

Town Board Meeting August 12, 2024

Supv. Crossen called the monthly meeting of the Alabama Town Board to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call was taken, Councilperson J. Klotzbach, Veazey, D. Klotzbach, Fisher and Supv. Crossen were present. Also present were Supt. Covell, Attorney Boylan, Mark Masse, Dave Bencic, Terry Thompson, Drew Reilly, Derrick Phelps, Darren Carl and Rachel Smith.

Supv. Crossen read the following statement: Councilperson Dianne Klotzbach has informed me of a conflict with STAMP. Councilperson D. Klotzbach will not participate anytime the issue is discussed and simply vote 'present' on any vote taken.

Privilege of the Floor

Dave Bencic – it was brought to his attention that residents are getting solar and wind exemptions on property taxes for 10-15 years. It's not fair, the rest of us are paying for it. One resident is getting a \$96,000 exemption for a wind turbine and an added \$30,000 exemption for a small solar panel as well as agricultural exemptions. There are also a few more receiving the exemptions. Supv. Crossen asked Dave to send him the information to look into.

Darren Carl & Rachel Smith from EDP Renewables – Re: Alabama Solar project update. Initiating process for Article 8/94c project over the next few months. Sent Board members information via email. Projecting the application by the end of the 1st quarter of 2025 with Spring 2027 construction. Will have a public open house this fall.

Highway – Supt. Covell gave update:

Grader paving done.

Shared Services with Pembroke, Oakfield, Byron, Alexander and Elba.

Pipe replacement done on a few roads.

Wight Road electric pole issues – met with National Grid.

Street Lights – the street lights at Knowlesville/Ham, Bloomingdale/Ackerson and McAlpine/Ogden will be at no cost to the Town.

Cemetery Headstone foundations done. Noted that we are only charging \$350 minimum for foundations and it costs the Town more than that. Will need to update the fee schedule.

STAMP – Mark Masse gave update:

Edward ground breaking ceremony was last week.

Finalizing plans for water tank.

Working on force main to Oakfield.

NYS has a new designation Pro Housing Community. City of Batavia has submitted, LeRoy working on it. NYS will tie grants to this designation. Disc. held.

Scannell Development is no longer interested in STAMP.

Plug Power – nothing new.

Water District #2 – nothing new.

Executive Session

MOTION by Councilperson J. Klotzbach, seconded by Councilperson Veazey to go into executive session at 7:24 p.m. to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation; and/or Negotiations and

updates subject to NDAs regarding the IZA; and/or Negotiations regarding the Teamsters Contract with Attorney Boylan and Andrew Reilly. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. J. Klotzbach – yes C. D. Klotzbach – yes C. Veazey – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

MOTION by Councilperson Veazey, seconded by Councilperson D. Klotzbach to come out of executive session at 7:59 p.m. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. J. Klotzbach – yes C. D. Klotzbach – yes C. Veazey – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Solar Law Update – Drew Reilly gave an updated copy of the proposed solar law to board members. Discussed the process to update the law. He stated that they are not updating the current law, they are replacing it completely. Board members need to review it. Next month set public hearing date and send it to County Planning for their review.

Town Hall – nothing new

Court JCAP Grant

Councilperson J. Klotzbach offered the following **RESOLUTION**:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Alabama wishes to apply for grant monies to improve the Town Court System.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Alabama authorizes the Alabama Town Court to apply for a JCAP Grant in the 2024-25 grant cycle up to \$30,000.00.

Councilperson Fisher seconded the RESOLUTION which was adopted by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. J. Klotzbach – yes C. D. Klotzbach – yes C. Veazey – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

7047 Maple Road Update from Supv. Crossen

The homeowner is working on moving stuff from the front yard to the back yard. All items were to be removed by August 6th, didn't happen. New attorney appeared in court on August 6th. Case is adjourned until September 6th, if not resolved will move to County Court.

Audit of 2023 Accounts

Councilpersons Fisher and D. Klotzbach conducted the audit of the 2023 books for the Bookkeeper, Town Clerk and Tax Collector.

MOTION by Councilperson J. Klotzbach, seconded by Supv. Crossen to accept the 2023 Audit of the Bookkeeper, Town Clerk and Tax Collector as complete. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. J. Klotzbach – yes C. D. Klotzbach – yes C. Veazey – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

2025 Budget

Supv. Crossen sent budget sheets to department heads. Will have first draft to Board Members at September meeting.

Northern Clearing Lease Renewal

MOTION by Councilperson Fisher, seconded by Councilperson D. Klotzbach to renew the Northern Clearing Lease for one year from October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 at a rate of \$1,500 per month. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. J. Klotzbach – yes C. D. Klotzbach – yes C. Veazey – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Approval of Minutes

7/8/2024 Board Meeting – MOTION by Councilperson Fisher, seconded by Supv. Crossen to accept minutes as presented. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. J. Klotzbach – yes C. D. Klotzbach – yes C. Veazey – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Supervisors Report

8/3/2024 -- MOTION by Councilperson J. Klotzbach, seconded by Councilperson Fisher to accept report as written. Approved by Roll Call Vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. J. Klotzbach – yes C. D. Klotzbach – yes C. Veazey – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Audit Bills

MOTION by Councilperson Veazey, seconded by Councilperson Fisher to accept Abstract #008-2024 and pay bills in the amount of \$30,760.22 vouchers 144 to 162 General Fund; \$161,028.16 vouchers 130 to 148 Highway Fund; \$3,669.97 vouchers 20 to 22 Water District 1. Approved by Roll Call Vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. J. Klotzbach – yes C. D. Klotzbach – yes C. Veazey – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Town Clerk’s Report

July 2024 -- MOTION by Councilperson Fisher, seconded by Councilperson Veazey to accept report as written. Approved by Roll Call Vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. J. Klotzbach – yes C. D. Klotzbach – yes C. Veazey – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Assessor’s Report – not submitted

CEO/ZEO Report

July 2024 -- MOTION by Councilperson J. Klotzbach, seconded by Councilperson D. Klotzbach to accept report as written. Approved by Roll Call Vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. J. Klotzbach – yes C. D. Klotzbach – yes C. Veazey – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

MOTION by Councilperson J. Klotzbach, seconded by Councilperson Veazey to adjourn meeting at 8:41 p.m. Approved by roll call vote:

C. Fisher – yes C. J. Klotzbach – yes C. D. Klotzbach – yes C. Veazey – yes Supv. Crossen – yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca L. Borkholder
Town Clerk