

**Regular Village Board Meeting - Minutes**  
**Village of Almena**  
**September 10, 2019 • 7:00 PM**

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

**Present:** President Rayment; Trustees: Hellmann, Bohn, Roff, Jensen, Rockow, Mausolf. Also present: Chief of Police Gabe, Public Works Director Becker, Clerk/Treasurer Bauer, SEH representatives Jerry Doriott & Michael Van Gilder, and one citizen.

**Approve Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2019 Regular Board Meeting: Jensen, Second: Hellmann, all in favor. Motion carried.

**SEH Presentation:** Jerry Doriott provided a Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) project status update. Design work is 80% complete and will be submitted to DNR by the end of September. DNR plan review will be conducted in Oct/Nov. Once approved, 30 days will be allowed for bid submittal with contractor selection in February 2020. Remaining items to complete: **Lagoons** – Village needs to complete lagoon sludge measurements by next week. The project entails removing the clay liners and sludge from the lagoons. It was determined that the contractor hired will be responsible for the disposal of the liner and sludge after removal. Village also needs to specify type & quantity of sand to be used in refurbished lagoons. President Rayment will check with Barron County to see if sand from their inventory can be used. **Generators** - After discussion, it was determined that the permanent generator to be located at WWTP will be natural gas powered while the portable generator to be located at the main lift station will be propane powered. **Roadwork:** When construction begins next year, the existing driveway out to the WWTP will be damaged so part of the bid packages will entail road repairs. There is a need to specify the type of roadbed that a rebuild would require – gravel or road stone.

**Public Comments: 1)** Clerk-Treasurer reported that a resident did not agree with Board decision to limit parking on Soo Ave E but did not file written complaint. **2)** Montessori school teacher looking for community service projects for students. **3)** Citizen opined that the Village has good employees and urged the Board to review pay & benefits to ensure longevity of employment.

**Police Report - Chief of Police Al Gabe:** General report of activities: No major issues to report since last meeting. Teenagers shooting BB guns; arrests at the Almena trailer court for drugs and a domestic; Two registered sex offenders have moved into town

**Public Works Report: 1)** Another incident of minor vandalism at Park restrooms. Kiewit's has been contacted to install a camera system **2)** Sewer blockage occurred on Cleveland between Park & Portland streets. There was a backup in one basement on Portland Ave W. Insurance claims have been filed. **3)** Annual road certification and bi-annual pavement ratings are due to WI DOT in October **4)** Registered for Groundwater Supply & Distribution Certification classes – 7 days in October with exam on November 5th

**Clerk/Treasurer Report: 1)** Approve claims dated August/September 2019 as submitted Check #50983 thru #51028. Motion to approve claims as submitted: Jensen, Second: Hellmann, all in favor. Motion carried. **2)** Discussed building permit applications and 2 mobile home applications – no issues noted. **3)** Clerk to attend Budget Basics class in Eau Claire on September 26<sup>th</sup>. The Village budget meetings will be at the end of October

**Unfinished Business: 1)** Building plans for new Post Office were discussed. Plans for a 30'x30' building were prepared at a cost of \$500. The Village has not yet received the Lease Agreement from the US Post Office. Advertisement for Bids will not occur until the lease agreement has been received. **2)** Clerk attended a FEMA kick-off meeting in Barron that discussed next steps in the application process. The Request for Public Assistance needs to be filed by September 26<sup>th</sup>. There are also Mitigation grants that are available. These would be for projects that prevent damage in the future like drainage improvement in flood prone areas or building storm shelters. **3)** Clerk reported that Request for Proposals were sent to area waste disposal companies with submittal deadline of September 27, 2019. Proposals to be reviewed at October Board meeting. **4)** Village Planning Commission met at 6pm on September 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss zoning change request made by Synergy Cooperative to change R-2 zoning to I-1. Commission recommended making the change on

the 3-acre parcel located adjacent to Synergy Cooperative and Almena Mobile Home Court. Motion to approve Planning Commission recommendation: Hoff; Second: Rockow, All in favor. Motion carried.

**New Business:** **1)** New Operators License application for Cheers – approved. **2)** Class B Temporary Extension Application: Roxie’s Bar & Grill for Dusty Trail Finders Poker Run on Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup> from 12pm to 2am. Motion to approve Temporary Extension Application: Mausolf; Second: Hellmann, All in favor. Motion carried. **3)** Discussion in regards to making a donation to Cumberland Ambulance for 2020. This is the ambulance that serves the Village of Almena. Clerk confirmed that a donation was not made in 2019. Motion to donate \$2500 to Cumberland Ambulance: Bohn; Second: Jensen, 5 in favor, 1 opposed. Motion carried. **4)** Clerk relayed Public Notice posted by Mosaic Telecom stating their intent to collocate antennas on their existing structure located at 220 Clinton St S. All new equipment will be installed within the existing compound. **5)** Discussed DNR 3-yr Sanitary Sewer survey conducted on 9/5/19. There were 2 major audit points that will need to be addressed within a year. An abandoned well that needs to be capped and pump replacement in the Wellhouse. Other action items will be noted in the report we should receive in October.

**Adjourn:** No further business came before the Board. Motion to adjourn: Jensen, Second: Rockow, all in favor. Motion carried.