

**Regular Village Board Meeting - Minutes**  
**Village of Almena**  
**June 9, 2020 • 7:00 PM**

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

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

**Approve Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2020 Regular Board Meeting: Hellmann, Second: Pichelman, all in favor. **Motion carried.**

**Public Comments:** Clerk reported that calls regarding reservations for Hall and Park starting to come in. Lawn and yard complaints have been received. Letters to be sent to offenders.

**Police Report:** Almena trailer court has been busy with calls, squatters had to be removed, trailer court owners working to clean it up. Pedestrian injured in a vehicle/pedestrian accident is ok. Neighbor dispute issues on Soo Ave.

**Public Works Report:** **1)** Busy with Wastewater Treatment Plant project. Phosphorus levels spiked during the pond draining. An air blower and chemicals added to help with level and will continue to monitor closely during construction **2)** Fire Chief and DPW tentatively schedule debris pile burn on Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup> if weather conditions allow. **3)** Blacktop on N Alma St was ground in preparation for re-surfacing.

**Clerk/Treasurer Report:** **1)** Approve claims dated May 12, 2020 – June 8, 2020; Check #1058 thru #1102, check #1006; as presented and summarized. Motion to approve claims as submitted: Jensen, Second: Rockow, all in favor. **Motion carried.** **2)** Ordinance book review meeting June 10<sup>th</sup> 1pm – 4pm **3)** FEMA check for \$15k received. Another \$8k is expected when final projects close **4)** Clean-up Day costs (vouchers & postage) totaled \$1900 with approx. 25% redemption rate. **5)** Village is eligible for a Routes to Recovery grant of \$10,486 to cover COVID19 related expenses. **6)** 2019 Consumer Confidence Report for Almena Waterworks will be distributed with July 1<sup>st</sup> utility billing.

**Unfinished Business:** **1)** Basketball court poles and board installation. Zimmerman has been contacted to pour cement to finish up the basketball court improvement. **2)** Post Office construction is nearing completion. Jensen and Rockow volunteered to plan a Grand-Opening event – July **3)** Wastewater Treatment Plant project update: Lagoon 1 has been drained and sludge has been removed and spread on adjacent fields. Next steps will be prep for installing a new liner for the pond. Clerk reported that expensed paid to date: \$191,923

**New Business:** **1)** Consideration of Contractor's Application for payment for construction activities in May 2020. Draw request totals \$62,296. Motion to approve Contractor's Application for payment: Jensen; Second: Hellmann; All in favor. **Motion carried.** **2)** Discussion regarding financing options for Wastewater Treatment Plant project. Project bid came in \$500,000 higher than anticipated. Even with Clean Water Fund Grant, Village will need to borrow \$2.4 million. We cannot close on the loan with the state until sewer rates generate sufficient revenues to cover the operating costs and new debt plus have a coverage ratio of 1.10 times. In order to meet those requirements, sewer rates must increase another 35%. An alternative would be a General Obligation loan to cover the shortfall. This would increase Village levy and be reflected on property taxes. Motion to move forward with sewer rate increase to meet WI Clean Water Fund requirements: Hellmann; Second: Pichelman; All in favor. **Motion carried.** **3)** Reviewed bid submitted for LRIP funds – resurfacing N Alma St. Monarch awarded the bid for \$48,087.43 **4)** Reviewed Monarch Paving bids for Village Hall parking lot and patchwork on Soo Ave E. Motion to approve Monarch Paving bid for Village Hall parking lot and Soo Ave E repair: Roff; Second: Rockow; All in favor. **Motion carried.** **5)** Reviewed Village Emergency Operations Plan. Plan is approved for submission to Barron County with minor contact information changes. **6)** Considered donation request for annual Fourth of July fireworks at Village park. Motion to donate \$250 to Al's July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks show: Hellmann; Second: Roff. All in favor. **Motion carried.** **7)** Annual License Renewals for period of June 30, 2020 through July 1, 2021 were reviewed. No changes in license fees for Class "A" Beer and "Class A" liquor. License fees for Class "B" Beer and "Class B" liquor have been reduced by 25% for this licensing period only.

**CLASS "A" FERMENTED MALT BEVERAGES & "CLASS A" INTOXICATING LIQUOR:**

Synergy Community Cooperative, dba Almena Holiday; Gari Odenbreit, Agent  
Almena Meat Company; Jessica Bohn, Agent

Motion to approve Class "A" and "Class A" license applications: Rockow; Second: Hellmann, All in favor. **Motion carried.**

**CLASS "B" FERMENTED MALT BEVERAGES & "CLASS B" INTOXICATING LIQUOR:**

Cheers Bar; Nancy Bellefeuille, Agent  
Roxies, Inc, dba Roxie's Bar & Grill; Roxanne Baker, Agent  
VFW Post 8512, dba Vets Club; Henry Alfieri, Agent

Motion to approve Class "B" and "Class B" license applications: Rockow; Second: Hellmann, All in favor. **Motion carried**

**CIGARETTE LICENSE:**

Synergy Community Cooperative, dba Almena Holiday

Motion to approve license: Jensen; Second: Roff, All in favor. **Motion carried.**

**OPERATORS LICENSES:**

Motion to approve Operators License applications: Hellmann; Second: Roff, All in favor. **Motion carried.**

**PICNIC LICENSES:**

Truck pull on July 11<sup>th</sup>. Softball tournament on June 19 – 21

Motion to allow Village President to approve/issue Picnic Licenses: Hellmann; Second: Roff; All in favor. **Motion carried.**

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