

**VILLAGE OF ALTAMONT**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
September 06, 2011

Mayor James M. Gaughan  
Trustee William F. Aylward  
Trustee Kerry Dineen  
Trustee Christine Marshall  
Trustee Dean Whalen

Michael Moore, Legal Council  
Patty Blackwood, Clerk  
Catherine Hasbrouck, Treasurer  
Paul Miller, Chief AFD  
Todd Pucci, Commissioner of Public Safety  
Timothy McIntyre, Supt. of Public Works

Attending: Richard Straut, Barton & Loguidice

General Public: 30

7:00 p.m.

Mayor Gaughan called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Keith Lee, Co-Chairman of the Parks Committee, submitted Parks Report. Mayor Gaughan thanked Altamont Community Traditions for helping to prepare the parks for planting during their Green and Clean Day. Mayor Gaughan thanked Altamont Community Traditions and the Parks Committee for their hard work. Trustee Dineen acknowledged the work done by Department of Public Works on the sidewalk in Schilling Park. Copy of Parks Report included with Official Minutes.

Richard Straut, Barton and Loguidice, reported Village is in the early stages of designing treatment plant upgrade. This summer Barton and Loguidice has been working towards getting surveyor contracts completed. The surveyor will be subcontracted through Barton and Loguidice. Surveyor will be out next week to do a detail survey of the treatment plant site to prepare an up-to-date survey for the Village to work with. Barton and Loguidice is working on equipment specifications, selecting specific equipment to be specified in the project and are working on the drawings. Mr. Straut stated Barton and Loguidice is working on the building layout for pre-treatment system. Mid-October Barton and Loguidice will be 50% complete and will be meeting with Stormwater and Sewer Committee to review the drawings and specifications and working on finishing them up for final review in mid-December to then be presented to NYS Dept. of Health, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation and NYS Environmental Facilities for their final approval in order to begin the bid process in winter or early spring. Mr. Straut stated subsidized financing has been reviewed by finance and legal teams and will be sent to Village next week for Bond Counsel to review.

Mayor Gaughan reported Village of Altamont fared well during Hurricane Irene and acknowledged Altamont Public Works, Altamont Police Department and Altamont Vol. Fire Department for their hard work. FEMA applications are available at the Village Hall and on the Village website. Catherine Hasbrouck, Treasurer, is preparing draft investment policy for Village Board to review and have on the October agenda. The investment policy will be reviewed annually at the organizational meeting. Mayor Gaughan reported Bozenkill Park Summer Program ended August 12<sup>th</sup> and acknowledged the summer staff for their work. Bozenkill Park pool closed on September 5<sup>th</sup> and Bozenkill Park will close for the season on October 10<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Gaughan reported Altamont Archives and Museum along with Home Front Café are sponsoring “I

Remember Altamont” exhibit on Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in Village Community Room and Desolation Road will be sponsoring “Art in the Park” on October 1<sup>st</sup> with a rain date of October 8<sup>th</sup> in Orsini Park.

Paul Miller, Chief AFD, reported fire department had 103 pump outs due to Hurricane Irene. Fire dept. volunteers worked a total of 460 man hours from Sunday through Monday evening. Several pumps broke over the weekend. Three members of the fire dept. volunteered in Schoharie to cover Schoharie’s fire calls. 9/11 Memorial Service will occur on September 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. at the Altamont Fire Department.

Timothy McIntyre, Supt. of Public Works, reported public works lost 10,000 watt generator, few motors at filter plant and a chipper all related to Hurricane Irene. FEMA will be visiting the Village to look at the creeks. Water and Sewer meter readings will begin in the next week.

Trustee Aylward read letter from Ruth Dickenson, Euclid Avenue, acknowledging the work of Village staff and volunteers regarding Hurricane Irene.

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve the Treasurer’s report; Abstract #4, Abstract #5, Abstract #6, and payment to Custom Framing of \$30 from Keenholtz Memorial Fund. **Roll Call: All in favor**

**Public Comment:**

Barbara Quackenbush, Euclid Avenue, acknowledged Department of Public Works, Altamont Police Department, Altamont Vol. Fire Department and Mayor Gaughan for their commendable work during Hurricane Irene. Ms. Quackenbush expressed concern with flooding of Fly Creek in the Village.

Mark Schmidt, Sunset Drive, expressed concern regarding train traffic going through the Village in the middle of the night. Mayor Gaughan stated he would look into this and get back to Mr. Schmidt.

Joe Dover, Maple Avenue, congratulated Trustee Dineen on her recent marriage. Mr. Dover expressed concern of individuals texting while driving when traveling through the Village. Public Safety Commissioner Pucci stated this is a law and Altamont Police Department are enforcing it.

Scott Forman, Schoharie Plank Road West, expressed concern regarding drainage channels of the Village. Mr. Forman thanked Altamont residents who have been traveling to Schoharie to help after Hurricane Irene.

Mark Naginey, Schoharie Plank Road West, expressed concern with flooding of Fly Creek in the Village. Mr. Naginey thanked Altamont residents who have donated to victims of Hurricane Irene in Schoharie.

Judi Dineen, Altamont Community Traditions, reported 10<sup>th</sup> annual Altamont Victorian Holidays will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

Don Constantino, Schoharie Plank Road West, expressed concern with flooding in the Village.

Trustee Aylward made a motion seconded by Trustee Whalen to approve the permanent appointment of Todd Pucci to the position of Public Safety Commissioner effective September 6, 2011 at a salary of \$40,800 per annum. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Aylward stated Board of Trustees should consider changing title of Public Safety Commissioner to Police Chief. Mayor Gaughan stated he would follow up with Albany County Civil Service regarding suggested title change.

Trustee Marshall made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve request from Todd Pucci, Public Safety Commissioner, to pursue hiring a part-time police officer at a salary of \$15 per hour. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve for Altamont Vol. Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary to hold Brooks Barbeque fundraiser on Friday, September 9, 2011.

**Roll Call: All in favor**

### **Public Hearing 7:47 p.m.**

Michael Moore, Legal Council, opened public hearing with reading of the Legal Notice to consider proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2011 amending the Village Code in relation to parking in the Village's municipal lots and in the Village Central Business zoning district. Mr. Moore stated SEQRA review is not needed regarding proposed local law.

Trustee Dineen reported public hearing came about due to input from Altamont residents and Altamont businesses. Concerns are with parking in the business district of the Village. Since the road has been redone there has been a loss of parking spaces. There was a gain of some parking due to a parking lot created in 2004 on Maple Avenue behind Altamont Enterprise. Currently Village has three parking lots located at Maple Avenue behind Hungerford Market, Maple Avenue behind Altamont Enterprise and Main Street next to the train station. Maple Avenue lot behind Hungerford Market and Main Street lot next to the train station offer 1 1/2 hour parking, overnight parking by permit and handicap spots. Maple Avenue lot behind Altamont Enterprise doesn't have restrictions and its intent was for bus riders and overnight parking. The proposed local law allows 2 hour parking limit for all spots at Main Street lot next to train station, 2 hour parking limit at Maple Avenue lot behind Hungerford Market and 2 hour parking limit on street spaces within central business district. There would be no parking limits at Maple Avenue lot behind Altamont Enterprise. Overnight parking would be allowed only at Maple Avenue lot behind Altamont Enterprise.

Don Constantino, Schoharie Plank Road West, inquired about the distinction of area residents and village residents regarding overnight parking on Maple Avenue lot behind Altamont Enterprise. Trustee Dineen stated proposed law is referring to the tenants on Maple Avenue and Main Street.

Keith Lee, Maple Avenue, inquired if there were currently 1 1/2 hour parking signs at Main Street parking lot and Maple Avenue parking lot behind Hungerford Markets. Trustee Dineen stated there are signs at both parking lots. Mr. Lee inquired how volunteer workers at the Altamont Library would handle the parking restrictions. Trustee Dineen stated the way the proposed law is written it doesn't allow specific parking spaces for volunteers or workers of businesses. Ms. Dineen recommended parking in Maple Avenue parking lot behind Altamont Enterprise. Mr. Lee inquired if parking sign on Park Street which reads 1 hour parking and no overnight parking is being enforced. Trustee Dineen stated Village hasn't been enforcing parking limit on Park Street. Mayor Gaughan stated sign was put up years ago at the request of Key Bank. Mr. Lee stated Village currently has a law that there is no overnight parking on Village streets from October through May. Mr. Lee inquired if there was anything in the current statute that states residents can go to the Village lots if there is a storm. Mayor Gaughan stated if proposed law gets passed it should address emergency snow removal. Mr. Lee inquired if Village has 2 hour parking limit and patron was at a restaurant for 3 hours, would patron be liable for ticket if parking in lot or street. Mr. Lee stated he has concern of proposed law running the risk of interfering with the businesses. Trustee Dineen stated this is why the Village Board needs to hear from the people. Trustee Dineen reported the Spinning Room has four hour classes. Trustee Dineen stated if the Spinning Room customers are in parking spaces for 3-4 hours, local restaurants may suffer. Mr.

Lee stated it would be hard to enforce overnight parking in the two parking lots with our current police structure. Trustee Dineen stated it would be hard to enforce because of schedule of Altamont Police Department.

Greg Giorgio, Thatcher Drive, inquired if it would be better to have a provision in the new regulation to involve the time period because most municipalities, with metered parking, usually have no parking restrictions after 5:00 or 6:00 p.m. Mr. Giorgio stated he teaches a class in Altamont and his class runs 2 1/2 to 3 hours in length. Mr. Giorgio stated he can't imagine someone coming for a birthday party or special event at Mio Vino Bistro and have to move their car after two hours or have to walk far in the winter months by parking in Maple Avenue lot behind Altamont Enterprise. Trustee Dineen stated the parking restriction ending at a certain time was discussed but it seemed hard to manage because some businesses are on opposite schedules.

Cindy Pollard, Home Front Café, stated Altamont does have a parking problem. Ms. Pollard has been concerned for some time and is concerned about the parking for Altamont Free Library. Ms. Pollard stated when you own a restaurant and people can't find a place to park they go on to the next restaurant out of the Village. Ms. Pollard stated she finds nothing wrong with the 2 hour parking restriction from her point of view.

Mayor Gaughan inquired if there were any other businesses that gave feedback to Trustee Dineen. Trustee Dineen stated Hungerford Market is in favor of two hour parking limit and Jim Miller, Desolation Road, was okay with proposed local law. Mayor Gaughan stated he was told he would receive a letter from Tom Sands about his recommendations for business parking limits on the street, which to date has not happened.

Mayor Gaughan stated he understands the parking lot situation particularly the small lot on Maple Avenue that currently has permitted overnight parking. The overnight parking can create a problem by people legally staying in parking spots and that then creates a problem in the early morning for some businesses. Mayor Gaughan stated he was told by a new business owner that he didn't think the 2 hour limit would be helpful and 2 hours wouldn't be enough time for his customers. Mayor Gaughan stated his concern is the businesses and they were the primary focus of the proposed law. He is not sure about the 2 hour parking limit in the street. Another concern is Altamont Police are on duty from 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. making it difficult for them to enforce the overnight parking issue.

Trustee Dineen stated Village Board could approve the proposed law as is or come to a compromise with having the parking lots be on 2 hour parking limit and leave on street parking as is.

Todd Pucci, Public Safety Commissioner, stated realistically Altamont Police will be dealing with parking complaints only when the lots are full. Once an officer observes a car parked in a parking spot it would be 2 hours after that before Altamont officers would be able to enforce the law. Mr. Pucci stated Guilderland Police and Albany County Sherriff's Department are on throughout the night in and once the law is approved the Guilderland Police and Sherriff's Department would enforce the law.

Michael Giorgio, Mio Vino Bistro, stated he likes Trustee Dineen's suggestion of leaving the street parking as is or to have no parking restrictions on street after certain hour of the day.

Tom Quaglieri, Guilderland, inquired about current parking permits. Trustee Dineen stated parking permit is \$40 annually and you have to be a Village resident to purchase a permit. Michael Moore, Village Attorney, stated this legislation would repeal permit parking.

Trustee Aylward inquired about overnight parking during snowstorms. Trustee Dineen stated parking is allowed without restriction at Maple Avenue lot behind Hungerford Market.

Judi Dineen, Lincoln Avenue, suggested business owners recommend to their employees to park in Maple Avenue lot behind Altamont Enterprise.

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to close public hearing at 8:20 p.m.

**Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Aylward to approve Local Law No. 2 of 2011 amending the Village Code in relation to parking in the Village's municipal lots and in the Village Central Business zoning district. In proposed Section 340-10, eliminate section B in its entirety, and redesignate C as B. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve of recommendations of Altamont Guilderland Referral Committee regarding application from Dan Abbruzzese, 6700 Dunnsville Road, amending their special use permit to allow 3000 square feet addition to existing clubhouse/restaurant to accommodate business meetings, showers, Rotary dinners and golfing functions, Tax Map #25.02.34.12, Town of Guilderland. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve of recommendations of Altamont Guilderland Referral Committee regarding application from David Werling, 768 Route 146, 2 lot subdivision request, Tax Map #37.04.2.26. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Aylward made a motion seconded by Trustee Whalen to approve authorizing Tim McIntyre, Supt. of Public Works, to expend up to \$17,000 to purchase new generator for emergency purposes. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve waiving building permit fees and all other associated fees imposed by Village for repair of damages sustained by Village residents due to Hurricane Irene. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve Proclamation to recognize October 2011 as Anti-Bullying Awareness Month. **Roll Call: All in favor**  
Copy of Proclamation included with Official Minutes.

Trustee Aylward made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve for the Village of Altamont to expend \$12,674 to purchase new bail out systems and to request \$12,674 from the Town of Guilderland fire district reserves to purchase the bailout systems required for compliance under state regulations. Purchase will be made from the Tyler Fire Equipment Company, the lowest bidder of the Request for Purchase, as recommended by Chief Miller. The purchase is contingent upon Guilderland Town Board approval. The purchase includes (20) bailout systems at a cost of \$325.70 each, (20) 541-NYCL-2 harness at a cost of \$181 each, (1) TFE-BELAY-2 belay kit at a cost of \$540 and (1) bailout Train the Trainer session at a cost of \$2,000.

**Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Marshall made a motion seconded by Trustee Whalen to approve Board Minutes for July 19, 2011. **All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Whalen to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

**All in favor**

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Blackwood  
Clerk