

Regular Village Board Meeting - Minutes
Village of Almena
May 14, 2019 • 7:00 PM

President Rayment called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: President Rayment; Trustees: Hellmann, Bohn, Roff, Jensen, Rockow, Mausolf. Also present: Chief of Police Gabe, Clerk/Treasurer Bauer, SEH representatives Jerry Doriott, Michael Van Gilder and three citizens.

Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2019 Regular Board Meeting: Jensen, Second: Hellmann, all in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Clerk-Treasurer reported **1)** Resident inquired about Village garage sale timing. This is a Community Club event that occurs in the Fall. **2)** Baseball field to be used Sundays in June (4H teams) and Tuesday/Thursday's through July 8th as needed (Turtle Lake youth) **3)** Diggers Hotline notifications – tree/shrubs, Mosaic fiber optic project, banner for school

Police Report - Chief of Police Al Gabe: General report of activities: a few visits to the Almena trailer court for ongoing issues; out during snowstorm due to a semi blocking Hwy P; vehicle notice issued with violators to be tagged after May 15th; followed up on dog complaints, confirmed Village Ordinance 12.04 Animal Control & Licensing adopted in September 2018 has the enforcement and penalty provisions necessary

Public Works Report: **1)** Trustee Bohn updated Board as to larger than expected invoice from Barron County Waste to Energy for Village Clean-Up Day. Village charged higher rate due to mixed loads. Discussed a voucher option as a possibility for next year **2)** Rayment updated Board on status of new mower for Village. Quote for \$14,999 including \$3,000 trade-in allowance for 2 Dixon mowers. Motion to approve purchase of John Deere Z997R mower: Bohn, Second: Hellmann, All in favor. Motion carried. Clerk will update insurance company as to equipment changes. **3)** SEH Updates: Filed Phosphorus Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) Application with the DNR on behalf of the Village. The variance is necessary as the Village cannot meet the wastewater phosphorus limitations, even with proposed upgrade. MDV eligibility is also contingent on sewer rates being a minimum of 1% of the Median Household Income. Next steps are to contract for Design services, Construction Engineering and apply for Clean Water Fund loan, which also includes preparation of a Fiscal Sustainability Plan by the Village. Design plans and specifications to be completed and filed with the DNR by September 23, 2019. Motion to sign agreement with SEH to proceed with design plans: Hellmann, Second: Mausolf, All in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer Report: **1)** Approve claims dated April/May 2019 as submitted Check #50796 thru #50846. Motion to approve claims as submitted: Bohn, Second: Roff, all in favor. Motion carried. **2)** Presented Engagement letters for Accounting services from Guinn, Vinopal & Zahradka, LLP and Audit services from CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP (CLA) in 2019. Terms are the same as 2018. **3)** PSC & Municipal Financial Reports filed by auditing firm CLA. Copies are available for review. Year-end financials are prepared and Clerk will provide a printed copy when received from CLA.

Unfinished Business: **1)** Clerk shared letter that will be sent to Village residents with notification of percent and timing of sewer rate increases to support required sewer plant upgrades. As per Board approval at April 9, 2019 Regular Board meeting, a 25% sewer rate increase is effective April 1, 2019 and will be reflected on next billing cycle dated July 1, 2019. **2)** Discussion in regards to re-surfacing all or part of Garfield Street. President Rayment met with Barron County Highway Dept to discuss the Village's needs. Clerk confirmed that Street Maintenance Fund had funds available to cover non-budgeted expenses. Motion to accept Barron County Highway Dept recommendation and quote of \$72,000 to repair Garfield St: Hellmann, Second: Bohn, All in favor. Motion carried. **3)** Park improvement updates discussed. Village of Cameron Clerk provided cost of Splash Pad/Pool installed in their Village in 2014. Total project cost was \$182,000. Board tabled idea to pursue a similar project for Shadyside park. Basketball court: Rayment to have Barron County Highway Dept lay the asphalt when they are here to re-surface Garfield St.

New Business: **1)** Annual License Renewals for Liquor, Cigarette, Operators & Open Sales Applications provided to the Board for review. Liquor license applications will be posted in Barron News-Shield in May 22nd edition as well as Public Notice of Liquor License Meeting to be held during the regular Board Meeting June 11, 2019. **2)** Consideration/Possible Action in regards to revision of Ordinance 12.3(10)c Licenses & Permits, Liquor & Fermented Malt Beverages Closing hours. During Ordinance review, it was noted that Closing Hours ordinance needs to be updated. After discussion, it was decided to amend Village ordinance to align with WI Statute 125.32(3). Tabled until June Board meeting. **3)** Building Permit application for a garage addition at 201 N Clinton was reviewed. It was determined that setbacks are acceptable and within zoning requirements. Motion to approve Building Permit: Jensen, Second: Masouf, All in favor. Motion carried. **4)** United States Postal Service (USPS) contacted the Village in regards to land/building available to lease for bringing back postal retail services to Almena. Rayment reported discussion with the USPS contact. A Public Meeting to discuss options will be held June 6, 2019 @ 6PM at the Village Hall. USPS will be posting the Public Notice in the Barron News-Shield May 22nd edition.

President Comments: No additional comments from President Rayment

Trustee Comments: No additional comments from Trustees

CLOSED SESSION: Convene into Closed Session pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 19.85(1)(c) for purposes of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to wit: Director of Public Works vacancy. Motion to adjourn into CLOSED SESSION: Bohn, Second: Hellmann. Roll call: President Rayment; Trustees: Hellmann, Bohn, Roff, Jensen, Rockow, Mausolf. Closed session Motion made by Hellmann seconded by Mausolf, all members voting aye, motion carried to reconvene into open session.

As per discussion in Closed Session, Motion: Mausolf, Second: Jensen, Director of Public Works offer letter and acceptance by Wayne Becker approved, all members voting aye, motion carried.

Adjourn: No further business came before the Board. Motion to adjourn: Mausolf, Second: Hellmann, all in favor. Motion carried.

Kim Bauer
Village Clerk/Treasurer