

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN FIREHOUSE

PRESENT: Supervisor Samuel J. Hall
Councilman Dennis Fletcher
Councilwoman Gretchen Stark
Councilwoman Deborah Witherell

OTHERS PRESENT: Barbara Winchell, Town Clerk, Helen Denno, Clerk to the Supervisor, Paul Winchell, Highway Superintendent, Jeffrey Meyer, Attorney for the Town, Christine Milligan, Mark Miller, Penny Gould, Bill Bailey, George F. Smith, Dale Grinnell, Barbara Eagle, Michael Sexton, Jennifer Jackson

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Hall announced he was going to discontinue the moment of silence. There have been issues with individuals and their residency actually being the Town of Fort Ann.

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

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept the Regular Town Board Minutes of December 9, 2019.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept the Organizational Town Board Meeting Minutes from January 2, 2020.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Supervisor Hall read the December 2019 monthly financial statement.

Receipts for the month of December

General Fund	\$153,330.91
Highway	\$174,917.29

Disbursements

General Fund	\$ 91,304.51
Highway	\$175,165.96

Checking Account Balances

General Fund	\$195,144.42
Highway Fund	\$ 78,970.27
Youth Commission	\$ 1,164.31
Hadlock Dam Project	\$ 240.09
Hadlock Park District Fund	\$ 88,629.79

Consolidated Health District \$ 370.48
Trust & Agency Fund \$ 1,560.27
Medical Reimbursement Fund \$ 4,718.63

Savings Accounts

General Fund \$ 6,481.41
Highway Fund \$23,058.19
LOSAP \$ 6,908.26

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

Motion was carried unanimously.

6:05 p.m. Public Comment opened.

6:06 p.m. Public Comment closed without comment.

Supervisor’s Report: Tracey Clothier, The LA Group, sent an email to the Town of Fort Ann advising that the Town did not receive a grant in this round for Battle Hill. We will try again next year. Supervisor Hall stated it seemed like all awards were either for infrastructure or were directly on the Hudson River or Empire State Trail. Tracey and Supervisor Hall have some ideas on how to strengthen future application.

Supervisor Hall stated he had received a resignation from Haley Kirby, part-time Dog Control Officer, effective February 10, 2020. He does have a couple of other people that have expressed interest in this position.

Supervisor Hall announced that the Town of Fort Ann annual finance review will be at the Town Hall January 16, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and the public is welcome.

Councilman Fletcher thanked Councilwoman Witherell for being the Deputy Town Supervisor for four (4) years.

Councilman Fletcher stated he is already looking ahead at the 2021 budget process and predicts that we will be short in receiving money from courts due to the recent bail reform.

Councilman Fletcher stated as Deputy Town Supervisor he is going to shadow Supervisor Hall so he’ll be prepared. He is going to try to learn as much as he can.

Councilman Fletcher stated the bricks and bench are not located at the East Westfield cemetery as to where it was agreed upon. Christine Milligan, Town Historian, stated she still has the original plan of where the bricks and bench as supposed to go and if there is a cost with moving them the Friends of Blossom Cemetery.

Councilwoman Stark stated that the 7th annual Hadlock ice fishing derby was held January 11, 2020. There was 8-9” of ice. \$1,505 was raised for the youth in Fort Ann.

Councilwoman Stark announced that Valentine’s Day is coming and there is a craft day scheduled at the Old Stone House Library on January 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Just need to RSVP to 518-639-4071 by January 22, 2020. Coffee, tea and snack will be available.

Councilwoman Stark and another person were out about three (3) hours today measuring the bike trails.

Supervisor Hall thanked Councilwoman Stark for her work on the ice fishing derby.

Town Clerk’s Report was given for December 2019. The Town Clerk stated it is only January 13th and there have been five (5) marriage licenses issued for the new year.

Highway Superintendent Report: The Highway Superintendent said they’ve been dealing with sleet and freezing rain. He said everything is running well. The Highway Department has used almost had of the sand pile.

Enforcement Officer Report was given for December 2019. Supervisor Hall stated he would like to see future reports split out between residential and commercial building permits.

Historian: Christine Milligan stated there is a lot that goes on behind the scenes that aren’t on reports. She gave three (3) examples to the town board. One of the examples was an inquiry she received about a murder in 1847 and the caller wanted to know if the Town of Fort Ann would have any court records.

Supervisor Hall read the tax collection report.

4.0 New Business Dale Grinnell mention that March 7, 2020 is the 200th anniversary of the Town of Fort Ann. Mayor Langlois is supposed to work with the Town of Fort Ann Historical Society. Barbara Eagle attended the Village of Fort Ann monthly meeting this afternoon to remind him of the event. Battle Hill Brewing Company and Grumbellies are interested in participating.

RESOLUTION #28-2020

ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF PART-TIME DOG CONTROL OFFICER

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept resolution entitled “Resolution to Accept Resignation of Part-time Dog Control Officer.”

ADOPTED AYES 4 Stark, Fletcher, Witherell, Hall

RESOLVED, that the Fort Ann Town Board does accept the resignation of Haley Kirby as of February 10, 2020.

RESOLUTION #29-2020

AUTHORIZING BANKING TRANSACTIONS

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing Banking Transactions.”

ADOPTED AYES 4 Witherell, Stark, Fletcher, Hall

RESOLVED, that the Town Board further authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor, Deputy Town Supervisor and/or Town Budget Officer to take any and all action necessary to effectuate all terms of this Resolution.

6:26 p.m. **Open Public Discussion** with Bill Bailey bringing up benthic barriers and the Town of Fort Ann owns the lake bed. He is of the understanding that the property owners have to apply to the Town of Fort Ann to get permission and this was held up in the past because of APA and DEC. The Attorney for the Town of Fort Ann will research this.

6:30 p.m. **Closed Public Discussion**

6:31 p.m. Supervisor Hall stated executive session was necessary for the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person/corp, or matters leading to said dismissal, removal, promotion, appointment, employment, discipline, demotion, or suspension.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to enter into executive session.

Motion was carried unanimously.

6:49 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to return to public session.

Motion was carried unanimously.

6:50 p.m. motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to adjourn.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Total Abstracts:	General:	\$40,151.31
	Highway:	\$47,564.38

Respectfully submitted,

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

Dated: January 24, 2020