

**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
June 4, 2019**

Members of	the Town Board:	Also Present:	
Supervisor:	Ronald Staedt	Town Clerk:	Michelle Staedt
Deputy Sup:	Karen Linza	Deputy Town Clerk:	Jan Baldwin (abs)
Councilperson:	Vincent Bock	Bookkeeper:	Michelle Dunbar
Councilperson:	Robert Warboys	Hwy. Sup't:	Dan Ford
Councilperson:	Beverly Root	Deputy Hwy. Sup't:	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of Alma was called to order at 6:00PM in the Town Hall by Ronald Staedt.

Vinny Bock spoke with the audience and read his letter. (see attached). Then David Stilson had questions for the Town Board. Mr. Stilson asked what the policy is, and what is expected of the town, expected of the contractor or the land owner as regards to the installation of culvert pipes. How much notice is needed, how much time is it reasonable to get it done, is it the responsibility of the landowner, the contractor, or the town. And if it is the responsibility of a shared part, is there a cost to the landowner or is it going to be split between the landowner and contractor. He asked what the boards stand on it, for himself as a business owner and three landowners. Vinny Bock stated that some landowners have taken upon themselves to have one placed. That it would have to be worked out with the highway department. Beverly Root stated that when her house was placed, that the town installed her culvert pipe in for her at no charge. Mr. Staedt said his was as well. Gerry Harris (town employee) stated that one is installed by the highway department. Mr. Stilson stated that one customer has been waiting 10 years for his culvert to be installed. Mr. Buck (attorney for Mr. Ford, Richardson & Pullen, P.C.) stated that by court order, which states that interfering of Mr. Ford of his duties as Town of Alma Highway Superintendent. Resident on Bill Allen Hill has been waiting a year for a pipe. Dan Ford stated that there is a gas line in the way and National Fuel needs to come and move it. Another customer on South Branch Fords Brook wants Mr. Stilson to install a culvert pipe but that is on Town right-a-way and Mr. Stilson would like to work with the town to get this done. Also a customer on Reddy Rd. who would also like a culvert pipe, and that why Mr. Stilson asked of the town procedure. Another resident asked about Alma Hill Rd. repairs. After some heated discussion, there was no conclusion. Ron Staedt asked David Shields if he would like to speak. Mr. Shields stated that the town board has the ability to make our lives a lot better or make your lives a whole lot worse. They can do that through education, research, and good intentions. He reiterated, that if you don't like what you see on the town board, then go to the ballot box this November and vote them out. There have been many common grounds, and lively debates, and have to have respect for one another.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Beverly Root to accept the May 7, 2019 minutes, 2nd by Ron Staedt.

Ayes: 4, Staedt, Bock, Warboys, Root **Absent (May):** Linza **Nays:** 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Clerk's report: read by Michelle Staedt. Question was asked the money that was in the clerks report, was that the money from insurance or the money turned in. Michelle Staedt stated that it was the money turned in at the last board meeting. Also asked of where that money was deposited and Michelle Dunbar stated that it was deposited into the highway fund.

Justice Report: Read by David Stilson. David Stilson spoke about concerns a citizen had with his hours, judgement. David Stilson explained the number of hours he is in the courtroom, how he has extra time spent on justice work like this evening before the town board meeting and sometimes 2:30 in the morning. Another citizen thanked David Stilson for his explanation.

Code Enforcement Report: Read by Rich Wenslow

Dog Control Report: as presented

General Fund: Claim No. 80 - 93, \$4711.56, read by Karen Linza

Highway Fund: Claim No. 78 - 88, \$, read by Karen Linza

Motion to pay bills by Rob Warboys, 2nd by Beverly Root

Ayes: 5 Staedt, Linza, Bock, Warboys, Root **Nays:** 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Old Business: Planning Board – Karen Linza motioned to bring the Planning board back to the table for discussion, 2nd by Vinny Bock.

Ayes: All Staedt, Linza, Bock, Warboys, Root **Nays:** 0 **Motion Carried**

Karen Linza stated that the Planning board is a tool for the Town Board. To do research, help out in different areas where they can go and gather information. The training is with the county and the state certifies the training. And it would be a valuable tool for this town. Beverly Root asked if there was no cost to the town. Karen Linza stated that it was all volunteer. Ms. Linza stated that the board could also disband the Planning board. Vinny Bock made the motion to vote on the Planning board, 2nd by Beverly Root. Roll-call vote was asked by Ron Staedt.

Beverly Root – yes, Vinny Bock – no, Karen Linza – yes, Rob Warboys – no, Ron Staedt – yes
Yes – 3, no 2 **Motion Carried**

Karen Linza stated that there will need to be an ad put in the paper for those who are interested in applying for the Planning Board.

Old Business: Receipts received from Dan Ford/Mr. Buck (Attorney)with the scrap money, to be approved or not approved. Ron Staedt stated that the board has reviewed them, outside people have reviewed them, opinion from the State Comptroller’s office. Heather Trask then stated about her FOIL request for copies of said receipts. Ron Staedt stated that he had those copies that the State said the town needed to supply to Ms. Trask, with the request of \$3.00 for the copies. Three dollars (\$3.00) was placed on the table for the copies. Michelle Staedt said that she will give a receipt for the \$3.00 after the board meeting. Receipts were then past around for each of the board members to review. Karen Linza then explained to Beverly Root who was examining the receipts that the State of NY requires that monies received from scrap is to be turned into the town. Malena Dunham then stated that board members said that the scrap money was to be split ½ and ½ and to be used in shared services, mentioning several board members names. Karen Linza said that she did not remember making that statement and that the board is adhering to the State law. Motion to table the vote. The motion was then rescinded. A motion to accept the receipts received by Ron Staedt, 2nd by Vinny Bock. Beverly Root asked what the vote was for. It was explained that the motion was to accept the receipts received with the scrap money. Roll call vote was asked. Accept – yes or no.....

Beverly Root – Yes, Vinny Bock – No, Karen Linza – No, Rob Warboys – No, Ron Staedt – No

VOTES: NO – 4 **YES** – 1 **Motion Carried**

Beverly Root asked why the board is picking on this money when the town is running up bills for the lawyers and its going to end up bankrupting the town. Karen Linza stated that the law that receipts are about, that she is only adhering to. That the money should be turned in. Beverly Root said that that’s not what the receipts were for, and Karen said that the receipts were part of the scrap money. And that all the money has not been turned in. A motion to enter into Executive session to discuss pending litigation, by Vinny Bock, 2nd by Ron Staedt at 7:00pm.

Ayes: All Staedt, Linza, Bock, Warboys, Root **Nays:** 0 **Motion Carried**

Motion by Karen Linza to exit Executive session and return to regular session, 2nd by Beverly Root.

Ayes: All Staedt, Linza, Bock, Warboys, Root **Nays:** 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

Ron Staedt stated in executive session was a conference call with the town attorney discussing the lawsuit. **Motion** to adjourn at 7:02pm by Rob Warboys, 2nd by Karen Linza

Ayes: 5 Staedt, Linza, Bock, Warboys, Root **Nays:** 0 **Motion Carried**

Next Board Meeting July 2, 2019

Town Clerk.....July 23, 2019

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