

VILLAGE OF ALTAMONT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
October 19, 2023

Mayor Kerry Dineen
Trustee Nicholas Fahrenkopf
Trustee Michelle Ganance
Trustee Tresa Matulewicz
Trustee John Scally

Patty Blackwood, Clerk
Stacy Tanner, Treasurer, Excused
Jeffrey Moller, Supt. of Public Works
Paul Miller, Fire Chief, Excused
Todd Pucci, Police Chief. Excused
Allyson Phillips, Legal Counsel

General Public: 4

6:00 p.m.

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

Public Comment:

No comments from the public.

Richard Straut, Barton and Loguidice, gave a presentation on the Potassium Ferrate Pilot Test for the Brandle Road wells. The Brandle Road wells were cited by the Albany County Health Department for exceeding the maximum drinking water containment limit for manganese. The Health Department is requiring the Village to investigate treatment alternatives. In the summer of 2022, B&L conducted jar tests for viable pre-oxidation chemicals for treatment and determined that potassium ferrate with subsequent filtration provided greater than 90% reduction in total manganese in Brandle Road well water. As a condition of approval for this addition to the treatment process, Albany County Health Department requires a pilot test of a scaled treatment process demonstrating it on-line reliability. To satisfy this requirement, B&L proposes to perform a pilot test procedure to demonstrate the efficacy of potassium ferrate and filtration in addressing manganese contamination in the wells. B&L has reviewed this approach with the Albany County Health Department, and the Department has endorsed the procedure. B&L will be partnering with the University of Rhode Island for piloting and analysis. The scope of service assumes that University of Rhode Island and B&L will perform pilot setup and initial startup, ensuring stable operation. Once stably operating, the scope assumes that Altamont operations will check and verify operation during the week of piloting.

Trustee Scally made a motion seconded by Trustee Matulewicz to approve authorizing Mayor Dineen to sign Proposal for Professional Services, not to exceed \$20,000, with Barton and Loguidice Engineering, for Potassium Ferrate Pilot Test at Brandle Road wells. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Continuation of Public Hearing at 6:16 p.m.

Allyson Phillips, Legal Counsel, continued the public hearing with reading of the Legal Notice to consider Local Law No. 1 of 2023 to Permit the Keeping of Chickens in the Village of Altamont.

Mayor Dineen: This is the part two of our public hearing. I don't know if there's anybody in the audience that wants to say something else. I think we had a lot of great comments at the last meeting. We have some written comments that were submitted as well. Is there anybody else that has something to add?

Maurice McCormick, Resident: The last time I was talking about 24/7 access. Further down that paragraph, the only thing I was concerned about is the last sentence allows such inspection without the necessity of prior notice. I just think that may be dangerous for anyone to just pop into somebody's backyard to look at it. Is that what is the intent?

Mayor Dineen: No, he would have to come to the door and knock.

Maurice McCormick, Resident: Oh, okay.

Trustee Ganance: Yeah, he just can't go in there.

Maurice McCormick, Resident: Well, that's what I was wondering. I just figured you would give somebody a heads up.

Mayor Dineen: He always does I think with our other inspections. He generally does or he'll knock on the door. Sometimes we have to give somebody a piece of paper. He'll go knock on the door, see if they're there.

Maurice McCormick, Resident: Okay.

Mayor Dineen: He's not just going to pop in.

Maurice McCormick, Resident: I used to have a couple pretty big dogs back there and they're wandering around, so that's the only reason I brought it up.

Trustee Fahrenkopf: If somebody has a rooster though and you give them 24 hours' notice, I'm going to go check and see if you have a rooster, then that just gives them 24 hours' notice to hide it.

Maurice McCormick, Resident: Oh, okay. The last thing I mentioned though was the fee structure. Are you still looking at the \$150 & \$50?

Mayor Dineen: Yes.

Maurice McCormick, Resident: I noticed a lot of your regulations are similar to Guilderland and a lot of the other towns.

Mayor Dineen: Our regulations were modeled after several municipalities from Voorheesville, Guilderland, New Scotland, Colonie, and Rotterdam. We looked at five or six different places.

Maurice McCormick, Resident: Did you by chance ask any of them what their fees structure was?

Mayor Dineen: They're all different. They're different all across New York State. A lot of times it's \$25. Sometimes it's \$10, sometimes it's a \$100. It's been all over the place.

Maurice McCormick, Resident: Right. I'll just read off three. Voorheesville is \$25 with a \$25 annual fee. Guilderland is \$50, no annual fee and Colonie is \$65, no annual fee. My suggestion would be for the Board, maybe to look at just doing no annual fee and a lesser fee for the initial application. I don't need an answer. Just something for you to think about. because it almost seems like at \$50 a year, it's all kind of like a chicken tax.

It's going to cost you 96 cents a week. Basically, almost a buck a week. I don't know if people want to have chickens and following everything else, they pay the application. The \$50 fee would certainly be the highest of the surrounding areas. I don't know. I think people just need a break,

Trustee Ganance made a motion seconded by Trustee Fahrenkopf to approve closing public hearing at 6:21 p.m. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Village Board and Allyson Phillips, Legal Counsel, reviewed SEQRA on proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023 to Permit the Keeping of Chickens in the Village of Altamont.

Trustee Scally made a motion seconded by Trustee Matulewicz to approve Resolution Adopting a Negative Declaration and Enacting Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023 to Permit the Keeping of Chickens in the Village of Altamont. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Fahrenkopf made a motion seconded by Trustee Ganance to approve bid submitted by the Town of Lenox, in the amount of \$90,000, for purchase of E17 2001 Pierce Contender Engine Fire Truck "AS IS", per recommendation of Paul Miller, Fire Chief. **Roll Call: All in favor**

Trustee Matulewicz made a motion seconded by Trustee Scally to adjourn at 6:32 p.m.
All in favor

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Blackwood
Clerk