

VILLAGE OF ALTAMONT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 05, 2016

Mayor James M. Gaughan
Trustee Kerry Dineen
Trustee Nicholas Fahrenkopf
Trustee Christine Marshall, Absent
Trustee Dean Whalen

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

General Public: 19

7:00 p.m.

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

Installation of Village Officials Sworn in by Mayor Gaughan

Honorable James R. Greene
Honorable Nicholas M. Fahrenkopf

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve resolution to adopt the proposed appointments, designations, schedules, personnel and financial procedures contained within Organizational Agenda. **Roll Call: All in favor**
Copy of Organizational Agenda included with Official Minutes.

PART I

One Year Term

Patty Blackwood, Deputy Court Clerk
Kelly Best, Secretary, Planning Board & Zoning Board of Appeals

Five Year Term

Kathryn Provencher, Member, Zoning Board of Appeals (2021)
John Hukey, Member, Planning Board (2021)

PART II

Official Newspaper

Altamont Enterprise - Primary
Spotlight - Alternative

Official Banks

Key Bank – Altamont Branch, First National Bank of Scotia, First Niagara Bank, Citizens Bank, J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, Kinderhook Bank, Pioneer Commercial Bank, NBT Bank and M&T Bank as official depositories of the Village of Altamont.

Authorize Mayor and Treasurer to invest Certificates of Deposit in any of the designated official depositories with a third party holding the securities.

Authorize Mayor and Treasurer to sign checks on behalf of the Village.

Time & Place of Meetings

Village Board – 7:00 p.m. First Tuesday of each month and third Tuesday as needed
-July 5, 2016 meeting rescheduled to Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. due to Independence Day holiday
-August 2, 2016 meeting, if needed
Planning Board – 7:00 p.m. Fourth Monday of each month as needed
-December 26, 2016 meeting rescheduled to Monday, December 19, 2016 due to Christmas holiday
Zoning Board of Appeals – 7:00 p.m. Second Tuesday of each month as needed
-November 8, 2016 meeting rescheduled to Monday, November 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. due to Election Day

Mileage

Mileage rate coincides with Federal IRS approved rate per mile for reimbursement to Village employees when authorized to use their private vehicles on village business.

Bonds

For Officials and Employees to continue as last year
(\$50,000 Clerk/Treasurer; \$10,000 Employees)

Personnel Policy

To continue as written

Holiday Schedule

Approve holiday schedule for Village employees for FY 2016-17 per Schedule A.

Procurement Policy

To continue without change

2017 Organizational Meeting

First Tuesday in April 2017

Village Engineers

Designate Barton and Loguidice to serve as Village Designated Engineers for FY 2016-17.

Village Counsel

Designate Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP to serve as Village Designated Attorneys for FY 2016-17.

PART III

Training

Authorizing Mayor Gaughan to approve meetings, conferences, and training seminars for employees that would benefit the Village and could include the following schools, conferences and seminars sponsored by New York State Conference of Mayors such as: Annual Training School; Fall Training School; Public Works Training School; Legislative Meeting; Winter Legislative Meeting; Office of the New York State Comptroller; Office of Court Administration;

Public Works Training and Licensing, and the Albany County Division of Management and Budget technology classes.

Advance Payment of Claims

Authorize Village Treasurer to pay, in advance of audit, claims for public utility services, postage, hospitalization, freight and express charges, and fees for officials and staff to attend meetings and schools approved by Mayor Gaughan prior to the next scheduled regular board meeting.

Reports:

Mayor Gaughan reported the “Museum in the Streets” project is being led by a committee made up of Marijo Dougherty and volunteers of the museum. The committee is engaged in selecting 25-30 sites in the Village that will be part of the tour. The “Museum in the Streets” project is a first for this area.

Paul Miller, Chief Altamont Fire Department, submitted Chief’s report for March. Copy of the Chief’s report included with Official Minutes.

Jeffrey Moller, Supt. of Public Works, reported Dept. of Public Works will have the Annual Water Quality Report posted on the Village website on April 12th. The MS4 Stormwater Annual Report will also be on the website for review. If there are any comments from the public, the contact phone numbers for Dept. of Public Works are on the website.

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Fahrenkopf to approve the Treasurer’s report; #20, #21 and transfer of funds as submitted. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Public Comment:

Lois Ginsburg, Long Grass Lane, reported the annual Green and Clean Day will be on April 23rd and volunteers are needed.

Public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

Patty Blackwood, Village Clerk, opened public hearing with reading of the Legal Notice to consider 2016-2017 Village Budget before final adoption.

Mayor Gaughan reported the Board of Trustees has submitted the preliminary budget for approval for possibly tonight but no later than May 1st which has to be done under the law. The preliminary budget is a result of three budget workshops held during the months of February and March. Mayor Gaughan stated the budget contains no increase in Village resident taxes for the sixth year in a row. The Village property tax rate, which the Board is proposing for this evening, meets the tax cap restriction enacted by Governor Cuomo, and the Village will continue its collaboration in a County-wide efficiency cost savings plan instituted last year. Mayor Gaughan stated he is pleased to report that the budget proposes an implementation of a 2% cost of living increase for all staff, addresses inequities in salaries of some employees in the Public Works department, provides wireless access to the police vehicles, and allows for holiday pay of time and one half for police work on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. Mayor Gaughan stated the budget slightly increases the support for the Altamont Free Library and significantly supports the

Altamont Volunteer Fire Department all while keeping a very healthy fund balance and staying under a historically low tax cap. The Village is allowed to only increase the tax cap by \$5,000, which the Village is well under. Mayor Gaughan stated it's impressive for the Board to have accomplished this fiscally responsible work this year and years before. The budget plan is to raise \$286,491 in property tax revenue at \$2.7339 per thousand of property evaluation. The prior year's tax rate was \$2.8017 per thousand of property evaluation. The full 2016 tax rate is over seven cents per thousand less than last year. The Village will join with the other taxing entities, Albany County; Guilderland School District; etc, if they achieve their tax cap, everyone will receive a refund check. The Village's part will be around \$3 to \$4 worth the check today. The important thing is the Village hasn't increased taxes. Mayor Gaughan stated there is an editorial mistake on the last page of the preliminary budget where the salaries are listed. When the treasurer prepared it last night, she used the old template and Nicholas Fahrenkopf's predecessor, Cathy Glass, is listed. The salary is Nicholas Fahrenkopf's salary. Mayor Gaughan noted the Village's salaries are still the most volunteering Board in the capital area. The next lowest salary for municipal officials is the Village of Voorheesville, which is three times more than the Village of Altamont.

No comments from the public.

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Fahrenkopf to close public hearing at 7:19 p.m. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Fahrenkopf made a motion seconded by Trustee Whalen to approve 2016-2017 Village Budget. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Harvey Vlahos and Bill Georgen, on behalf of NY4Democracy Coalition, reported the attached resolution presented is calling for a Constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United.

Trustee Fahrenkopf stated he doesn't think anyone would disagree about the role of money in politics. Trustee Fahrenkopf stated his only concern is the broad nature of the first "resolved" in the resolution that states that all constitutional rights should belong to human beings only, not to legal entities. As an engineer Trustee Fahrenkopf stated he looks at it as saying that if he as a person has rights, why shouldn't he and a couple of his neighbors as a group have those same rights. Trustee Fahrenkopf stated he is not a legal scholar but an engineer so in that respect he is a little uneasy about supporting such a broad resolution. If it was focused solely on the role of money in politics, he would support it but at this point, he will abstain.

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Whalen to approve request of Carol Bullard of Public Citizen and NY4Democracy Coalition to adopt resolution in regard to election campaign financing. Copy of resolution included with Official Minutes.

Roll Call:

Trustee Whalen	In favor
Trustee Fahrenkopf	Abstain
Trustee Dineen	In favor
Mayor Gaughan	In favor

Motion Carried: 3 In Favor/1 Abstain

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve of Standard Work Day of 6 hours for Village Clerk and 6 hours for Court Clerk for NYS Retirement System for reporting purposes. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Fahrenkopf to approve of Standard Work Day of 8 hours for Department of Public Works and 8 hours for Police Department for NYS Retirement for reporting purposes. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Fahrenkopf made a motion seconded by Trustee Whalen to approve of Standard Work Day of 6 hours for Administrative Assistant and 6 hours for Parks Department for NYS Retirement for reporting purposes. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve authorizing Jeffrey Moller, Supt. of Public Works, to move forward with termination of water service on April 12, 2016, if payment is not received from the following delinquent non-residents: Hugo Clearwater, 6584 Dunnsville Road; and Paul Lawler, 16 Danvers Road. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Fahrenkopf made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to approve authorizing Mayor Gaughan to sign RBC Corporate Resolution authorizing RBC Wealth Management to issue 2015 Service Award one-time payments of \$700 to William Ernest, Owen Murray, and Thomas Person, AFD members. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Fahrenkopf to approve request of Altamont PTA to hold annual garage sale along the streets of Altamont and Orsini Park on Saturday, May 7, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Dineen made a motion seconded by Trustee Whalen to approve Altamont Fire Department's participation in the following events: Altamont Memorial Day Parade on May 22nd; Voorheesville Memorial Day parade on May 28th; Berne and Knox Memorial Day parade on May 30th; and Schenectady Holiday Parade on November 19th. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Whalen made a motion seconded by Trustee Fahrenkopf to approve of Board Minutes for February 23rd and March 1, 2016. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Fahrenkopf made a motion seconded by Trustee Dineen to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. **All in favor**

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Blackwood
Clerk