

Town of Alfred
Regular Monthly Meeting
September 11, 2025

The regular monthly meeting was opened at 7:00 pm with the Pledge to the Flag. The following Board members were present: Supervisor Fion MacCrea, Matthew Snyder, Jesse Szalc, and Stefanie Burdick. Also present were: Chief Josh VanSkiver and one of his officers, Josh McGraw, Catherine Chambers, Deb Lewis and Tammy Raub from Alfred University, Kathy Benzaquin, and Mayor Jim Ninos. Others present were Town Clerk Jan Burdick and Highway Superintendent Bob Halsey. VIA Zoom: Brad Burdick

Police Report: Chief VanSkiver explained that they have had multiple critical incidents and more calls this August since 1996. It is a combination of Town and Village and tickets issued way up. Fatal ATV accident on Cornelius Road – unsafe speed and no safety equipment. They are going to enforce and stopping if on Town Roads unless for farm use. They will educate them on the laws or give them tickets. Reported that the Village of Andover no longer allows ATV's on Village Roads. Since that happened, State and Village of Andover Police have been issuing tickets. Talked with Joe Kent and he is onboard and telling their customers that there no riding on Town Roads. Chief VanSkiver added that when they see them at the gas station, they educate them. Regarding the recent murder at the Econo Inn – Chief VanSkiver explained that the people being placed there are from State funded programs. Started with Code Blue but now motels sign up due to receiving a significant amount of money for housing people there. Added that he doesn't think they are going to be housing anyone from these programs anymore. Since then, calls for service there have decreased. Chief Van Skiver commented that it has been a rough summer for his department.

Alfred University request for Special Use Permit Extension: Supervisor MacCrea explained that according to the Special Use Permit, planting of trees at the Jericho Hill Athletic project were supposed to be done prior to construction. That didn't happen. MACE had a discussion with AU and a proposal was made by AU's attorney and Arborist to request an extension. Tammy Raub stated that their Arborist said that the best time to plant was late August. Matthew Snyder responded that he has been planting all summer, had to water more, but did plant. Mr. Snyder added that the second week in August all the nurseries had their fall stock, when AU came to the board with this project they stated they wanted to be good neighbors. Mr. Snyder went on; no trees have been planted. Was told no plantings until the berm was established. That has been done and mowed at least 3 times, been at finished grade and still no trees. Now, lights and turf have been installed and team is practicing on the turf. "Not a good neighbor". Ms. Raub apologized and said she was not personally aware of that requirement. Original the trees were to be planted by an outside contractor but then changed to AU doing it, need to get it rectified. Matthew Snyder went on to say that the contractors weren't responsible, AU was, therefore, they know about it because AU pulled it out of the project. Discussion in this room was that the plantings were to be done for a slight buffer for sound of the construction. This was supposed to have been done last Fall and still not done, sees no reason to grant an extension. Fion MacCrea commented that he agrees with what Mr. Snyder stated, it took a resident to bring to the Town's attention. Matthew Snyder added that even when MACE got involved, it still was not done. Fion MacCrea added that the extension request was reviewed by MACE's attorney and the Town Attorney. AU is requesting permission to plant between September 15th and October 15th. Supervisor MacCrea stated that the Board wants it done by the end of September, clearly beyond original SUP timeline and issue a Stop Work Order which Jesse Szalc agreed with. Matthew Snyder stated that he was willing to let go a little longer until he saw the fields be utilized and still no trees. Mr. Snyder added that he

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talked with MACE earlier today, if Board doesn't issue an extension, MACE has to issue a Stop Work Order, which would stop all construction. Ms. Raub stated that she is looking to get the species of trees they need and was told the soonest she could get that is Monday, asked to have until Monday to comply. A motion was then made by Matthew Snyder that the trees be planted by Monday, September 16th or a Stop Work Order will be issued. The motion was seconded by Jesse Szalc and carried 4-0. Ms. Raub asked what would happen if they weren't done? Supervisor MacCrea answered that if they are on site and working on putting them in the ground they would be ok. Ms. Raub added that they do want to be a good neighbor and it wasn't intended. If shut down, could cost them of \$20,000 a day. Mr. Snyder stated that they were made aware of this over a month ago and haven't seen any action. "If we don't hold the line, what conditions does it do to our SUP?" Supervisor MacCrea stated that he will let MACE know what the Board decided. Matthew Snyder explained that in regards to students practicing on the fields, a little more complicated. MACE is aware of it but because fields aren't a building, Building Codes don't apply.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the August 14, 2025 Regular Meeting were approved with a motion by Jesse Szalc, seconded by Matthew Snyder and carried 4-0.

Highway Report: Reviewed monthly report. Repairs to 2014 Mack. Supervisor asked about cost of salt and Mr. Halsey stated that it is purchased on State Bid. Waterwells Bridge has been repaired and the red flag removed.

MACE: Report on FEMA Zoom meeting regarding updated Flood Plain maps. Took 60 parcels out of the flood plain but 5 were added, all in the Village. (AU Bleachers, Fred Fredrickson structures).

Monthly Reports. Budget Workshop is scheduled for September 18th at 1:00 pm.

Correspondence: Letter from FEMA following up on Zoom meeting attended by Jesse Szalc, Matthew Snyder and Jan Burdick.

General Abstract #9-2025 Vouchers #90- 101 in the amount of \$4109.25 in the General A Fund; Voucher #11 in the amount of \$ 3602.58 in the B Fund, #9 in the SF Fund in the amount of \$3799.75 were approved with a motion by Matthew Snyder, seconded by Stefanie Burdick and carried 4-0.

Highway Abstract #9-2025 Vouchers #106-120 in the DA Fund in the amount of \$6354.55 Voucher #31-35 in the DB Fund in the amount of \$4254.63 were approved with a motion by Jesse Szalc, seconded by Stefanie Burdick and carried 5-0.

DCO - Reviewed report. Supervisor MacCrea received a phone call from Almond with concern that Jude Wahl wasn't taking sufficient care of the dogs held at the kennel in Almond. Mr. MacCrea talked to him and explained that he must go at least twice a day to feed the dogs,

Supervisors Report: Motion by Matthew Snyder seconded by Jesse Szalc to establish standard work days for NYS Retirement per resolution and carried 4-0.

Assessor's Report - All STAR applications will now go through the State.

Will contact Town Attorney to draw up paperwork for sale of property.

Malcolm Lane subdivision – will go to the County Planning Board and will have to do a SEQR review.

Board Appointments – Planning Board- Chris Beck has resigned per communication with the Supervisor, has not submitted anything in writing. Will reach out to Tim Cochran to see if he will be Chairman.

Moratorium on Solar Law -clock is ticking so need to get the Planning Board acting on it.

Teamsters Contract – Counter proposal will be presented based on 2026 Budget.

Supervisor MacCrea announced that he will be resigning effective September 30th due to moving out of the area.

Jesse Szalc will be appointed to fill the unexpired term.

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Road Use Agreement with Water Chestnut – approved with a motion by Fion MacCrea, seconded by Matthew Snyder and carried 4-0. This will include a \$350,000 bond to cover any road and bridge repairs.

Village Meetings: October – Jesse Szalc. December – Community Conversations at 6:00 pm. Will be decided at a later date.

A motion to go into Executive session at 8:30 pm to discuss the employment of a particular person was made by Jesse Szalc, seconded by Fion MacCrea and carried 4-0. Executive Session ended at 9:00 pm with a motion by Matthew Snyder, seconded by Fion MacCrea and carried 4-0. A motion was made by Fion MacCrea, seconded by Matthew Snyder to appoint Becky Painter as Sole Assessor to a 6-year term beginning October 1, 2025. The motion was carried 4-0.

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:02 by Fion MacCrea, seconded by Matthew Snyder and carried 4-0.

The Board and employees want to express our deep appreciation and thanks to Mr. MacCrea for his many years of service to the Town of Alfred. He will be deeply missed but we wish the entire MacCrea family much happiness in their new home and location. GOOD LUCK FION!

Respectfully submitted,

Janice L. Burdick,
Town Clerk