

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 9, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Supervisor Richard Moore
Councilman Dennis Fletcher
Councilwoman Gretchen Stark
Councilman Floyd Varney
Councilwoman Deborah Witherell

OTHERS PRESENT: Helen Denno, Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor/Bookkeeper, Barbara Winchell, Town Clerk, Paul Winchell, Highway Superintendent, Jeff Meyer, Town Attorney, Mark Miller, Enforcement Officer, Todd Humiston, Dog Control Officer, Joe Loszynski, Joe Wright, Beth Bush, John and Eileen Herring, Jack and Olivia Herring, Bernie Wylie, Bill Bailey, Don Ballard, George Sherwood, Dale Grinnell, Gene Connell, Christine Milligan, Earl and JoAnn Rouse, Arlene Green, Michael LaCross, Renee Bouplon, Associate Director, Agricultural Stewardship Association, Debbie Camarota, Nancy Moore, Howard Denison, Mary Stockman, Don Bedeaux, Mark and Lynne Faille

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence was held for deceased Fort Ann residents, Inez Mattison, Elizabeth Lehoisky and Margaret May Russell.

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney to approve tonight's agenda.

Motion was carried.

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept the Regular Town Board Minutes of April 11, 2016. Councilwoman Stark abstained since she was absent from the 4/11/16 meeting.

Motion was carried.

Supervisor Moore read the following from the April 2016 monthly financial statement:

Receipts for the month	\$ 32,135.49
Trust & Agency Fund (Highway)	\$ 32,420.38
Trust & Agency Fund (General)	\$ 7,921.56
Disbursements General Fund	\$ 82,209.27
Disbursements Highway	\$ 58,428.09

Checkbook Balances

General Fund	\$139,864.82
Highway Fund	\$106,745.68
Youth Commission	\$ 1,006.27
Hadlock Dam Project	\$ 239.70
Hadlock Park District Fund	\$ 9,506.32
Consolidated Health District	\$ 862.82
Trust & Agency Fund	\$ 333.97

Savings Accounts

General Fund	\$ 611,006.07
Hadlock Park	\$ 220,894.24
Highway Fund	\$ 911,444.28
LOSAP	\$ 27,601.31

Motion was introduced by Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to pay the bills as warranted and audited.

Motion was carried.

Joe Wright, Head Committee Chairman of Cub Scouts, along with John Herring, Scoutmaster Troop 46 and Beth Bush, Senior District Executive Twin Rivers Council presented an Eagle Scouts plaque to the Town Board to be displayed at the Town Hall. Mr. Wright thanked numerous organizations and people, especially parents, for their support of the scouts over the years.

Renee Bouplon, Associate Director, Agricultural Stewardship Association, asked the Town Board for a letter in support of a perpetual conservation easement on Simply Grazin' farm. Mark and Lynne Faille, Simply Grazin' farm, thanked the board for their support. This is to all be presented to the Town of Hartford tomorrow night at their board meeting asking them also for a letter of support of this project.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to have Supervisor Moore prepare, sign and send a letter to David Behm, Division of Land and Water Resources, NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets, 10B Airline Dr., Albany, NY 12235, in support of a perpetual conservation easement on Simply Grazin' farm.

Motion was carried.

Debbie Camarota, stated she has been working very hard with the Veterans Organization to get a VA Marker for the seven (7) Veterans at East Westfield Cemetery and two (2) Otis Cemetery. She distributed a picture of the 13' x 42' markers and stated that they are 230 lbs. each. She has been storing them for the winter where she works in Saratoga and is asking if the Fort Ann Highway Department could bring these nine (9) markers to Fort Ann. Supervisor Moore suggested a meeting May 17, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall with the cemetery committee to discuss the outstanding issues of East Westfield Cemetery.

Public Hearing: None

Public Comment was opened and closed without any comments being made.

Supervisor Moore gave a status on the following:

Announced that the Town website has been up and running since April 21, 2016. The website name is www.townoffortannny.com

Recently more Streetscape paperwork was submitted to OSC along with request for final payment. The Village/Town of Fort Ann may receive less than the \$100,000.00 that was originally reported. Supervisor Moore will follow-up by phone with OSC to get a status on this money.

Supervisor Moore stated there would be an article in The Post Star regarding the leak at the dam. He thanked the Highway Superintendent and Duane Burch, Jr. for the time and effort before, during and after that they put in during the work on the dam. Supervisor Moore spoke with Mark Brownstein, Engineer, who referred to this as capillary moisture, something that happens with weather conditions.

Supervisor Moore stated that Eric Stropp, Appraiser, hired by Civil War Trust, would be meeting with George Sherwood May 11, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. to go to Battlehill to take pictures. Mr. Sherwood would answer any questions Mr. Stropp has so that he can submit a report to the Civil War Trust. The Civil War Trust will pay 100% of the cost of the appraisal. Then the town would find out the options in regards to going forward with the owner of Big Boy Construction. Big Boy Construction has asked to be named as an additional insured and that has been taken care of.

As a result of Supervisor Moore, Planning Board Chairman Bedeaux, Mark Miller, Enforcement Officer and Planning Board Attorney, Mary-Ellen Stockwell of Meyer & Fuller, attending a Planning & Zoning Solar Workshop April 19, 2016 Supervisor Moore thought it would be a good idea to set up a committee. The committee will be made up of those listed above as well as Councilman Varney and another individual from the Planning Board. They will meet May 23, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. just prior to the regularly scheduled Planning Board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Moore, Councilwoman Stark and Helen Denno, Bookkeeper, had a Finance Committee meeting May 5, 2016 and have another one tentatively scheduled for August 1, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. They scheduled the meeting dates for the 2017 budget; reviewed the first quarter actual expenses to budget and reviewed three (3) year budgets and actual expenditures and revenues. Supervisor Moore thanked the Bookkeeper for creating a budget/tax levy/actuals 2013-2015 report and a budget/actuals 1st quarter 2016 report and stated he was very impressed.

Arlene Green submitted a list of items that need attending to at the Old Stone House Library (repair or replace steps to basement, install a handrail, ramp needs to be power washed/sealed). The Library Committee is purchasing a new air conditioner and needs the Highway Department to install it and take care of any of the other items on the list. There is a pipe in the backyard that she doesn't know it's for.

On May 28, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. there will be a special town board meeting at the West Fort Ann Fire house for discussion on the Lake Hadlock Park District only. This meeting will be open to the public.

Town Clerk's Report was given for April 2016. Town Clerk reported that she attended her third Town Clerk Conference and is half way to obtaining her Registered Municipal Clerk (RMC) designation. The Town Clerk thanked the Town Board for their approval of her attending Town Clerk conference.

Highway Superintendent Report: Reported that the Highway Department finished up the necessary work on Goodman Road in order to do the two miles of blacktopping. The Highway Dept. started regrading Sly Pond today. They are headed to Farley Road to do the necessary work in front of Rosick Well Drilling in order to do blacktopping.

Councilman Fletcher mentioned that Mike Gray, Washington County Director of Alternative Sentencing, is the contact to get assistance with mowing the cemetery on Tripoli Road. Councilman Fletcher stated that the cemeteries at Rocky Way and Fish Hill will always be tough to maintain because of the amount of leaves.

Councilman Fletcher stated there will be a luncheon June 21, 2016 at noon at the Great Escape Lodge to recognize Joan Degener, Patricia Gould and Arlene Green as Shining Stars of Fort Ann. These individuals have been selected as Shining Stars because of the time, talent, energy and resources they devote to the community.

On April 23, 2016 Councilman Fletcher, Councilwoman Stark, Supervisor Moore and Terry Barber cleaned up around the canal. Councilman Fletcher mentioned that brush needs to be cut and might need the Highway Department to haul away debris.

Councilman Fletcher stated he received two (2) complaints about conditions of property and he will get with the Enforcement Officer to address those.

Councilwoman Stark stated that on May 13, 2016 at noon there will be a group of about fifteen (15) from the Sportswriters Group coming in for the weekend. The Recreation and Tourism group is providing them with lunch at the Canal Park. There will be a speaker coming to talk about the canal trail coming from Waterford to Whitehall. The section from Fort Edward to Fort Ann may possibly be completed in 2017.

Councilwoman Stark received a picture, as a thank you for the donation, from Big Brothers Big Sisters that was taken during the ice fishing derby.

Councilwoman Stark stated that the Summer Recreation program will begin July 5th. She is looking for one (1) qualified lifeguard if anyone knows one please refer them to Councilwoman Stark.

Councilwoman Stark stated that they are waiting for the Canal Corp to put their dock in so that the kayak launch can go in at the Canal Park.

Councilwoman Stark received a thank you letter from the Canal Corp for the clean up on April 23, 2016. She thanked Supervisor Moore, Councilman Fletcher and Terry Barber for their participation.

Councilwoman Stark received an American Flag from Kim Bender for out front. The Town Clerk will keep this flag in a locked cabinet at the Town Hall until there is a need for it.

Councilwoman Stark mentioned a 2015 letter regarding a noise problem. She would like the Town Board to consider a noise variance/ordinance. Supervisor Moore recommended that the Town Attorney put together a noise variance/ordinance for the June 13th Town Board meeting for the Town Board to consider.

Enforcement Officer Report was given for April 2016. He stated he would be attending National Flood Conference/Saratoga May 16th and May 17th. The Enforcement Officer thanked the Town Clerk for the communication by email to him so that even when he's not in the office he doesn't miss any work.

Historian: Virginia Parrott could not make tonight's meeting. Christine Milligan spoke on behalf of Virginia. She thanked the Highway Dept. for the clean up at Needhamville cemetery. There were three (3) more Veterans found dating back to 1790 as a result of the clean up.

Joe Loszynski, Lake Hadlock Project Manager, submitted a monthly progress report by email to the Town Board. A paper copy is filed in the Town Clerk's Office for anyone that would like a copy. Joe mentioned that he would like the Harvester launched 5/17/16. The Highway Superintendent stated that the Highway Department is in mandatory training 5/17/16 and unable to put up the necessary road signage with launching the Harvester. He asked if it could be launched 5/16/16 or 5/18/16 so he could provide the necessary road signage.

Old Business: Supervisor Moore recommended leaving the Washington County Sales Tax with the county as it currently is. Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to continue leaving the Washington County Sales Tax with the county to continue to reduce the county tax like it has in the past.

Motion was carried.

Supervisor Moore recommended leaving the Goodman Road lights issue on the agenda for another month since the gentleman he was supposed to meet with was not available until after tonight's meeting.

Supervisor Moore introduced Todd Humiston, Dog Control Officer. Todd mentioned that currently the Town of Fort Ann is charging the lowest dog licensing fees in Washington County. The Town Clerk gathered/prepared/distributed a spreadsheet with the dog fees from all seventeen (17) towns in Washington County. The Town Board suggested increasing the current spayed/neutered fee from \$3.50 to \$8.00 and increasing the current not spayed/not neutered fee from \$10.50 to \$15.00. It was also suggested implementing a \$3.00 replacement tag fee as currently there is no cost for a replacement tag. Todd Humiston, Dog Control Officer, mentioned that seizure fees that the Town of Fort Ann currently charge are \$10.00 (1st offense), \$20.00 (2nd offense) and \$30.00 (3rd offense) and that the Town Board should consider raising those fees to \$25.00, \$35.00 and \$45.00. Supervisor Moore asked the Town Attorney to prepare the information for the next board meeting.

Supervisor Moore suggested moving the Town Board meetings to the Fort Ann Fire House for the months of November – February for better parking and accessibility. Councilman Varney said waiting until the Fall was a good idea. The town workshops would have to continue to be held at the Town Hall because of various paperwork that is only retained at the Town Hall.

On April 13, 2016 there was a legal notice in The Post Star advertising for Request for Proposals from qualified independent certified public accountants or independent public accountants to audit its Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) for the West Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Company and the Pilot Knob Volunteer Fire Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015. Shortly after the ad was run it was brought to the town's attention that the language wasn't correct in the RFP but has since been corrected.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney to reject the bid opened at tonight's meeting and re-advertise the LOSAP RFP with the correct language and a new deadline of June 13, 2016.

Motion was carried.

The following companies responded to the ad and will be notified that the RFP of May 13, 2016 was not correct and will be re-advertised with correct language and a new deadline of sealed bids by June 13, 2016.

- Marvin and Company, 11 British American Blvd., Latham, NY 12110
- Bryans & Gramuglia, Pine West Plaza, Building 1, Washington Ave. Extension, Albany, NY 12205

New Business: Supervisor Moore asked for an exception to be made accepting a project quote of \$7,500.00 from Charles Friedman Excavation, Inc., 54 North St., Hudson Falls, NY 12839 for Hadlock Dam Fuse Plug #1 Crest Elevation.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept the project quote of \$7,500.00 from Charles Friedman Excavation, Inc.

Motion was carried.

Supervisor Moore recently received, reviewed and compared two (2) insurance proposals for the Town of Fort Ann. One (1) was from Cool Insuring Agency, Inc. (HCC) and the other from Dick Look, Northern Insuring Agency, (NYMIR). Each Town Board member was given a copy of each proposal and Supervisor Moore pointed out the differences and the bottom line was the approximate \$8,000.00 savings by going with Cool Insuring Agency, Inc. (HCC).

Councilwoman Stark stated she would prefer the Town maintain their coverage through NYMIR. Councilman Fletcher stated he likes the idea of saving the Town money.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept the insurance proposal from Cool Insuring Agency, Inc. for the period 5/11/16-5/10/17.

Motion was carried with 4 AYES: Fletcher, Varney, Witherell, Moore
1 NAY: Stark

RESOLUTION #71-16

APPROVING THE HIRING OF TWO (2) LABORERS TO MOW CEMETERIES FOR THE SUMMER OF 2016

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilman Fletcher, to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Approving the hiring of two (2) Laborers to mow cemeteries for the Summer of 2016."

ADOPTED AYES 5 Fletcher, Stark, Varney, Witherell, Moore

RESOLVED, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby approves the hiring of two (2) Laborers for the Summer of 2016 to mow the cemeteries at an hourly rate of \$12.30 an hour.

RESOLUTION #72-16

AUTHORIZING THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO CONTRACT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR THE MOWING OF HIGHWAYS

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilman Varney, to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Authorizing the Highway Superintendent to contract with Washington County for the Mowing of Highways."

ADOPTED AYES 5 Fletcher, Stark, Varney, Witherell, Moore

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann hereby authorizes the Town of Fort Ann Highway Superintendent to sign said agreement and file a copy of the agreement in the Town Clerk's Office.

RESOLUTION #73-16

ACCEPT THE PLANNING BOARD SECRETARY RESIGNATION

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell, to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Accept the Planning Board Secretary Resignation."

ADOPTED AYES 5 Fletcher, Stark, Varney, Witherell, Moore

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann accepts the resignation of Anne S. Wilcox, Planning Board Secretary and the Town Clerk is authorized to advertise the vacancy in The Post Star and the Town Supervisor is authorized to interview qualified applicants and recommend a qualified applicant to the Town Board for potential hire.

RESOLUTION #74-16

APPROVING THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR HAND HARVESTING SERVICES AND AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION THEREOF

On motion of Councilman Varney, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell, to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Approving the 2017 Request for Proposal for Hand Harvesting Services and Authorizing Publication Thereof."

ADOPTED AYES 5 Fletcher, Stark, Varney, Witherell, Moore

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the 2017 Request for Proposals to conduct hand harvesting services for the containment and eradication of Eurasian Water Milfoil on Lake Hadlock.

RESOLUTION #75-16

INTRODUCING LOCAL LAW 2 OF 2016 INCREASING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK TO FOUR YEARS

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark, to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Introducing Local Law 2 of 2016 increasing the Term of Office of the Town Clerk to Four Years."

ADOPTED AYES 3 Fletcher, Stark, Varney
NAYES 2 Moore, Witherell

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to post and publish a notice of said public hearing in The Post Star at least 10 days before the hearing.

RESOLUTION #76-16

INTRODUCING LOCAL LAW 3 OF 2016 INCREASING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE TOWN HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO FOUR YEARS.”

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark, to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Introducing Local Law 3 of 2016 increasing the Term of Office of the Town Highway Superintendent to Four Years.”

ADOPTED AYES 3 Fletcher, Stark, Varney
 NAYES 2 Moore, Witherell

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to post and publish a notice of said public hearing in The Post Star at least 10 days before the hearing.

9:28 p.m. open public discussion

Christine Milligan announced that the Memorial Day parade is scheduled for Monday, May 30, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. with line up at the Fort Ann Central School.

9:29 p.m. closed public discussion

9:30 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to adjourn.

Motion was carried.

Total Abstracts:	General:	\$11,954.42
	Highway:	\$21,931.10
	Hadlock Park District:	\$ 5,611.60

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Winchell, Town Clerk
Town of Fort Ann, New York

Dated: May 18, 2016