallocate PS and CE within SS fund. SS CE is up because of payment to					
St. Lawrence Engineering for grant work. TOA will be paid \$15,000 soon.					
Thus the entry for the receivable. FB used for remainder needed.					

EDGEWOOD WATER					
EW83101.17.1	- Water Admin -PS	\$	41.00		
EW83204.17.4	- Source of Supply - CE	\$	2,151.00		
EW83404.17.4	- Trans & Dist - CE			\$	300.00
EW90308.17.8	- Employee Benefits - SS			\$	275.00
Appropriated Fund Balance					
Source of Supply was higher than budgeted. Amount needed came out of					
other EW water accounts and FB was used for the remainder.					
OTTER STREET WATER					
OSS3104.8.4	- Administration - CE	\$	300.00		
OSS3204.8.4	- Source of Supply - CE			\$	300.00
Reallocation of expenses within the OS Fund.					
REDWOOD WATER					
RW83104.18.4	- Admin - CE	\$	1,710.00		
RW83401.18.11	- Health Ins - PS	\$	350.00		
RW83404.18.4	- Trans & Dist - CE	\$	755.00		
RW83204.18.4	- Source of Supply - CE			\$	2,815.00
Reallocation of expenses within the RW Water Fund.					

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RT 12 WATER									
SW/83101.22.1 - Admin - PS	\$	400.00							
SW/83104.22.4 - Source of Supply - CE	\$	6,500.00							
SW/83104.22.4 - Administration - CE	\$		1,900.00						
SW/83404.22.4 - Trans & Dist - CE	\$		5,000.00						
Reallocation of expenses within the Rt 12 Water Fund.									
Approved by:  Date: 12/16/19									
									
									

Water Operator Report: given

Sewer Operator Report: given

Highway Superintendent Report: none available

Zoning/Planning Report: given

Youth Report: none available

Rink Report: A spreadsheet is being worked on by Councilman Fayette and Supervisor Sweet to detail expenses and revenue each month and will be filled out by Rink Manager Trevor Bogart so there is a report to be given at the meeting each month.

Town Clerk Report: none available

Budget Officer Appointment: Motion made by Councilman Ron Thomson to appoint Brent Sweet as the Budget Officer for 2020, Seconded by Councilman John Stine. Discussion, none. All in favor 3 ayes, zero nays, Supervisor Sweet abstained. Absent Councilman Jim VanCour. Motion passed.

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Discussion: Allocation of Deputy Clerk wages for 2020 so budgeted monies last 12 months. There is \$3000 in the budget for wages from recommendations from Accountant Sherry Ferguson and Book keeper Nicole Milsap. There are 15 different items the Town Clerk used to that she no longer does because they have been transferred to other people. An example is Water & sewer. That is just example of one of the items/duties removed from the Town Clerk because she hadn't been here to do it. Water operator Jamie Papin is doing a meter reading each week, the Clerk used to do the report, now another person that is here 5 days a week does that. Councilman Mike Fayette commented he believes the Town of Hammond allocates \$800 for the whole year for Deputy Clerk. Theresa is approximately \$300. Councilman Thomson commented that when Ellen Peck retired in June (of whatever year), from January 1st till then end of June she only came in (to the office) a couple of hours each month. It was proven that one person could handle the office. This year from July forward there has been one person in the office, the Deputy Clerk. So it's proven the office could run with one person. The idea is to budget \$3000 to cover sick time, vacation time. Councilman Stine stated it should be the person elected that should be here running the office, it should be the person that the people elected. Supervisor Sweet stated it should be the person running the office that's a salary elected official making \$40+ thousand per year. Councilman Fayette pointed out in the Town manual "the deputy Clerk serves in the absence of the Town Clerk". That is what the point of the Deputy Clerk is. If the Clerk is not here the Deputy serves in their absence.

Supervisor Sweet inquired to Attorney Slye, "we (the Board) controls the purse strings (\$3000) but suppose that gets "eaten" up in the month because the Deputy Clerk is here 5 days a week. What do we do for the rest of the year? The office is closed. When the Town Clerk is not here and the allocated money for the Deputy Clerk is gone. The Town Clerks office is going to be closed." Attorney Slye answered, "the public expects the Clerk's office to be open. It performs some pretty important functions".

Supervisor Sweet says he definitely supports the position to be appointed so we can handle the situations like this. Councilman Thomson stated "with an appointed and someone has extenuating circumstances and an individual uses up their vacation time and personal time and sick time they just don't get paid." "You can't take months and months off and get full salary. So if we had an appointed person, that appointed person gets paid according to what they were hired at and if something comes up and they can't be here for months, we'll have the \$\$ to pay somebody else to be there". We don't have that situation now. Councilman Stine stated "we didn't budget money to have 2 Town Clerks". Supervisor Sweet stated "we did offer to the Town Clerk to take some of her budgeted monies that are for her and put them towards paying a second person when she is not here, but she did not want to do that. Councilman Thomson stated "the question is with the \$3000, we have it budgeted but, do we (the Board) have any control on how that's used? I don't think we do, do we? The intent is for vacation, sick time and personal time." Councilman Fayette stated "literally the Town Law is the Deputy is here when the Town Clerk is not". Councilman Thomson stated if that \$3000 all "happens" in January...is to enforce the law that says "here in the absence". The Town Clerk will say that the Deputy Clerk works for her in her office. Councilman Thomson stated, the \$3000 is there and when the \$3000 is gone then the office is just going to have to be closed and no one wants that. Supervisor Sweet says he doesn't feel it's fair to the tax papers to come up with \$20-30,000 to fund the Deputy Town Clerk.

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CONT-Councilman Thomson stated "I think we will just have to move forward with the \$3000 budgeted and when it's gone, close the office. We are assuming what's going on is going to continue going on and if it does and we use up the \$3000 then we can make the request again for the Town Clerk to fund increasing that. If she ok's transferring from her line item into the Deputy Clerk's line item, I (Councilman Thomson) personally wouldn't have a problem with that". Attorney Slye commented "if she (Town Clerk) agrees to it, but she can't be forced". Councilman Stine offered "if she wanted to fulfill the job she was elected to do then she could do that". Supervisor Sweet stated we'd have to do a budget transfer whether weekly or monthly out of her wages to the Deputy Clerk wages and pay the Deputy Clerk out of those wages.

Attorney Slye stated that could be done, but it will never happen. This is an issue between the Town Clerk and the people who elected her. She is answerable to them. The alternatives are very limited unless she committed some crime you can't commence a proceeding against her at the appellate division. Changing to an appointed position, that can be done but it can't affect this term of her office and that would be subject to mandatory referendum. Councilman Thomson asked if that were approved it would prevent us (the Town) from being in this position again, 5 years from now, 10 years from now. Whoever is sitting in these seats 5 years or 10 years from now wouldn't have to deal with what we're dealing with right now. Attorney Slye responded if the Board really wants to do this, then come March or so you should consider Local Law, subject to mandatory referendum that eliminates the elected office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Alexandria to be replaced by an appointable office upon the expiration of her current term of office. And in November it would be voted on.

Supervisor Sweet asked Attorney Slye about putting on ballot in November about changing the elected officials wages based on change of duties. We have a list of 15 items that will end up more like 20 items that have been removed from the clerk and shifted to other full-time employees.

Attorney Slye responded you could do Local Law that would reduce the salary, subject to mandatory referendum. He is not sure if that if that could be immediately affective (next November) or would it be the end of the term as well. Regarding the tax collector position and to abolish that and change to appointed, if you want to curtail her power as tax collector, that would as well have to go to mandatory referendum, that probably is immediately effective (January of next year 2021). Which doing this would create a newly elected office of tax collector at the same time. Mr Slye will have to look into the tax collector position and see if that has to be elected or if it can be appointed. Supervisor Sweet also mentioned putting together an email to the Association of Towns for their input because they have looked into past history regarding situations like this and have been able to provide legal information.

Discussion: DOS Streetscape update given from Village of Alexandria Mayor Steve Jarvis. We are moving forward. There will be 2 representatives from the Village (Trustee Millett, Trustee Fulmer) and 1 citizen (Cindy Penn), 2 representatives from the Town and 1 citizen (a suggestion was made of Russell Schroth and Pat Simpson). Then we can get this committee together and start putting the package together working with the Village and the Town to get this going. The 2 representatives for the Town will be discussed.

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Motion to commit to half of the half of the cost (approximately \$309,000) for the DOS Streetscape project made by Councilman Mike Fayette, **Seconded** by Councilman Ron Thomson. Discussion, none. All in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Absent Councilman Jim Vancour. **Motion passed.**

Discussion: Thomson Park improvements through Towns budgeted line item (Village Improvement) status. The Town has \$25,000 available. The original request from Village was \$24,000+. Mayor Jarvis from the Village will have Trustee Millett put a proposal together for exactly what they would like the Town to contribute. Money would be taken out of the balance of the 2019 Village Improvement funds and 2020 funds.

Motion to allocate the \$25,000 to the Village of Alexandria Bay for the Community Enhancement Project at Thomson Park upon submittal of the documents, plans and details for exactly what they want made by Councilman Mike Fayette, **Seconded** by Councilman John Stine. Discussion, none. All in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Absent Councilman Jim Vancour. **Motion passed.**

Discussion: Results from Town Attorney research for board action required necessary to change age amounts of elected officials due to changes in job duties all by public referendum. **Discussed with item #15**

Discussion: Hire Grant writer/writers to apply for BCS projects
Supervisor Sweet Inquired to Attorney Slye what was going on with the closing of the Stables. Attorney Slye responded that he had written the seller a letter but hasn't received a response yet. Supervisor Sweet asked Attorney Slye if he would write another letter to the seller stating the Town Board is anxious to close on the property. Attorney Slye advised he would.
There have been some letters and emails sent out for writers for grant applications. The Town agreed Rob Campany is going to act as intermediary.

Discussion: Mud Lake Trail grant application. Councilman Mike Fayette will contact and speak to Sunshine Jenkins regarding.

Discussion: Support letter for New York State Conservation Partnership Program Capacity and Excellence Grant for Indian River Lakes Conservancy

Motion by Councilman Ron Thomson to have Supervisor Sweet sign and endorse the letter of support for the New York State Conservation Partnership Program Capacity and Excellence Grant for the Land Trust Alliance of the North East for Indian River Lakes Conservancy, **Seconded** by Councilman Mike Fayette. Discussion, none. All in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Absent Councilman Jim Vancour. **Motion passed.**

Discussion: The 2020 Appointments will be made at the regular scheduled January 15, 2020 meeting.

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Discussion: Resolution to have DANC fulfil Town requirements for SAM Grant

Motion by Councilman Ron Thomson to have DANC fulfil the Town requirements for the SAM Grant, **Seconded** by Councilman John Stine. Discussion, none. All in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Absent Councilman Jim Vancour. **Motion passed.**

Discussion: Agreement between Town of Alexandria and town of Orleans to pay Alexandria for using our personnel, paper, envelopes, stamps and software to do billing for Rt 12 sewer. Supervisor Sweet stated we can't find an agreement for this, supposedly there is an IMA or some type of agreement that we get paid for doing that (the billing). Supervisor Sweet has asked Tammy from Town of Orleans to see if she can find it. So we get paid for that. Councilman Thomson inquired if we've ever gotten paid for it. Supervisor Sweet stated our Town Clerk has been paid for it. Councilman Thomson inquired if she was paid personally, Supervisor Sweet responded the voucher he has, has her (Town Clerk Jessy Hudon's) name on it as the claimant. Attorney Slye stated if wanted the Board to call and have him make some inquires regarding it. Councilman Thomson inquired if the voucher that has the Town Clerk's name on it if it has been paid by the Town of Orleans. Supervisor Sweet responded that is has been paid in the past and he received a text from Kevin (Patrick Town Supervisor from Town of Orleans) saying they have the voucher with her name on it. Supervisor Thomson asked if they could hold off paying it. Supervisor Sweet said he believes that money is due to the Town of Alexandria. It depends on what the agreement says, this is why we need the agreement. If the agreement says you pay Claimant, I think the Town Board would like to vote to change that. Councilman Thomson asked what the date on the invoice was and Supervisor Sweet responded December 9th (of this year).

Motion to have the book keeper to the Town Supervisor submit an invoice on behalf of the Town of Alexandria to the Town of Orleans for \$300 dated tomorrow (December 12, 2019) to be payable to the Town of Alexandria, **Seconded** by Councilman John Stine. **Discussion,** Councilman Mike Fayette inquired, this agreement if there is such an agreement, if we are changing this agreement from annually to quarterly, aren't we changing the agreement? Rob Campany responded that an amendment could be made to the agreement and that he has a copy of the IMA he could give to Attorney Bob Slye, it should have specific language about the reimbursement to the Town of Alexandria regarding the \$300. Councilman Fayette stated we can't really have a resolution to change an agreement when we don't really know what it (the agreement) says. Councilman Thomson stated we (the Town) knows they have been paying \$300 historically. He asked is the voucher being issued for 2019 or 2020? Supervisor Sweet responded he thinks the voucher he is seeing is for 2019. Councilman Thomson stated if it's for 2019 then we can leave it at the \$300, and then start a discussion if we are going to generate more bills then we have in the past, then the amount of money ought to be more. Supervisor Sweet stated then your (councilman Thomson's) motion should be to have the Town of Orleans pay the Town of Alexandria per the IMA Rob (Campany) is going to send us a copy of that most likely says it's and IMA between the Town of Alexandria and the Town of Orleans. The claimant changes to the Town of Alexandria. Councilman Thomson stated his was more specific stating \$300 which we don't have any documentation saying it should be \$300 or another amount. Councilman Fayette stated he feels we should look at the IMA before we start making resolutions on something when we don't have it in front of us. Councilman Thomson stated we (the Board) can just vote it (his motion) down, then make another motion to contact

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CON'T-the Town of Orleans and make sure they don't send any money in regard to this to any payee other than the Town of Alexandria.

All in favor of Ron's (councilman Thomson's) original motion zero, nays 4, Absent Councilman Jim Vancour. Motion voted down.

Motion to have the Town Supervisor contact the Town Supervisor of the Town of Orleans (Kevin Rarick) informing him that any remittances for Rt 12 Sewer will be to the Town of Alexandria only made by Councilman Ron Thomson, **Seconded** by Councilman Mike Fayette. Discussion, none. All in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Absent Councilman Jim Vancour. **Motion passed.**

Discussion: Legal papers for Town were served to Town Clerk November 1, 2019, the Board was notified December 2, 2019. Supervisor Sweet stated he received a letter in regards to litigation regarding the papers. Supervisor Sweet called Attorney Slye regarding a letter he received, sent the letter to Attorney regarding the letter. Attorney Slye contacted the claimants attorney, they advised the Town of Alexandria had been served on November 1, 2019 and gave name of Town Clerk. (Jessey Hudon). There is now an adjournment per Attorney Slye, he feels everything will be worked out. He stated Municipalities are not held in default, the taxpayers won't be "punished" for failure to act by an elected official. Municipalities are not held liable for punitive damages.

Discussion: NYS Comptrollers' examination are complete and soon (Friday, December 12, 2019) to be released by NYS Comptroller of 1) "Water & Sewer District financial condition: ref#2019M-116 and 2) "Redwood Water & Sewer district charges" ref#2019M-90.

Discussion: Councilman Thomson questioned the Town of Alexandria Holiday Schedule. The schedule says Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Christmas Day and the day before and after, is that normal. Supervisor Sweet responded that's abnormal. Last year it had Monday in it as well which was a half day. Councilman Thomson inquired of how many paid holidays does the Town of Alexandria have. Supervisor Sweet advised he will look at the personnel policy.

Motion to accept the Holiday schedule with one change, make Thursday, December 26, 2019 open, **Seconded** by Councilman Mike Fayette. Councilman Thomson clarified Thursday, (December 26) the Transfer Site would be closed anyway, the Town office will be open (if someone is here) and the Town Court would be the same as January 2, 2020. The Town office would be open. Discussion, none. All in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Absent Councilman Jim Vancour. **Motion passed.**

Executive Session: nothing

Motion to close, Supervisor Sweet then asked if anyone had anything to say.

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Dean Smith inquired that he thought when current Board took office they "did away with" the Budget Officer? Doesn't Ferguson and Sherry (Ferguson) do the budget. Councilman Mike Fayette stated, that's different. Budget officer and the accountant doing budget are different. Smith asked who was budget officer last year?

Response (from Supervisor Sweet): Brent Sweet.

Smith: The year before?

Response (from Supervisor Sweet) Brent Sweet.

Smith: How much do you get paid?

Response (from Supervisor Sweet) \$500.

Smith: That's what you get paid?

Response (from Supervisor Sweet): That's what I did get paid.

Smith: You're going to be the budget officer, what is your pay going to be this time?

Response (from Supervisor Sweet): For 2020? (doesn't have a current budget to verify).

Councilman Mike Fayette stated there has always been a budget officer. The pay has been less the last few years because Brent (Sweet) took far less than Dale (Hunneyman) did.

Smith: What I'm asking is you made about \$20,000/year on the budget as budget officer Councilman Fayette stated he didn't know about that.

Response (from Supervisor Sweet): What happened when I got in office and I was budget officer Sherry Ferguson was doing 95% of the budget work. She created the budget, worked on the budget, presented the budget. That was changed the first couple of years. We're changing it back now because the Town is doing more of the budget themselves. And Sherry (Ferguson) is going to be out of doing budgets.

Smith: She's done out of the Town totally?

Response (from Supervisor Sweet): She's out of doing the Town budget, which we paid her a lot of money (\$8000+)

Smith: My question is where is the Town paying you? (Supervisor Sweet)

Response (from Supervisor Sweet): It's \$18,000 (some-odd dollars). I don't have the figure in front of me.

Councilman Thomson said it's in the 2020 budget

Smith: So that puts your (Supervisor Sweet) salary in the \$40,000, \$42,000, \$43,000?

Response (from Supervisor Sweet): There was notes on the beginning of the budget. It puts my salary at exactly the same as the Town Clerk. \$42,7xx

Smith: So you're going to be here 8 hours a day?

Response (from Supervisor Sweet): I'm here every day, ask anybody here.

Smith: So you're going to be here same as the Town Clerk 8-4?

Response (from Supervisor Sweet): Don't say same as the Town Clerk.

Smith: I know you want to change to appointed positions, my question is if you are going to make 1 person appointed Official, then everybody should be appointed.

Councilman Fayette stated you can't do it like that.

Supervisor Sweet: you can't do it legally

Councilman Thomson: Supervisor is Elected, Town Board is Elected.

Town of Alexandria Regular Scheduled Board Meeting
Wednesday, December 11, 2019, 6:00pm

CON'T-Smith: Town Clerk is Elected

Councilman Fayette: But it can be appointed

Councilman Thomson stated that (Town Clerk) is allowed to be made appointed
Supervisor Sweet stated our Town Attorney can verify there are two positions that can be changed
appointed and that is Town Clerk and Tax Collector.

Councilman Thomson stated actually some have appointed Highway Superintendents as well.
Smith: You're taking away the people's right to vote.

Attorney Slye: that's why its subject to mandatory referendum

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Thomson, **Seconded** by Councilman John Stine. Discussion, none. All
in favor 4 ayes, zero nays. Absent Councilman Jim Vancour. **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm

Minutes taken by recording.

Minutes written by Deputy Clerk Cheri L. VanBrocklin