

Town of Alexandria
Regular Meeting
October 18, 2023
6:00pm
Alexandria.statdvr.com
Audio/Video

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Councilman Fayette - Present

Councilman Kring - Present

Councilman Thomson - Present

Supervisor Sweet - Present

Councilman Thomas - Absent

Motion by Supervisor Sweet to pay October 2023 abstract bills along with the two bills for November, one for USDA and the other for H and H, minus the bill for the Redwood Cemetery and minus the Assessor's bill.

He stated that he did have a question about the Redwood Cemetery bill for 2023-24 and questioned why the town pays in advance for the \$125 for maintenance of the cemetery. Board members discussed the cemetery and asked where it was located and if it was still active. It was agreed to hold off on that bill until more questions are answered.

Councilman Fayette questioned why the assessor wasn't being paid and questioned how the town could not pay him.

Councilman Thomson explained that he is going to be paid, just in a different form. He will be paid on the payroll.

Motion was seconded by Councilman Kring and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Motion was made by Councilman Fayette to approve the board meeting minutes of September 20, 2023, September 21, 2023 and October 2, 2023, seconded by Councilman Kring and carried with all voting in favor.

Motion was made by Councilman Fayette, seconded by Councilman Kring to open the public hearing to hear comments in connection with Local Law No.4 of 2023, a Local Law to Override the 2024 Tax Cap Limit.

Supervisor Sweet explained that this is to override the tax cap. While, the board doesn't think it will be needed, they were advised to pass it anyways. Last year, the town board didn't need to use it.

There was no public comment.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomson, seconded by Councilman Fayette to close the public hearing.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomson, seconded by Councilman Kring to pass Local Law No. 4 of 2023 to override the 2024 Tax Cap Limit.

Roll call vote on the foregoing local law as follows:

Supervisor Brent Sweet	Yes
Councilman Fayette	Yes
Councilman Thomson	Yes
Councilman Kring	Yes
Councilman Thomas	Absent

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Engineer Report

Rob Company explained that the bonding for the Redwood work requires him to send engineering reports, which are completed, to Tim, the bond counsel as well as to Jeff Smith with Municipal Solutions. He explained that Tim will then prepare a resolution for the board's November meeting, which will require a public hearing, which can be held in December after which the resolution can be voted on. Since it is a 202B process, it is a simpler bond resolution process. Then permanent bonding can be put in place. SEQRA short form will also have to be done. He also commented that the outside of the water tank will have to be painted at some point. So much delamination has occurred that it will have to be a complete removal of the paint, with an estimated price of around \$300,000

Supervisor Sweet remarked that he has been asked about the Butterfield Lake pavilion placement. Rob explained that Steve Dorr is the only one so far that has been looking at it. Rob thought that perhaps others would be looking at it later when not so busy.

Rob explained that he reached out to EFC on additional funding applied for regarding the Route 12 sewer. It was suggested that we break this up into two phases. We are waiting for feedback to see if that would make it eligible for the funding. In addition, since the town has a pending application for funding for a water improvement grant through DEC, they won't talk with us about the application, and we won't know until late November or early December how we scored. He also explained that one of the problems with EFC current funding program, is that we couldn't have incurred any debt on the project prior to a certain date in 2021. We had a note on that project that was closed prior to that date and consequently, they couldn't extend the funding under that program. He explained that all the details haven't been worked out in regard to the debt issues for the district.

Rob explained that the Otter Street sewer extension requires RFP for engineering services and they had submitted a proposal on September 6th. The town board responded that they had received the proposal from St Lawrence Engineering.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomson that the proposal by St Lawrence Engineering for the Otter Street Sewer Extension planning report and study project be approved. Motion was seconded by Councilman Kring and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Highway Report

Supervisor Sweet advised that Swan Hollow and Barnes Settlement roads are complete and all that is needed is some signage. Progress is being made on the Dorr Road. Crews will then move to the Hanni Road for minor repairs. They will soon be installing winter road reflectors and tearing down trucks. They are searching for part time winter help. The report indicated that the pay has to be raised or allow the superintendent to hire a full-time MEO. It also stated that they can not take a truck off the road as it will result in much more overtime.

Councilman Kring advised that Justin Schultz is going to come back and another part time person was hired.

Zoning Report, Water Report, Sewer Report, Arena/Youth Report

These reports are backup documents that can be found on the town's website.

Water and Sewer Committee Report

Sandy followed up on Mr. Vien's complaint concerning the charges on the lot next door. He said that he had been told by Supervisor Hunneyman and Sewer Operator Dana Spies, that if he cleaned up the house and combined the lots, there would be no additional charges. He said that Mr. Spies was supposed to remove the sewer pots but did not come when Rusty Johnson was there because he said he was busy and would do it later. Sandy explained that she spoke with Dale and he doesn't remember this agreement. She also checked the minutes for the years that Dale was supervisor and there is no mention of it there either.

Sandy stated that the water and sewer bills have gone out and are due by October 31st and she is currently working on the re-levy for those accounts that are in arrears. She has been working on the water and sewer districts based off the tentative budget. The proposed capital amounts as of now: Redwood water district would be \$330, the same as last year. Redwood sewer would be \$80 – down \$5 from last year; Route 12 water with her recommendation would be paying \$330 – down \$80 from last year due to increase in units; Otter Street water would tentatively be \$436 up from \$410 last year.

Supervisor Sweet asked what the current policy is for removing sewer pots. Councilman Fayette remarked that the owner is responsible.

Sandy responded that the current policy is that it is the owner's responsibility. And, Mr. Vien had stated that he had Rusty Johnson's crew there taking things out and he would have had them take the pots out if that's what the agreement was.

Councilman Fayette asked Rob Campany if the town could remove infrastructure that they are still bonded for. Rob responded that it's a good question, however, he's not sure who would answer it. Supervisor Sweet suggested that Jeff Smith would probably know the answer.

Councilman Fayette commented that this has come up before on the maintenance side of it. When the original rate was set based on a certain number of edu's so if we remove something, that changes the number of edu's.

Sandy explained that he had the house torn down and under the new ordinance, because the infrastructure is still there, he is being charged for ½ edu.

Supervisor Sweet stated that he would contact Jeff Smith and the Association of Towns in regard to this issue.

Clerk Report

Sandy stated that monthly reports were submitted on time, and she has been working on a lot of water and sewer things and stuff for the county.

Old Business

Drew Engineering

Nothing will be available until the next meeting.

Short Term Rental

Norris is looking for comments from the planning board.

Tax Cap Override

Public hearing was held this evening and vote was taken on the local law.

Holland Street Board Ramp

Supervisor Sweet advised that he had attended the village board meeting and had reported as to the status of this. He is in the process of getting a couple letters to give to the village about Fiacco repairing the ramp.

Jefferson County Snow and Ice Contract for 2024

Supervisor Sweet advised that this has been signed and delivered by the highway superintendent to Jefferson County.

New Business

Newest Appellate Court Decision 09-29-2023

Supervisor Sweet read the legal document indicating that the appeal submitted by Daniel B. Peterson against the Town of Alexandria was denied through the Appellate Division of the Fourth Circuit of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

Budget Transfer

Town of Alexandria 10/18/2023
 Summary of Budget Transfers #7
 FYE 12/31/2023

General A	ACCOUNT	DR	CR
	16204.01.000.67 Bldgs -CE (RW Sewer)	\$ 1,200.00	
	16204.04 Bldgs -CE		\$ 1,200.00
	To cover new line item within its own fund		
	71804.01 Spec. Fac – Docks – CE	\$ 200.00	
	77504.01 Celebrations -CE		\$ 200.00
	To cover engineering fees within its own fund		
	81601.01 Refuse/Garbage -PS	\$ 12,000.00	
	90608.01 Medical Insurance		\$ 12,000.00
	To cover sick pay paid to Retired for 2022		
Hwy DA			
	51304.03 Machinery-CE	\$ 6,000.00	
	2303.03 Jeff County Maint (Revenue)		\$ 6,000.00
	To cover machinery repairs by revenue from Jefferson County Maintenance		
RW Sewer			
	81202.09 San Sewers – Equip	\$ 30,000.00	
	3989.98 State Aid – Other Home & Comm Serv		\$ 30,000.00
	To cover installation of UV lights. Coming from DASNY Grant of \$125,000(Per M Lisson)		
RW Water			
	83404.21 Trans & Distribution – CE	\$ 2,000.00	
	2148.21 Interest & Penalties (Revenue)		\$ 2,000.00

To cover engineering fees charged to RW Water

Approved by:

Date October 20, 2023

Motion was made by Councilman Kring, seconded by Councilman Thomson to approve the budget transfers.

Prior to the vote on the motion, Councilman Thomson referred to the \$12,000 and asked if we just became aware of it. Councilman Fayette asked what the retiree sick pay was all about.

Sandy commented that it would have been for Byron but didn't know why it was showing so late in the year.

Supervisor Sweet phoned Nicole to ask about the \$12,000. She explained that it happened in January and has already been paid. This merely is reimbursing the line item.

Motion was carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Upgrade and Expansion of Server

Resolution #127

At a regular meeting of the Town Board 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 October 18, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Councilman Fayette presented the following resolution and duly moved that it be adopted and was seconded by Councilman Kring

WHEREAS the Town of Alexandria server needs an upgrade and expansion, and

WHEREAS Advanced Business Systems has submitted a sales quote of \$7,978.98, and

WHEREAS the quote is for Server w/Window Server Essential (VMWare, Windows, 1TB SSD OS 8TB Date, 64GB) as well as materials, handling and Setup Installation and Configuration,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA TOWN BOARD authorizes the purchase of the Upgraded and Expanded Server Equipment from Advanced Business Systems

A motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution as amended was offered by Councilman Fayette seconded by Councilman Kring and duly adopted as follows:

Supervisor Brent Sweet,	YES <u>x</u>	NO <u>__</u>	Absent <u>__</u>
Councilman Fayette	YES <u>x</u>	NO <u>__</u>	Absent <u>__</u>
Councilman Thomas	YES <u>__</u>	NO <u>__</u>	Absent <u>x</u>
Councilman Thomson	YES <u>x</u>	NO <u>__</u>	Absent <u>__</u>
Councilman Kring	YES <u>x</u>	NO <u>__</u>	Absent <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 October 18, 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

Bonnie Castle Stables

Supervisor Sweet said that the people who made the offer have been calling him. He would like directions from the board. Councilman Fayette questioned if this was sold, how would it affect the border patrol thing. He stated that it doesn't cost us anything to hang on to it for a while.

Councilman Thomson said it would be nice if they could hold off until CBP decides. He also commented that everyone seems in favor of using this property except CBP.

Supervisor Sweet commented that CBP has not contacted the town at all. There was a board discussion regarding letting interested people view the property and advertising the property without the use of a realtor. If the town does decide to actively sell the property, it would have to go out to a competitive bid.

Threat Assessment Team

Board Resolution #129

At a regular meeting of the Town Board 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 October 18, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Councilman Fayette presented the following resolution and duly moved that it be adopted and was seconded by Councilman Thomson

WHEREAS the Town of Alexandria Highway Department is committed to the safety and security of our employees, and

WHEREAS workplace violence presents a serious occupational safety hazard to our agency, staff and clients, and

WHEREAS in an effort to meet the requirements of New York State Law Atl.2, 27-b the following individuals have been named to comprise the Threat Assessment Team : Supervisor Brent Sweet, Town Clerk Sandra Caputo and Town Attorney Andy Silver.

***Motion was made by Councilman Fayette, seconded by Councilman Thomson that the individual names be omitted and only use the titles of Town Supervisor, Town Clerk and Town Attorney. Motion was carried with all voting in favor thereof.**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA TOWN BOARD does hereby approved the Threat Assessment Team for the Workplace Violence Prevention Program.

A motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution as amended was offered by Councilman Fayette, seconded by Councilman Thomson and duly adopted as follows:

Supervisor Brent Sweet,	YES_x_	NO __	Absent __
Councilman Fayette	YES_x_	NO __	Absent __
Councilman Thomas	YES __	NO __	Absent_x_
Councilman Thomson	YES_x_	NO __	Absent __
Councilman Kring	YES_x_	NO __	Absent __

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 October 18, 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

Proposed Marine Island Zoning District

Copies were emailed to board members. Supervisor Sweet explained that this draft was created by the committee and the planning board has looked at it and they are pleased with it. He asked the board to please forward any comments to him.

Motion was made by Councilman Fayette, seconded by Councilman Thomson indicating that the draft proposal had been received by the board. Motion was defeated by all voting no.

After discussion, it was agreed that no motion would be made at this meeting.

September 2023 Operating Statement, Balance Sheet

All board members have these.

New Village Water Rates for five Town of Alexandria Water Districts, Sewer Rates

Supervisor Sweet advised that everybody has signed what the Village needed to have signed.

Purchase of F-550 – Van Bortel

Board Resolution #130

At a regular meeting of the Town Board 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 October 18, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Councilman Kring presented the following resolution and duly moved that it be adopted and was seconded by Councilman Fayette

WHEREAS the Town of Alexandria Highway Department needs a 2024 Ford F-550 XL Reg Cab, 4x4 DRW 169 WB 84 CA, and

WHEREAS Van Bortel Ford, 71 Marsh Rd, East Rochester, NY has submitted a vehicle purchase proposal in the amount of \$88,100,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Alexandria Town Board approves the vehicle purchase proposal from Van Bortel.

***Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Motion was made by Councilman Fayette that the Highway Superintendent needs to indicate what piece of equipment he is pulling from requesting in order to make up the difference in the money. Motion was seconded by Councilman Thomson and carried with all voting in favor thereof.**

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

Supervisor Brent Sweet,	YES <u>x</u>	NO <u>__</u>	Absent <u>__</u>
Councilman Fayette	YES <u>x</u>	NO <u>__</u>	Absent <u>__</u>
Councilman Thomas	YES <u>__</u>	NO <u>__</u>	Absent <u>x</u>
Councilman Thomson	YES <u>x</u>	NO <u>__</u>	Absent <u>__</u>
Councilman Kring	YES <u>x</u>	NO <u>__</u>	Absent <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 October 18, 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

***The highway superintendent contacted the board and advised them that it was the broom that he removed from his initial request.**

Change Johnson Lane to Noble Lane

Motion was made by Councilman Thomson, seconded by Councilman Fayette to change the name of Johnson Lane to Noble Lane and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Appoint Foil Appeals Officer

Motion was made by Councilman Kring, seconded by Councilman Thomson to appoint the Town Supervisor as the Foil Appeals Officer for the Town of Alexandria. Motion was carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Jefferson County Property Tax Re-Valuation Contract

Board Resolution #128

At a regular meeting of the Town Board 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 October 18, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Councilman Kring presented the following resolution and duly moved that it be adopted and was seconded by Councilman Thomson

WHEREAS the County of Jefferson does offer assessment services for the towns within the County through the Jefferson County Real Property Tax Services, and

WHEREAS the Jefferson County Real Property Tax Services has prepared a quote for the Town of Alexandria Town Board’s consideration, and

WHEREAS the quote is for \$34,176 for year one data collection and \$38,448 for year 2 revaluation for a total of \$72,624 for the entire project,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA TOWN BOARD hereby approves the plan to contract with Jefferson County Real Property Services for property reval services.

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

Supervisor Brent Sweet,	YES_x__	NO __	Absent __
Councilman Fayette	YES x__	NO __	Absent __
Councilman Thomas	YES __	NO __	Absent x__
Councilman Thomson	YES_x__	NO __	Absent __
Councilman Kring	YES_x__	NO __	Absent __

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 October 18, 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.

Commenting on the foregoing resolution, Councilman Thomson said that this would be a great deal for the town.

Speed Limit Study Route 37

NYS DOT did a study and basically turned us down. They said the average speed was 53 mph. Councilman Fayette stated that 192 and the Stein Road are not state roads. The response from DOT does direct the town on how to contact the correct agencies in response to those two roads.

Change Date of meeting

Motion by Councilman Fayette to change the regular town board meeting in November to November 8th, seconded by Councilman Thomson and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Executive Session

Motion by Councilman Thomson, seconded by Councilman Kring to move into executive session at 7:10 pm to discuss the employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person at that Tim Davidson and Dale Hunneyman be allowed to attend.

When the board came out of executive session the following motion was offered:

Motion was made by Councilman Thomson to adjourn the meeting to October 20, 2023, at 11:00 am. Motion was seconded by Councilman Kring and carried with all voting in favor thereof.