

**MINUTES OF THE ALBANY VILLAGE BOARD**

October 11, 2021

The regular meeting of the Albany Village Board was called to order by President Kim Blumer at 6:43 p.m. on Monday, October 11, 2021 at the Albany Lion’s Club Building immediately following the public hearing regarding the village’s burning ordinance. Members present were: Blumer, Eileen Althaus, Fred Johnson, Bert Hefty, Larry Nipple, Tonya Stephan, and Michelle Monson. Also present were: Ricky DeNure and Bob Ritter.

The Pledge of Allegiance was shared.

Proof of posting was verified.

**AGENDA:** Motion by Hefty, seconded by Althaus to approve the agenda as posted. Carried.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Monson, seconded by Hefty to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2021 meeting as printed. Carried.

**PRESIDENT’S MOMENT:** Nothing at this time.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES:** There were none.

**PUBLIC HEARING RECOMMENDATION:** The recommendation from the Public Hearing was to keep as is, so no action needed.

**LIBRARY UPDATE:** Nothing at this time.

**TRICK OR TREAT HOURS:** Motion by Monson, seconded by Hefty to set the Trick or Treat hours for Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5-7 p.m. Carried.

**ORDINANCE 04-21 REGARDING WARD DIVISION:** Motion by Blumer, seconded by Monson to adopt Ordinance 04-21 regarding the ward division in the village. Carried.

**LEGAL PAPERWORK:** Legal papers are being worked on for a property in the village that has ignored previous attempts to get them to clean up their property. Ritter has been working with the village’s attorney on how this should be handled. Discussion was held on the options and what needs to be done. After some discussion, a motion was made by Monson and seconded by Hefty to allow two weeks from tomorrow’s date (October 12, 2021) for the owner to clean up all of the offenses and if not done, press charges. Also all fees accumulated with this will be charged back to the property owners. Carried.

**COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION REPORTS:** The following committee and commission reports were acted on and laced on file:

Building/Grounds/Cemetery	9-14-21
Park	9-20-21
Personnel	9-27-21
Police/Fire	9-28-21
Street/Utility	10-5-21

**FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET:** Discussion was held on the need for funding of the fire department. Stephan reported that several years ago she had it set up for the fire department to be able to charge for their services, but it was not carried through. The board feels that the fire department needs to charge for

their services to offset their expenses. Most of the river calls are for non-residents of the service area, so the service area is footing the bills of keeping the department in service when serving people who are not paying toward the service. Stephan stated that she was at the time able to get a lot of help from the Brodhead services. Blumer wants to work with the Fire Chief on this, so it was decided to inform the fire chief and ask him to bring in more information to the next Police/Fire meeting. However, the definite consensus of the board is to begin charging for the fire services.

Motion by Monson, seconded by Johnson to approve the Albany Fire Department's budget with a 2% increase as presented. Carried.

**OPERATOR'S LICENSES:** Motion by Johnson, seconded by Althaus to approve the following operator's licenses: Ariel Pribble, Shyann Harry, and Jacqueline Horell and to approve Hala Ryan upon completion of the responsible server's course. Carried.

**GRANTS:** Discussion was held on the possibility of looking into hiring someone who is considered a grant writer to apply for some of the grants that are "out there" available – like for the fire department, or EMS. It was decided that this should be considered.

**MEAD AND HUNT TO APPLY FOR ITA:** Motion by Nipple, seconded by Hefty to allow Mead and Hunt to send an Intent to Apply that would include many projects and our phosphorus project future costs as well. Carried.

**NOAA STATION RIVER GAGING AGREEMENT:** Motion by Nipple, seconded by Monson to agree to a five year contract with NOAA. Carried.

**BUS BARN:** Stephan asked why we would pursue purchasing the bus shed before we would try to get a grant for a new fire department and EMS. If we were able to get a new state of the art facility for the emergency services, then the public works department could use the existing building. This is something to review.

**BILLS:** Motion by Althaus, seconded by Johnson to approve the bills as provided. Carried.

**FUTURE ITEMS:** Monson questioned where we stand with the township for the recycling center agreement. It was explained that there is only one item that the township is disagreeing with, and that is for the Acceptance Days. Since our Fall Acceptance Day is this Saturday, we will see what the findings are since the workers are going to keep track of all of the vehicles using the center to see if they are village or township residents. So, after numbers are gathered, a better decision can be made.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by Monson, seconded by Hefty to adjourn. Carried.

7:34 p.m.

LAURIE K. KEEPERS, Clerk