

VILLAGE OF ALTAMONT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 17, 2015

Mayor James M. Gaughan
Trustee Kerry Dineen
Trustee Cathy Glass
Trustee Christine Marshall
Trustee Dean Whalen

Patty Blackwood, Clerk
Jeffrey Moller, Supt. of Public Works
Robert White, Altamont Fire Chief
Todd Pucci, Altamont Police Chief, Absent
Catherine Hasbrouck, Treasurer
Marijo Dougherty, Archives & Museum, Absent
Glenn Hebert, Building Inspector
Jason Shaw, Legal Counsel

General Public: 32

7:00 p.m.

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

Jeffrey Moller, Supt. of Public Works, reported there was a large water main break on Route 156 in the Village. The department has worked many hours to repair the break. Mr. Moller thanked Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pollard for providing coffee and dinner to the staff while they were repairing the water main break. Mr. Moller reported Public Works has started to smoke test the sanitary sewer lines. They have resurfaced some of the Village streets and the sidewalk on Western Avenue is almost complete. A small portion of sidewalk is to be completed on Altamont Boulevard in front of the American Legion.

Mayor Gaughan reported, in relation to the roads and smoke testing, the Village is applying for assistance under a grant program for some of this work and activity involved. The Mayor stated he has been in conversation with our local legislatures to hopefully help the Village with these areas. Mayor Gaughan reminded the public to try to attend the Altamont Library concerts in Orsini Park.

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve the Treasurer's report; #26, #2, and #3 and transfer of funds as submitted. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Public Comment:

Mayor Gaughan and Trustee Dineen read letters from the public regarding the Stewart's project. Copy of the letters included with the Official Minutes. Mayor Gaughan noted that the Village hasn't held a public hearing of the rezoning yet. Two things are being considered with Stewarts: 1) redoing the current building on the current site, or 2) build a new building on an expanded site. In all cases, everyone wants a new building. Tonight the Village Board will focus on the SEQRA review.

Jack Pollard, Leesome Lane, reported that Mrs. Rothenberg's home, Helderberg Avenue, used to be an appliance store and before that furniture store. Mr. Pollard stated he is in favor of the Stewart's store. He went to get gas the other day at Stewarts and saw customers drive away because they were tired of waiting. If there isn't any traffic in Altamont, there won't be any business. Even if the businesses are gone, there will be

traffic. The stores don't make traffic, they make the traffic stop. Stewarts is a taxpayer. Altamont needs more stores to bring in sales tax. Sales tax is a big part of the Village budget. The business district is not expanding; it has shrunk from years past.

Bonnie Conklin, Berne, reported she is angry about how some Altamont people feel about the hill towns. In 2005 the hill towns had the chance to have a Stewarts. Less than a dozen people were against it. The rest of the 1000 residents wanted a Stewarts. They didn't get their Stewarts because of politics. Ms. Conklin noted she is a third generation person from the hill towns. They enjoy coming to Altamont and going to Stewarts but could easily support Clarksville or Schoharie Stewarts. Ms. Conklin stated that the Village residents need to stop thinking about themselves and think about other people. The hill town residents will support Altamont through Stewarts and the Altamont Fair but the Village has to support the hill towns also. Ms. Conklin stated she would greatly like to see an expansion of the Stewarts.

Chuck Marshall, Stewarts, stated since the May Board meeting, Stewarts has amended their SEQRA application for the Board's review tonight.

Rob Rabbin, Main Street, inquired if Stewarts currently makes money in its current configuration and does it make enough that it would continue to make money if nothing is done with the renovation. Mr. Rabbin inquired if the current design of Stewarts is based on a zoning change and is there a design if there isn't a zoning change.

Kate Provencher, Thatcher Drive, thanked the Village Board for their commitment to the process. Ms. Provencher inquired about the letters read by Mayor Gaughan and Trustee Dineen. She inquired if those letters would come into play if there is a public hearing on the rezoning. Mayor Gaughan stated all letters would be considered as a whole. Ms. Provencher stated not all letters seemed to indicate if the people were Village residents or non-residents. Trustee Dineen stated she inadvertently left off some of the addresses. Trustee Dineen read the addresses of the letters.

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve that the SEQRA classification be treated as a Type I action and to refer Part I of the Environmental Assessment form to the Department of Transportation with a statement that this Village Board intends to be the lead agency unless Department of Transportation says otherwise. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Mayor Gaughan made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve forwarding, for consultation, the materials that were submitted for SEQRA by Stewarts to Albany County Planning Board as well as to the Altamont Village Planning Board for their review and recommendations. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Glass to approve that at the September 1, 2015 Village Board meeting the Village Board would conduct a SEQRA review for the Stewart's application. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve holding a public hearing on September 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. for consideration of zoning change for the central business district from R20 to CBD. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Glass to approve holding a public hearing on September 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. on proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2015 of the Village of

Altamont to amend chapter 355 of the zoning law to create a residential conservation district for lands annexed to the Village. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve holding public hearing on September 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. on proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2015 of the Village of Altamont to amend provisions of chapter 355, zoning, which concern elderly housing. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve holding public hearing on September 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., subject to permissive referendum, to expend \$22,000 from the Water Project Special Reserve Fund for an Emergency Repair on Route 156 in the Village. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve \$35 refund request of Mary Reinemann from Orsini Park rental on May 10, 2015. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve authorizing transfer of forfeited/seized account of \$843 from the Altamont Police Department to Altamont Police Department's Equipment Line per recommendation of Todd Pucci, Police Chief. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Glass to approve hiring the following individual for Bozenkill Park Summer Recreation Program: Zachary Appio, Altamont, counselor at \$11.00 per hour per recommendation of Patty Blackwood, Village Clerk. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Marshall made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve of contract for Village of Altamont's renewal of liability insurance of \$44,813 from Marshall & Sterling. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Glass to approve authorizing update of Altamont Fire Department's LOSAP Investment Policy Statement. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Marshall to approve resolution of the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Altamont in the matter of making certain changes to the Village of Altamont Volunteer Firefighters Service Award Program. **Roll Call: All in favor**
Copy of resolution included with Official Minutes.

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Glass to approve transfer of funds from the sale of the 2004 Dodge Durango Vehicle to the Fire Equipment Reserve per request of Robert White, Chief. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Whalen to approve Altamont Fire Department and Altamont Police Department's participation in National Night Out at Tawasentha Park on August 4, 2015. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Marshall made a motion seconded by Trustee Whalen to approve Board Minutes for June 2, 2015. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Marshall made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.
All in favor

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Blackwood
Clerk