

**December 14, 2009**  
**Alexander Town Board Regular Meeting**  
**Alexander Town Hall 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Supervisor Ruth Hulshoff  
Town Board: Emma Jean Grant, William Schmieder, William Hirsch  
H' way Supt: Thomas Lowe  
Town Clerk: Laura Schmieder  
Guests: Steve Ognibene, Debbie Spiers-Alexander Fire Dept; Joseph Higley, Patricia and Allan Merle-residents

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Hulshoff. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence for our servicemen and women.

Steve Ognibene and Debbie Spiers were here to talk about an issue the Alexander Fire Department is beginning to research. They are pursuing the idea of separating the Alexander ambulance service from the Fire Department. It could act as an independent agency and would then be able to charge patients for their services. They are here tonight to inform the Town Board of what they are investigating. ALS is provided by Mercy EMS at this time. Alexander Fire Department is the transporting entity. There is much to look into-legal issues, etc. The two entities would be linked but separate. The attorney for the Fire Department is Brad Pinsky out of Syracuse.

On motion by Councilperson Grant, seconded by Councilperson Hirsch, and carried, to approve the November 9, 2009 and December 3, 2009 meeting minutes as presented. 4 – Yes Hulshoff, Grant, Schmieder, Hirsch 0 – No Motion carried

**COMMUNICATIONS:** a) Thank you from the family of William Franz; b) Certificate of Election presented to William Hirsch; c) monthly Time Warner franchise letter; d) letter from Penn Traffic Co. of the possible closing of local Quality market; e) email from the County Legislature asking Alexander to host a future Legislature meeting; f) County Legislature agendas; g) agenda for next GAM meeting-12/17/09; h) Assoc. of Towns 2009 digest of laws affecting Towns; i) Business Directory and newsletter from Chamber of Commerce; j) notice of name change from US Gas and Electric;

**REPORTS:**

**Highway Supt:** a) presented Agreement for Expenditure of Highway monies; b) during last snow storm-no breakdowns, accidents, etc. c) employee off due to surgery

**RES. NO. 60: ACCEPT AGREEMENT FOR EXPENDITURE OF HIGHWAY MONIES**

On motion by Councilperson Grant, seconded by Councilperson Hirsch, and carried, to accept the Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Monies as presented by the Highway Superintendent. 4 – Yes Hulshoff, Grant, Schmieder, Hirsch 0 – No Motion carried

**Clerk Report:** a) Power outage in Village and surrounding areas on December 9<sup>th</sup>-Office was closed until power restored at 10:45; b) No Planning or Zoning Board members' terms are expiring at the end of 2009; c) distributed the Assoc. of Towns notice regarding annual training sessions for elected officials;

**Supervisor:** a) Mortgage tax check received, railroad payment is late; b) paid for the water feasibility study for Route 98 out of contingent funds for now-no budget code for 2009

**Tax Collector:** asked for \$300 in starting petty cash for tax season-needed for making change

**Youth:** Need to call a meeting with Andy Buckenmeyer for winter program status and also for the 2010 summer recreation program status

**Senior Citizen:** Councilperson Grant reported on 2 trips taken recently

**Games of Chance:** Fire Dept Treasurer will be in this week to apply for licenses for 2010

Financial reports from Town Justices, Town Clerk and Supervisor were read and filed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Salt Barn Update:** the bid award was passed at December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting-Park Lane Construction. Underberg and Kessler will begin getting quotes for bond borrowing. The Highway Superintendent is firming up numbers as to quantity of stone needed for driveway-this expense will come out of the Senator Rath member item funding.

**Union Update:** meeting on 12/15/09 in Cheektowaga

**Town Hall Roof Update:** Ruth has signed the agreements with R.A. Haitz, hoping to have the work started this fall but will now have to wait until Spring

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RES. NO. 61: APPOINTMENT OF TOWN BOARD MEMBER**

Whereas, the Town Board received 4 letters of interest to fill the vacant seat on the Town Board from Patricia Merle, Joseph Higley, Paul Judkins and Gerard Buckenmeyer. The Town Board took a ballot vote and, therefore,

On motion by Councilperson Schmieder, seconded by Councilperson Grant, and carried, the Town Board appoints Joseph Higley by unanimous vote to fill the vacant Board seat effective January 1, 2010. Joseph Higley will need to seek election to this seat in November 2010 for the remainder of the term. 4 – Yes Hulshoff, Grant, Schmieder, Hirsch 0 – No Motion carried

The Board appreciates the interest in the vacant seat. Letters were sent to the applicants of the results.

**Alexander Town Board Regular Meeting – December 14, 2009**

**RES. NO. 62: STU BROWN ASSOC. PROPOSAL FOR SERVICES**

On motion by Councilperson Hirsch, seconded by Councilperson Grant, and carried, to accept the proposal for services from Stu Brown Associates for the Route 98 water district at a cost of \$700. 4 – Yes  
Hulshoff, Grant, Schmieder, Hirsch 0 – No Motion carried

**RES. NO. 63: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RESCINDING DEC'S OPEN BURNING REGULATIONS**

On motion by Councilperson Hirsch, seconded by Councilperson Grant, and carried, the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, on October 14, 2009 new legislation on “Open Burn” went into effect; and  
Whereas, prior to this new legislation, open burning of garbage, refuse and rubbish in rural communities was a longstanding means of eliminating waste material, as many rural communities do not have waste management facilities and/or apparatus to transport waste material to such facilities; and

Whereas, under the current law, the DEC adopted regulations banning open burns and removing the previous exemption for Towns with populations of 20,000 or less; and

Whereas, rescinding the recently adopted legislation would significantly help the rural residents and communities during this difficult financial time;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, the Alexander Town Board hereby supports Assembly Bill A07414 and A09213 to rescind the “Open Burning Law” and be it

Further resolved that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution to Governor David Paterson, Assemblyman Stephen Hawley, Assemblyman Dan Burling, Senator Michael Ranzenhofer and others. 4 – Yes Hulshoff, Grant, Schmieder, Hirsch 0 – No Motion carried

Also discussed: Emergency Preparedness Plan; Councilperson Hirsch gave a report on the Tonawanda Watershed Committee meeting he attended

On motion by Councilperson Hirsch, seconded by Councilperson Grant, and carried, to pay the bills on Abstract #12 as follows:

General Fund A	Vouchers 255 – 290	\$ 14,363.61
General Fund B	Vouchers 81 - 88	3,849.76
Highway Fund A	Voucher 14	2,320.00
Highway Fund B	Vouchers 229 – 257	45,467.94
Highway Fund H	Voucher 16	1,000.00

On motion by Councilperson Grant, seconded by Councilperson Schmieder, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Schmieder  
Town Clerk