

# MINUTES FROM 09/12/2017 SELECTBOARD MEETING

**PRESENT:** Alton Bruso, Lee Kimball, Chuck Pease, Cheryl Moomey, Clerk, Donna L. Bohannon

**GUESTS:** Armand Premo, Terry Tatro, Shane Brown, Jennifer Hebert, Chris Hebert, Kenneth Millman, Susan Millman, Norman Vaillancourt, Ellen Vaillancourt, Elaine Ezerins (St. Albans Messenger), Randilyn Cameron, Lorna Jarvis, Ariel Brace

## 6:00pm – TRAFFIC ORDINANCE REVIEW

**Tabled until further notice.**

## 7:00pm - OPEN REGULAR MEETING:

Meeting called to order at 7PM by Lee Kimball

### ADJUST AGENDA (if needed):

Several adjustments were made and will be addressed at the end of new business.

- Request for a letter from Plattsburgh Homes
- Quote given to pressure wash Municipal Building
- Light bill for Alburgh Industrial Development

### NEW BUSINESS:

- Elaine Ezerins - St. Albans Messenger – seeking information about work at the Transfer Station and the Nuisance Building Ordinance.
  - ◆ Elaine introduced herself to all present and informed the Board that she hopes to increase media coverage in Alburgh and other area towns.
  - ◆ She was present to ask about Transfer Station upgrades that the Town has made and about plans for future upgrades, about the Nuisance Building Ordinance and also about trapping beavers and the why the Town needs that service.
  - ◆ Lee agreed to give a quick overview of the topics she asked about.
  - ◆ Elaine’s first question was “what is the future of the Transfer Station?”

- ◆ Lee replied that he would like to see the Transfer Station be “revenue neutral”. He would like it to be self-sustaining and not an added expense.
- ◆ Elaine asked what needs to be done to make the Transfer Station self-sustaining.
- ◆ Lee replied that the Selectboard has been taking steps to make it that way. They have purchased a trailer and a different hauler, which has cut the cost of hauling the trash to the landfill almost in half.
- ◆ They have also looked at the baling of materials to sell and have seen that time spent baling some of the product was not cost effective.
- ◆ Elaine asked about future renovations.
- ◆ Lee explained that they are working on a design to building a lean-to over the baler and scales so that wind, rain and snow cannot destroy them.
- ◆ He also explained that they would like to purchase a piece of equipment that could be used for multiple purposes such as moving materials around and snow removal.
- ◆ Lee also explained that they have changed the fee schedule to a per pound rate vs. a per bag rate and that the non-resident rate is slightly higher than the resident rate.
- ◆ Alton Brusio also commented that they are always looking for ways to improve the operations at the Transfer Station.
- ◆ Elaine proceeded on to ask about the topic of beavers damming up culverts. She wanted to know if this was an ongoing problem or if it only happened periodically.
- ◆ Alton Brusio said that it is mostly in the summer that this is a problem.
- ◆ Elaine also wanted to know if the Board thought this was a problem in other Towns.
- ◆ The Board agreed that it most likely was but that they were not directly aware of it.
- ◆ The next topic that Elaine was interested in was the Nuisance Building Ordinance. She asked why this topic first came up.
- ◆ She was informed that there are several properties in Town that are falling down, are considered and “eye-sore” by many and that because they are one of the first things that people see coming into Town see because they are in the Village, the Planning Commission drafted and Ordinance and presented it to the Selectboard.
- ◆ The Selectboard agreed that some of the buildings in the Village particularly don’t set the best first impression of the Town.
- ◆ The Town attorney revamped the language of the Ordinance that was presented by the Planning Commission and it will take effect on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- Anthony Donnell – request to waive late filer penalty.
  - ◆ More information is needed for the Board to make a decision on this.
  - ◆ Tabled until further notice.
- Renee Creller – Proposing a No Smoking policy on Town lands.
  - ◆ Renee was not present.
  - ◆ Tabled until further notice.
- Sandy Sturgeon - Concerned about trapping/shooting animals
  - ◆ This issue was resolved without Selectboard intervention.
- Animal Control issue on Fiske Road
  - ◆ Kenneth Millman started by explaining that there are ten homes on Fiske Road that are concerned about two dogs that are frequently loose on the road.
  - ◆ Randilyn Cameron Moxhet introduced herself to all present and explained that she lives in one of the homes on Fiske Road. She also explained that the dogs belong to her sister who is at the home every weekend.
  - ◆ Mr. Millman stated that one of the dogs is aggressive and is getting more aggressive with time.
  - ◆ Randilyn stated that she has informed her sister that the dogs must be leashed at all times when they are at her home.
  - ◆ Jennifer Hebert and Ariel Brace, both Animal Control Officers for the Town of Alburgh were present and explained that they visited the home in answer to a complaint about the dogs.
  - ◆ They reported that the dogs did not bark at them or show signs of aggression but that they did talk to Randi and her sister about the regulations of the Town and explained that the dogs have to stay on their own property.
  - ◆ Jen and Ariel also asked for clarification on their responsibility and rights on a private road.
  - ◆ They were informed that they can uphold the ordinance if dogs are found off their own property.
  - ◆ Randi stated that she has put up a runner for her sister's dogs and that she will do her best to make sure they are on their property when they visit.
  - ◆ Both parties of the issue were satisfied with the results and will consider it resolved unless the dogs continue to be a problem.

- Jen and Ariel asked about pay if they both answer a call. They wanted to clarify if the pay would be split or if they would both receive payment for the call.
  - ◆ They were informed that they should both be paid if a call required both of them to answer it.
- Jen, accompanied by a deputy from the Grand Isle Sheriff's department visited the home of Sheena Leveille to talk to her about the agreement that she made with the Town to pay the fines that she had incurred as well as getting her dog vaccinated and registered.
  - ◆ Sheena was not at home.
  - ◆ Jen would like to know what the proper procedure is to seize a dog from a home as she feels this is going to have to be the next step.
  - ◆ Ariel will call the State veterinary to see if they have any information on State procedure.
  - ◆ Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 09/26/2017.
- **ADJUSTMENT #1** – Clerk presented a request from the inspector hired to inspect the installation of a new mobile home that was installed in Town.
  - ◆ The inspector was requesting a letter from the Board stating that lack of insulation at the footing of the home was not required by the Town of Alburgh.
  - ◆ Alburgh does not have zoning, nor do they issue certificates of occupancy, therefore the Selectboard felt that there was not a reason for a letter from the Town.
- **ADJUSTMENT #2** – The Clerk presented a quote for pressure washing the sides of the Municipal Building to rid it of spiders.
  - ◆ The Board were in agreement that this is something that should take place in the spring.
  - ◆ Tabled until further notice.

**OLD BUSINESS / UPDATES / TABLED TOPICS AND / OR WAITING RESULTS:**

- Shane Brown – Update
  - ◆ Shane reported that he is still waiting for a deed to be drawn up in his name.
- Florio's at 4 Greenwoods Rd.- update –
  - ◆ Lee reported that the Florio's have cleaned up most of the debris in their yard except for the wood.
  - ◆ Lee will visit the home and ask about the status of the lumber being taken care of.
- Streetscape – update/contract signatures needed.
  - ◆ The project has gone out to bid and updates will continue.

- Transfer Station – lean to needed – update –
  - ◆ Lee reported that there has been a plan drawn up for the lean-to and a windbreak.
  - ◆ This will be presented at the next meeting.
  - ◆ Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 09/26/2017.
- Town wide reappraisal –
  - ◆ Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 09/26/2017.
- **ADJUSTMENT #3** – Alburgh Industrial Development receives a light bill for the pumping station on Industrial Park Road and they have been paying.
  - ◆ The Town claims the station as part of their property and the Town garage benefits from the station.
  - ◆ Clerk presented that this bill should be paid for by the Town of Alburgh.
  - ◆ *Lee Kimball motioned that the light bill for the pumping station be paid for by the Town of Alburgh going forward – seconded by Chuck Pease – all in favor – motion carried,*

#### **VISITOR INPUT:**

- ◆ Terry Tatro informed the Selectboard that he was intending to hold a tax sale on several properties.
- ◆ He asked that the Board sign two resolutions that are required by law.
- ◆ Resolution one states that: pursuant to 32 V.S.A § 5258, the Delinquent Tax Collector of the Town of Alburgh is authorized to retain the council of his choice for legal assistance in the preparation for and conduct of all tax sales of real estate for delinquent taxes held by him during his present term of office and to add the expenses for legal assistance to the costs and fees allowed by law.
  - *Lee Kimball motioned to accept this resolution as stated – seconded by Chuck Pease – all in favor – motion carried.*
- ◆ Resolution two states that: pursuant to 32 V.S.A § 5259, the Town of Alburgh shall become the purchaser at all tax sales of the lands and premises within its boundaries held by the delinquent tax collector during his present term of office for the amount of taxes, interest, costs and penalties then due in the event that there is no bid equal to said amounts.
  - *Lee Kimball motioned to accept this resolution as stated – seconded by Chuck Pease – all in favor – motion carried*

**APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MEETING MINUTES:**

• **08/22/2017 SELECTBOARD MEETING**

- ◆ One correction to the minutes needs to be noted: the vacancy is NOT on the Planning Commission, it is on the Recreation Committee.
- ◆ *Cheryl Moomey motioned to approve the minutes from the 08/22/2017 meeting with the above-mentioned correction – seconded by Chuck Pease – all in favor – motion carried.*

**APPROVE INVOICES AND / OR OVERWEIGHT PERMITS:**

- ◆ No Overweight permits.
- ◆ All invoices approved and signed.

**ADJOURN:**

- ◆ *At 9PM Cheryl Moomey motioned to adjourn – seconded by Lee Kimball – all in favor – motion carried – meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna L. Bohannon  
Alburgh Town Clerk

Please note the above minutes HAVE NOT been approved. Approval or changes to the minutes will be addressed at the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 09/26/2017