

Town of Alexandria  
Regular Meeting  
November 8, 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 - Absent  
Supervisor Sweet - Present  
Councilman Thomas - Present

Motion by Supervisor Sweet to pay Abstract # 11 from October 20 through November 8, 2023, for a total amount of \$269,924.05. Seconded by Councilman Fayette. Question on accident repair bill. They want this payment held until Councilman Kring can get questions answered. Motion carried all in favor.

Motion by Councilman Kring to approve minutes from Special meeting held on October 12, 2023, and Regular meeting held on October 18, 2023. Seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion Carried all in favor.

Motion by Councilman Thomas to open public hearing to hear comments / questions on 2024 Town Budget and all special districts. Seconded by Councilman Fayette.

BJ Mosher addressed board about Carnegie Operation and Maintenance Charge of \$109 per quarter and thinks it is not fair because the water was contaminated by the Village DPW. BJ said Previous Supervisor Sutton told them they would not be charged. Alex Mosher also talked about the current Village DPW Barn and is the salt still leaching and causing the trees to die and nothing to grow. Lengthy discussion about previous history. Mike Fayette addressed special districts and the residents in those districts having to pay the cost and not the other taxpayers in the town.

Town Clerk Caputo went on the discuss the Proposed Water Districts EDU Rates and Capital Rates for 2024 rates:

Route 12 Sewer Quarterly EDU Rate	\$152.50	
Redwood Sewer Quarterly EDU Rate	\$167.50	Annual Capital \$ 80
Redwood Water Quarterly EDU Rate	\$ 92.00	Annual Capital \$ 330
Otter Street Water Quarterly EDU Rate	\$ 10.00	Annual Capital \$ 413
Route 12 Water Quarterly EDU Rate	\$ 96.00	Annual Capital \$ 330
Carnegie Bay Water Quarterly EDU Rate	\$111.25	Annual Capital 0
Edgewood Water Quarterly EDU Rate	\$1,250	Annual Capital 0

New Water Rates for 2024	Village Rate	x 15%	New Town Rate
Redwood Water	\$ 3.47	\$ 0.52	\$ 3.99
Otter Street Water	\$ 3.76	\$ 0.56	\$ 4.32
Route 12 Water	\$ 7.53	\$ 1.13	\$ 8.66
Carnegie Bay Water	\$ 7.53	\$ 1.13	\$ 8.66

Edgewood Water                      \$ 7.53                      \$ 1.13                      \$ 8.66

Diane Kring asked about Route 12 Sewer # 12 how much that was going to be. Daine Kring has Kring’s RV trailer park and she stated Rob Champney had told her that RV would be ¼ an EDU each. Sandy and Mike both said that is not correct they believed they were ¾ an EDU but would have to check other ordinances to confirm. She asked about the price. Sandy explained that until the system is in, and all bills are paid, and funding secured we do not know a definite price. Diane said that’s make a big difference as to whether they would even want to be hooked up.

Mike Fayette questioned the Highway Superintendent pay raise, due to reports of misconduct that has been confirm by members within the highway barn. He feels it sends a very bad message to the other employees in this town. Councilman Thomas replied, “it should be talked about in executive session.” Councilman Kring said, “he would not support taking his pay raise away.” End of discussion.

Motion by Councilman Thomas to close the public hearing. Seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion carried all in favor.

Motion by Councilman Kring to accept the preliminary budget as is. Seconded by Councilman Thomas. Discussion Councilman Fayette replied, “I cannot support giving anybody a pay raise or the things that he knows,” Roll Call Vote

Supervisor Sweet	Yes
Councilman Kring	Yes
Councilman Fayette	No
Councilman Thomas	Yes
Councilman Thompson	Absent

2024 Budget passed.

**COORESPONDANCE**

Supervisor Sweet read a letter from Stacey Preston dated October 26, 2023, in strong opposition to the Bonnie Castle Recreation Property site being considered for the Customs Border Patrol Facility. She stated that the 48,000 sq. ft. facility lighting will light up the whole area like a city. Most residents live in the area for the small-town community, country, nature, and wildlife. Wellesley Island is a huge bird migration area. The current light pollution from the boarder facility has already impacted the bird’s migration and it will further impact bird migration from additional light from this facility. A facility like this will also cause a drastic decrease in the value of all properties in Alexandria since people generally do not want to live near a Federal Detention Center. The Town of Alexandria used taxpayers’ money and bought the Bonnie Castle Recreation center to make it a recreational facility for the residents. This property was not bought for placing a detention center, border patrol or commercial building facility. Stacey stated, “I understand the Border Patrol would like a new site to grow with, but I do not feel any place in the 1000 Island community would be the right location for it with the size of project they are looking to do. From what I have been told by others it seems like there might be an industrial spot close to Ogdensburg, which seems to have the potential to be a more appropriate place for it. I would like to ask for the Town of Alexandria to stop pursuing the Border Patrol to look at the Bonnie Castle Recreation site or any site that will influence the surrounding residents in the town of Alexandria.” Regards, Stacey Preston

Public Concerns: None

Engineer Report – No Report

Highway Report: Supervisor Sweet read report from Highway Superintendent. He received one quote for winter clothing. Recommends we just use Garlock's like we did last year. Guys are getting trucks ready for winter and putting delineators along the roadsides for winter drivers to help with the visibility of the roads. Thank you Mike

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

These reports are backup documents that can be found on the town's website. Brent did say ice was down at the arena and the lines are being put down and they will be using the new Zamboni tomorrow for the first time. Hope to be skating no later than Saturday.

Water and Sewer Committee Report

Sandy read letter that was received from Pamela Nelson in her water payment that had the note "Usage was fabricated." Written on bill. Pamela asked that a copy of the meter reading every two weeks be sent to her. Sandy explained that this was not going to happen and asked Jamie to stop by and show Pam how to do her own meter readings.

Water relevy's have gone to the County:

Redwood Sewer	\$23,587.35
Redwood Water	\$21,562.47
Otter Street Water	\$873.95
Route 12 Water	\$2,237.26
<u>Route 12 Sewer</u>	<u>\$ 3,922.83</u>
Total Relevy	\$52,183.86

Clerk Report – Sandy reported that Jefferson County had informed her that the relevy for the property in Plessis for cleanup would not be put on the taxes, because it was only an hourly wage rate. The amount was \$133.89.

All monthly reports are complete, and payments have been made.

**Old Business**

Short Term Rental Councilman Thomas spoke about the short-term rental proposal, He stated that it has been reviewed and considered and is currently with the Planning Board and at this time the Town of Alexandria, Town Board does not want to take any action. The only step that they are willing to take this time is to support the 3% tax levy and a letter has been sent to the county legislator in support of the tax. Supervisor Sweet thanked all the people who took a lot of time to work on this draft. Councilman Thomas also stated that there was legislation being proposed in Albany on this subject and it would be best to see how it plays out at the State level before the Town acts.

Marine Island Zoning Supervisor Sweet reported that the introduction of the new Marine Local law was not ready for this month, but possibly within the next couple of months it will be ready.

Tax Cap Override It is not needed this year so it will not be sent into the state.

Road Name Change: Last month there was a motion to change Johnson Road to Noble Lane. It was supposed to be E.J. Noble Lane. Corrections needs to be made. Motion by Councilman Thomas to correct the name change error from last meeting from Johnson Road to Noble Lane to correct name of E.J. Noble Lane. Motion seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion carried all in favor.

New Business:

Motion by Councilman Kring to pay for mileage and lodging for Incoming Judge Drake's training for 6 Days in Albany. Seconded by Councilman Fayette. Motion carried all in favor.

Budget Transfer – None this month

Emergency Shared Service Agreement: Motion by Councilman Thomas to have Supervisor Sweet sign the Emergency Shared Service Agreement for two years. Seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion carried all in favor.

St Lawrence Park Lane: Supervisor Sweet made the Town Board aware that the Town owns 2 small parcels of land on St Lawrence Park Road approximately 25' long by the width of the road. The Town has never maintained, plowed, paved done a thing with this property and does not want to. The Board agreed they think the adjoining property owners should have the land or the ability to acquire the land first. The board is not sure how to legally make this happen. Supervisor Sweet will check with the Town Attorney.

Ice Arena Rink Rental: Supervisor Sweet will put together a P&L and the Town Board will see what rates need to be adjusted.

Supervisor Sweet will provide all Board membership with Operating Statements and Balance Sheet.

Fuel Oil Bids were briefly discussed, and the December Board Meeting is going to be moved up to December 13 instead of December 20. Bids should be in by 4 pm on the 13<sup>th</sup> to the Town Clerk.

Discussion on end of year meeting. Most Board members will not be available on the last week of the year.

FOIL Appeals Officer: Brent read a couple of sub sections of the law on Appeals of FOIL that go to the Appeals FOIL Officer. Motion by Councilman Kring to Appoint Andy Silver temporary Appeals Foil Officer when there is a conflict of interest in a FOIL concerning the current Appeals FOIL Officer, Supervisor Sweet. Motion seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried all in favor.

Highway Department Clothing: Discussion on Highway Department request by Mike Tibbles to authorize the Town Barn employees to go to Garlock's to purchase winter clothing because he was having trouble getting quotes and the one, he had was high. Motion by Councilman Thomas to allow Highway department MEO to go to Garlock's to purchase winter clothing so long as he has proof that he tried to get bids. Motion seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion carried all in favor.

Motion by Councilman Thomas to pay Adirondack Operations now for \$6,380 Andrew Garlock just sent bill over and verified it is good to pay. Was not included in this abstract. Motion seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion carried all in favor.

BAR: Board of Assessment review. Mike Wisner has moved and we need to fill the position by the end of December 2023. Board members are going to look for members.

**Executive Session**

Motion by Councilman Thomas, seconded by Councilman Fayette to move into executive session at 7:45 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 Dale Hunneyman be allowed to attend.

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

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas to adjourn the meeting to December 13, 2023, at 6pm Motion was seconded by Councilman Fayette and carried with all voting in favor thereof.