

**Regular Village Board Meeting - Minutes**  
**Village of Almena**  
**October 13, 2020 • 7:00 PM**

President Rayment called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

**Present:** President Rayment; Trustees: Hellmann, Jensen, Pichelman, Rockow, Roff, Stefczak. Also present: Chief of Police Gabe, Public Works Director Becker, Clerk/Treasurer Bauer, and SEH representative Jerry Doriott

**Approve Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2020 Regular Board Meeting: Jensen, Second: Rockow, all in favor. **Motion carried.**

**SEH Presentation:** Jerry Doriott provided a Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) project status update and answered questions in regards to revised Change Order #1 and additional costs for well installation. Change Order #1 was approved in May for divers due to non-operating valves between lagoon 1 and 2 – Two dives estimated at \$30,884.00. Jerry explained that even though we only needed one dive, actual cost was \$30,125 due to extra steps needed to control BOD. Motion to approve revised change order #1 for \$30,125: Hellmann; Second: Jensen; All in favor. **Motion carried.** Well Drilling: Original plans had well 100 ft from WWTP but DNR is requiring well to be 250 ft away to align with rule changes that may occur in the future. Jerry did not challenge DNR as it would have delayed the project. Additional cost for the Village is \$12,837.60 for a total of \$28,262.60 to drill a well to service the WWTP. Motion to approve the additional cost of well drilling: Hellmann; Seconded: Roff; All in favor. **Motion carried.**

**Public Comments:** Neighbor complaint in regards to dust generated at Nordquist Trucking and requests more should be done to control the dust and rocks.

**Police Report:** Chief Gabe reported busy prior month; domestic call at trailer court resulted in 2 arrests; traffic stop at Holiday gas station resulted in arrests for drugs; located a subject with nation wide arrest warrant out of MN; 3 child abuse cases, 1 arrest; resident lost \$3,999 in an internet scam; issued warnings for yard clean-ups

**Public Works Report:** **1)** Lift station pump maintenance is completed. Annual maintenance for the 2 main lift stations is recommended going forward, bi-annual for the rest **2)** 132 Lulu Ave is now hooked up to Village water system and well located in the home has been capped **3)** WWTP project is on track – progress pictures shared with the Board **4)** Meter Readers are not working so loaner was used for Q3 meter reading. Working with Ferguson to see if new readers are needed (\$1200 each) or if old ones can be re-built

**Clerk/Treasurer Report:** **1)** Approve claims dated September 9, 2020 – October 12, 2020; Check #1232 thru #1279 as presented and summarized. Motion to approve claims as submitted: Hellmann, Second: Pichelman, all in favor. **Motion carried.** **2)** Budget planning meeting Tuesday October 20 @ 6:30pm **3)** General Election is Tuesday November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We should have enough poll workers. A training session is scheduled October 29<sup>th</sup> **4)** Water/Sewer billing survey regarding monthly billing and online bill payment interest to be summarized and provided to the Board at November meeting

**New Business:** **1)** Consideration of RJ Jurowski Contractor's Application for payment for wastewater treatment plant construction activities in September 2020. Draw request totals \$380,798.85. Motion to approve Contractor's Application for payment: Pichelman; Second: Stefczak; All in favor. **Motion carried.** **2)** Consideration of resident request to exceed 2-pet limit. Board requested residents to attend next Board meeting. Tabled until November. **3)** Consideration of Operators License Application received. Chief Gabe noted that he would not sign off/approve due to outstanding warrants and recommended that an Operators License not be issued. The Board agreed, Application denied. **4)** Considered request for donation received from Cumberland Ambulance for 2021 service. Board declined to donate this year due to budget constraints. **5)** Five additional poll workers nominated for the 2020/2021 election season. Additional poll workers needed to replace poll workers who have resigned due to COVID-19 concerns and to provide extra help due to expected high voter turnout. Motion to approve nominees as Election Poll Workers for the 2020/2021 term: Hellmann; Second: Pichelman; All in favor. **Motion carried.**

**Adjourn:** No further business. Motion to adjourn: Jensen, Second: Hellmann, all in favor. **Motion carried.**