

VILLAGE OF ALTAMONT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 3, 2015

Mayor James M. Gaughan
Trustee William F. Aylward
Trustee Kerry Dineen
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
Catherine Hasbrouck, Treasurer
Marijo Dougherty, Archives & Museum, Absent
Genevieve Trigg, Legal Counsel

General Public: 22

7:00 p.m.

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

Robert White, Chief Altamont Fire Dept., reported 7 calls for the month of February. Two vehicle fires, three mutual aid calls with Guilderland Center, and two hazardous condition calls for broken water lines. Chief White and members of the Altamont Fire Department extended their appreciation to Trustee Aylward for his service to the fire department and his many years of service to the Village of Altamont. Chief White wished Trustee Aylward the best with his upcoming retirement from the Village of Altamont.

Jeffrey Moller, Supt. of Public Works, reported due to the bad weather the frost is very deep in the ground this year and there have been quite a few frozen water services around the Village. There are a few locations that don't have water at this time, one being a business on Maple Avenue. Any resident that has concern with frozen water service should keep their water running at a slow pace. Wind seems to be getting through cracks in the foundation of older homes and freezing the water service inside the walls. Water is also freezing underneath driveways. Streets are not being cleared quite as well as in the past because Dept. of Public Works has been keeping the snow banks close to the edge of the road because most of the Village's water mains are on the edge of the road. They are trying to use the snow as an insulator and keep the frost at bay. There have been two water main breaks this winter.

Todd Pucci, Chief Altamont Police Dept., reported parking regulations are still in effect. Altamont Police Department has been going around the Village prior to the shift ending and trying to alert residents to remove their car from the street in order to avoid being ticketed by the Town of Guilderland after midnight. Chief Pucci congratulated Trustee Aylward on all his years he has served the Village and stated it has been a pleasure working with him. Chief Pucci wished Trustee Aylward all the best with his upcoming retirement from the Village.

Mayor Gaughan reported this night is very special. This is officially Trustee Aylward's last official meeting because he has chosen not to re-run for office. Trustee Aylward was also the former Mayor of the Village from 1971-1981. The next meeting in April will have a new Trustee on the Board. Mayor Gaughan stated he has been a neighbor of Bill's for 33 years. Mrs. Frinta, Maple Avenue, has stated in the past she was very happy to have a mayor on each side of her. Mayor Gaughan stated Bill has been a friend, a colleague, a neighbor, and a true public servant. In 2005, there was a change in the administration with Trustee Aylward remaining on

the Board, and he was immediately supportive of the Mayor despite the change. Trustee Aylward's career in the public sector began many years ago when he took on extra duties in the school system, where he taught. Trustee Aylward has held offices as Mayor of the Village, Trustee of the Village, Supervisor of the Town of Guilderland, and Albany County Legislature. Mayor Gaughan noted a retirement party is planned for April. Mayor Gaughan stated, on behalf of himself and the Board of Trustees, he would like to thank Trustee Aylward for everything he has done and for supporting the Village of Altamont.

Trustee Aylward stated he has been in Village government for 26 years, County government for 12 years and Town government for 4 years, 2 of which he was Town Supervisor. Trustee Aylward stated he is most grateful to his wife Sylvia who has been by his side throughout all of this and throughout his teaching years at the Guilderland School District for 35 years. Trustee Aylward stated he ran for Trustee in 1970 and was advised not to campaign. He lost that election and was asked by residents in 1971 to run for Mayor. He ran for Mayor and campaigned that year and was elected by 26 votes. Trustee Aylward stated he recommends politics to everyone. He enjoyed working as a liaison with the Altamont Fire Department and has been their strongest supporter since he was elected Mayor and had a hand in getting the training classroom in place for the fire training center when he was Town Supervisor. Trustee Aylward stated this is a fantastic Village with a wonderful future. He is impressed by the Village Board of Trustees and he hopes the next Trustee will enjoy the job as much as he has.

Trustee Marshall made a motion seconded by Trustee Aylward to approve the Treasurer's report; #18, and #19 and transfer of funds as submitted. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Public Comment:

Todd Kedik, President Altamont Fire Dept., thanked Trustee Aylward for all the support he has shown to the Altamont Fire Department throughout the years. Trustee Aylward being liaison has really helped with the communication between the fire department and the Village Board.

Village Board of Trustees; Todd Pucci, Police Chief; Robert White, Fire Chief; and Jeffrey Moller, Supt. of Public Works; had a discussion regarding a parking issue at Village Hall during mass gathering events. Trustee Aylward stated there is a need for parking spots to be available in the Village parking lot, during mass gathering events, for our fire department personnel in case of an emergency in the Village. They discussed possibly adding additional parking and agreed to table the discussion for the future until more information is gathered.

Trustee Aylward made a motion seconded by Trustee Whalen to approve resolution to affirm Mayor Gaughan's appointment of James Greene as Village Justice to the position vacated by the resignation of former Justice Leslie Stefan, in accordance with NY Village Law §3-312(3)(b)(2), at a quarterly salary of \$1,155.75 effective April 1, 2015. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Aylward made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve holding a public hearing on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., subject to permissive referendum, to expend \$14,000 from the Water Reserve Fund for an Engineering Assessment of the Village's Main Reservoir as required by NYS DEC. The Board approved the agreement at their October 7, 2014 meeting, but didn't approve expending the money from the reserve. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Aylward to approve application from David Freckleton, Township Road, for Firefighter membership in the Altamont Fire Department per request of Robert White, Chief. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Aylward to approve resignation of Shawn Noxon, part-time police officer, effective February 20, 2015. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Marshall made a motion seconded by Trustee Aylward to approve holding Annual Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Aylward made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve holding Budget Public Hearing prior to adoption on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Aylward to approve Board Minutes for February 3, 2015. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Village Board of Trustees, Village Clerk, and Village Treasurer all wished Trustee Aylward well with his upcoming retirement and stated what a pleasure it has been working with him.

Trustee Aylward made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to adjourn at 7:47 p.m.
All in favor

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Blackwood
Clerk