

Town of Alexandria Board Meeting
June 24, 2020
5:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance: Supervisor Brent Sweet, Councilman Ron Thomson, Councilman John Stine, Councilman Mike Fayette, Councilman Sandy Caputo, Attorney Bob Slye and Town Clerk Jessy Hudon.

Moment of silence for Town Employee Ben Cole.

Approval of Bills: Motion to approve the bills was made by Councilman Sandy Caputo seconded by Councilman Mike Fayette. Discussion: Propane was auto delivered and the cost was high. The board agreed to stop auto delivery and call when needed. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

Approval of Minutes: none

Town demolition & Clean Up of property 43816 Parkers Trailer Park Rd: Hearing was held but no one showed on behalf of the Lawton property. The Town will proceed with demolition and clean up.

Ordering the demolition and cleanup of real property located at 43816 Parkers Trailer Park Road, Route 12, Redwood, New York (tax parcel no. 14.00-1-11.2).

WHEREAS, an unfortunate fire occurred at the home of Mr. Carl Lawton, 43816 Parkers Trailer Park Road, Route 12, Redwood, New York (tax parcel no. 14.00-1-11.2) on December 1, 2018, tragically taking Mr. Lawton's life; and

WHEREAS, the home and/or property has not been repaired and/or remediated, resulting in a report by the Town Zoning Officer, Mr. Norris Handschuh, to the effect that the property is now infested by rodents (rats); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Handschuh further reports that there are young children living nearby;
and

WHEREAS, the decedent's son, Derrick Lawton of Philadelphia New York, has advised that he does not have authority by the Surrogate's Court to deal with the property; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Resolution dated May 26, 2020 the Town Board authorized service upon Mr. Derrick Lawton, via certified mail, notifying him that a hearing would be held before the Town Board in relation to the Town Zoning Officer's report that dangerous or unsafe conditions exist on the property, and that such hearing would be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 5:15 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lawton was provided with mailed notice, together with notice posted on the property and later affixed to his home in Philadelphia, New York, with a copy mailed to him by certified mail by the process server; and

WHEREAS, the notice to Derrick Lawton advised that he was entitled to a hearing on whether the Town Board should direct the demolition of the structure and cleanup of the property and to assess all expenses thereof against the land on which it is located to be collected in the manner that real property taxes are collected and/or to institute a special proceeding to collect the costs of demolition; including legal expenses, all as authorized by Town of Alexandria Local Law No. 1 of 1983, "providing for the repair or removal of unsafe buildings and collapsed structures;" and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lawton failed to appear at the scheduled hearing after due notice of the same;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Alexandria, New York that the Town Zoning Officer is hereby directed to obtain the quotes of three persons or entities capable of removing the structure and cleaning the Lawton property and then to retain the services of the responsive/responsible person or entity with the lowest quotation to perform the remediation and that, upon payment by the Town, the amount so paid by the Town shall be levied against the property to be paid and collected as a tax thereon, all in accordance with the Town's Local Law No. 1 of 1983.

Motion by:

Councilman Mike Fayette

Seconded by: Councilman Ron Thomson

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Roll Call Vote:

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Brent H. Sweet, Town Supervisor	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Ronald Thomson, Deputy Supervisor	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
John Stine – Board Member	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Michael Fayette – Board Member	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Sandra Caputo – Board Member	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>

Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed

5:15pm Public Hearing Opened - Ordinance No.12 of 2020

Motion to Open the Public Hearing by Councilman Sandy Caputo seconded by Councilman Ron Thomson.

No Public comments

Public Hearing Closed

ORDINANCE NO. 12 OF 2020 FOR THE TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA

WHEREAS, the Town of Alexandria’s Carnegie Bay Water District was established by ordinance known as “The Town of Alexandria Water Use Ordinance for Carnegie Bay Water District,” which ordinance established the boundaries of the District as shown on Schedule A, and containing approximately 11.13 acres; and

WHEREAS, application has been made by Robert Johnson on behalf of an entity known as Carnegie Bay Marina for the extension of the Water District boundaries to permit service to the marina and its environs; and

WHEREAS, the proposed extension is approximately 9.2 acres, a metes and bounds description of which is attached to this Ordinance as Schedule B; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has prepared plans detailing the proposed addition to District boundaries, to include a survey of the proposed District; a site plan reflecting the usage within the district; a site grading and ESC Plan; a Utility Plan containing miscellaneous details concerning typical trenches, typical water main and sewer separation, water service installation and typical pump station detail, etc., all of which are attached as Schedule C and which have been considered by the Town Board in evaluating the request; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Alexandria Bay has agreed to add an additional 3,000 gallons per day to the Carnegie Bay Water District’s allocation to allow for potential expansion and additional improvements, which approval is in excess of the Carnegie Bay Marina’s proposed average day peak use of 1,880 gallons per day; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Alexandria Bay has separately approved a direct hookup of the Carnegie Bay Marina to the Village’s municipal sewer system; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Alexandria desires to expand the boundaries of the Carnegie Bay Water District in accordance with the request and, in addition, to amend the Carnegie Bay Water District Ordinance, generally, to allow for changes in water rates within the District by resolution of the Board after consideration of the finances of the District at the time of the Town Board’s consideration of each annual budget of the Town,

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Goose Bay Ramp: Updated the board on the REDI Grant – when 60% of the design docs are agreed upon they can move forward with the permits.

5:30pm OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2020 & LOCAL LAW NO. 2 of 2020

Motion to open the public hearing made by Councilman Ron Thomson seconded by Councilman Sandy Caputo. Ayes 5 Nays 0 Motion Passed.

A Local Law abolishing the elective office of Alexandria Town Clerk and establishing the appointive office of Alexandria Town Clerk &

A Local Law abolishing the elective office of Town of Alexandria Town Highway Superintendent and establishing the appointive office of Town Highway Superintendent

Alexandria Bay, Dustin Truesdell wrote a letter to the board with concerns on elected vs. appointed positions.

Redwood, Eric Sherbino called in voicing his opinion that both positions should be elected and not appointed.

Corey Boyer called in asked the board for pros and cons.

George Martin called in with concerns.

Jan Martin called in stating the position should stay as is.

Janae Zimmer and Lyle Aznoe called in and stated everyone should have the right to vote.

Gene Kring called in and voiced his concerns.

Dan Peterson called in and voiced his concerns.

Kylie Humber called in with concerns.

Larry Garsaw called in and voiced his opinion.

6:00pm Motion to CLOSE the Public Hearing. Motion made by Councilman Ron Thomson seconded by Councilman John Stine. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

Councilman Ron Thomson stated that the Tax Payers are going to vote in November for the elected or appointed positions.

Discussion amongst the board to address some of the comments and to voice their opinion on the reasons why they chose to do the Local Laws.

LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2020 - Motion made by Councilman Ron Thomson seconded by Councilman Mike Fayette to pass the Local Law abolishing the elective office of Alexandria Town Clerk and establishing the appointive office of Alexandria Town Clerk .

Roll Call Vote:

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Brent H. Sweet, Town Supervisor	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Ronald Thomson, Deputy Supervisor	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
John Stine – Board Member	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Michael Fayette – Board Member	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Sandra Caputo – Board Member	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>

Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

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LOCAL LAW NO. 2 of 2020 - Motion made by Councilman Ron Thomson seconded by Councilman John Stine to pass the Local Law abolishing the elective office of Town of Alexandria Town Highway Superintendent and establishing the appointive office of Town Highway Superintendent

Roll Call Vote:

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Brent H. Sweet, Town Supervisor	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Ronald Thomson, Deputy Supervisor	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
John Stine – Board Member	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Michael Fayette – Board Member	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Sandra Caputo – Board Member	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>

Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

(Hire)Part time seasonal laborer: The board will be advertising for a seasonal part time laborer to work at the Transfer Site. Motion made by Councilman Mike Fayette to advertise for a part time seasonal laborer seconded by Councilman Ron Thomson. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

Mud Lake Grant - Judy Cornick, grant writer is working on the grant application.

Town Records – The board discussed Judy Cornick submitting an application on behalf of the Town for town records to be organized and archived appropriately. Motion to allow Judy Cornick to start the grant application seconded by Councilman John Stine. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

Town & Village to purchase Solar Digital Speed Sign with trailer together. Slitting the cost of \$1500.00 each. Total cost \$3000. Motion by Councilman Mike Fayette to purchase the digital sign at a cost of \$1500.00 seconded by Councilman Ron Thomson. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

Jefferson Abstract Agreement -

THIS AGREEMENT made this 24 day of June 2020, made by and between the TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with its principal office at 46372 County Route 1, Alexandria Bay, New York 13607, (hereinafter the "Town"), and the JEFFERSON ABSTRACT CORPORATION, with offices at 119 Sherman Street, Watertown, New York 13601 (hereinafter, "Abstractor");

RECITALS

1. The Town has undertaken a public improvement project known as Route 12 Sewer District #2 whereby the Town will construct Sewer facilities for the residents of said District.
2. Prior to installing any facilities, the Town must obtain easements in order to access properties.
3. An Abstractor is needed to provide information for the preparation of such easements by way of stub searches.
4. The Town finds that it is in the best interest of the District to have Abstractor provide the same.
5. It is the purpose of this agreement to set forth the terms of the agreement between the parties.

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NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of mutual promises and covenants contained herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, it is hereby agreed as follows:

Abstractor shall provide Town with stub searches for the property list provided by the Town's engineers for the Town of Alexandria Route 12 Sewer District #2 within the Town of Alexandria.

Abstractor shall bill the Town at a rate of \$150.00 per stub search.

Town shall pay Abstractor for this service within forty-five (45) days of receipt of Abstractor's invoice.

Abstractor at all times shall be considered an independent contractor and not an employee or an agent of the Town of Alexandria.

Abstractor agrees to indemnify and hold Town harmless from any and all liability of any nature whatsoever occasioned by the provision of its services.

This agreement constitutes the entire agreement of the parties and may not be changed, modified or altered except in writing duly signed and acknowledged by the parties. This agreement shall be interpreted by and in accordance of the laws of the State of New York.

Motion made by Councilman Mike Fayette seconded by Councilman Ron Thomson to approve and authorize the Supervisor to sign the Jeff. abstract agreement. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

Streetscape Committee: Two Council members on the committee. ~~Councilman Mike Fayette will attend the meetings and the second will be a board member available to attend.~~ All the members should have an active participation in the meetings. Corrected minutes on July 8, 2020: Minutes to reflect that the motion was for two board members to attend the meetings and the board decided to alternate board members. Motion made by Councilman Sandy Caputo seconded by Councilman Ron Thomson. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

Rt 12 property survey results: Property going up for bid. Motion to receive sealed bids with a minimum bid of \$3000. Board has the right to accept or reject all bids. Bids will be accepted up to July 22, 2020 @ 4:pm. Motion made by Councilman Ron Thomson seconded by Mike Fayette. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

Transfer Site – Non Taxpayers: Motion to approve non-taxpayers to use the Transfer site. Use permit will cost an annual fee of \$100.00 or \$50.00 for 6 months. Use permit will be a card the non – taxpayers can show the attendant at the transfer site. Motion made by Councilman Sandy Caputo seconded by Councilman Mike Fayette. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 1 – June 24, 2020

Authorizing refunds of sewer charges imposed on owners of vacant buildable lots in the Redwood Sewer District and removing all such accounts from the billing rolls.

WHEREAS, the State Comptroller has recently issued an audit report reflecting that the Redwood Sewer District's imposition of a user charge for vacant properties which do not actually receive sewer services is improper; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is engaged in implementing a Corrective Action Plan to include a refund of all amounts previously paid as a result of the improper billings; and

WHEREAS, The Town Board adopted, after public hearing, Ordinance No. 1 of 2020 repealing the imposition of an EDU charge on vacant buildable lots in the Redwood Sewer District; and

WHEREAS, the Town is therefore undertaking a Sewer District-wide reimbursement of improperly charged funds to correct deficiencies noted by the State Comptroller,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Alexandria, New York that the Town Bookkeeper is hereby directed to issue refund checks and strike from the billing

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records of the Town all billings reflecting payments by owners of vacant buildable lots in the Redwood Sewer District for services from October 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020 and that the bookkeeper shall remove all such accounts from the billing rolls effective immediately.

Motion by:

Councilman Ron Thomson
 Name

Seconded by:

Councilman Mike Fayette
 Name

Roll Call Vote:

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	
Brent H. Sweet, Town Supervisor	___	___	x abstain
Ronald Thomson, Deputy Supervisor	<u>X</u>	___	
John Stine - Board Member	___	___	x abstain
Michael Fayette - Board Member	<u>X</u>	___	
Sandy Caputo - Board Member	<u>X</u>	___	

Ayes 3 Nays 0 Abstain 2

Purchase Propane Tanks: Board discussed purchasing 330 gal propane tank for 900 dollars. Tabled

Announcement: Transfer Site Closed on 4th of July

Standard Work day for retirement: Motion to approve the standard work day for George Shaffer. Motion made by Councilman Mike Fayette second by Councilman Sandy Caputo. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

Budget Transfers:

TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA
 SUMMARY OF BUDGET TRANSFERS #3
 FYE 12/31/2020

June 10, 2020

	ACCOUNT	DR	CR
GENERAL A	A16202.1.2 Bldg Eq & Capital Outlay	\$ 1,620.00	
	A16204.1.4 Bldg - Cont Exp		\$ 1,620.00
	Siding installation on back of town office building		
	A72301.1.1 Marina / Docks - PS	\$ 10,500.00	
	A72304.1.4 Marina / Docks - CE	\$ 23,000.00	
	A90308.1.8 E'ee Benefits - SS	\$ 800.00	
	A71404.1.43 BCS - Contractual		\$ 34,300.00
	For major repair of docks on Butterfield Lake. Took from monies that had been budgeted to Bonnie Castle Stables project. This is on hold due to Covid-19.		
Sewer	SS90508.9.8 Unemployment Ins.	\$ 8.00	
	SS81204.9.4 Sanitary Sewers - CE		\$ 8.00
	For overage on UI in Sewer.		

Yes


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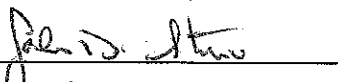
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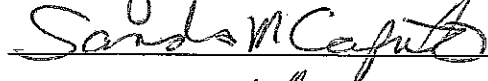
Yes

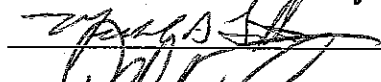
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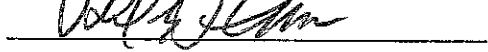
Approved by:











Date: 6/24/2020

Motion to accept the # 1 & # 3 Budget Transfers. NO # 2 budget transfers were not accepted. Motion made by Councilman Ron Thomson to accept #1 & #3 Budget trans only seconded by Councilman Mike Fayette. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

Advanced Business System (ABS) update on Rate Increase. The board is in the process of getting quotes from other businesses.

Resolution - Two NYS Comptroller Letters need to be approved : Response from the Town to The Comptroller : Subject matter: Redwood Water and Sewer District Charges. During a recent State Comptroller's audit of the "Redwood Water and Sewer District Charges" (Report of Examination 2019M-90), it was determined that the Town's imposition of EDU charges on properties not connected to the district's water system is improper. Motion made by Councilman Sandy Caputo seconded by Councilman Mike Fayette. Discussion: Board decided to change the wording to say Capital and O&M costs. Attorney Bob Slye will revise the letter to reflect the changes. Motion to approve with changes. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.

Councilman Ron Thomson discussed the importance of Boldt Castle opening and how important it is to the economy in this area. Thomson asked the board to write a letter to Armstrong representative of Boldt Castle.

Motion made by Councilman Mike Fayette seconded by Councilman Sandy Caputo to write the letter. Ayes 4 Nays 0 1 abstain.(Thomson) . Motion Passed.

Motion to adjourn board meeting to July 8, 2020 @ 5:00pm. Motion made by Councilman Ron Thomson seconded by Councilman Sandy Caputo. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion Passed.