

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN FIREHOUSE**

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

**ABSENT:** Councilman Samuel Hall

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Barbara Winchell, Town Clerk, Helen Denno, Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor/Bookkeeper, Paul Highway Superintendent, Jeffrey Meyer, Attorney for the Town, Christine Milligan, Laura Chadwick, Mark Miller, Todd Humiston, Penny Gould, Bill Bailey, George F. Smith, Gene Connell, Chad Wilson, Michelle Vara, Hannah Barber

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence was held for deceased Fort Ann residents Lucinda A. (Mylott) Potvin, Renaldo Lopez, Curtis D. Mattison, Harriet Rowena (Hall) Benware and Rita Dickinson Porteous.

Supervisor Moore wished everyone a Happy New Year!

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

Motion was carried.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept the Regular Town Board Minutes of December 10, 2018.

Motion was carried.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept the Organization Town Board Meeting Minutes from January 2, 2019.

Motion was carried.

Supervisor Moore read the December 2018 monthly financial statement.

**Receipts for the month of December**

General Fund \$270,284.76

**Disbursements**

General Fund \$305,843.11

Highway \$136,358.90

**Checking Account Balances**

General Fund \$ 53,938.45

Highway Fund \$108,423.85

Youth Commission \$ 1,149.66

Hadlock Dam Project	\$ 240.02
Hadlock Park District Fund	\$ 384.48
Consolidated Health District	\$ 1,016.13
Trust & Agency Fund	\$ 1,055.77
Medical Reimbursement Fund	\$ 100.01

**Savings Accounts**

General Fund	\$360,293.89
Hadlock Park District	\$ 59,509.70
Highway Fund	\$182,473.71
LOSAP	\$ 15,212.25

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

Motion was carried.

**6:05 p.m. Public Comment opened.**

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

**Supervisor’s Report:** Farley Road update - Supervisor Moore and the Fort Ann Highway Superintendent met with Washington County DPW and NYS DOT. The NYS DOT will do testing of samples and make recommendation(s). Supervisor Moore and Paul Winchell, Highway Superintendent, feel that Farley Road is still safe to travel on. Paul Winchell monitors Farley Road daily. There have been two (2) rows of six (6) sticks erected a couple of feet apart and they are staying in the same positions as when Supervisor Moore and the Highway Superintendent met with Washington County DPW and NYS DOT.

Ellsworth was sent a letter January 4, 2019 from Supervisor Moore advising that all bids were rejected regarding the Hogtown Road Mt. Hope Brook culvert project. Supervisor Moore hopes to have notice later this week and go back out to bid. Supervisor Moore stated he was waiting for one (1) thing to come back from NYS DOT. Supervisor Moore stated a specific date will be in notice to have bids back to Town of Fort Ann.

The Town of Fort Ann Tax Collector gave Supervisor Moore the 2018 annual report stating that \$6,439, 412.32 was collected in 2018. A copy was given to the Town Board Member’s. Washington County Treasurer’s Office has accepted the 2018 filing. Tax collection has begun for 2019.

Supervisor Moore announced that the Town of Fort Ann annual finance review will be at the Town Hall January 17, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. and the public is welcome.

Supervisor Moore received an email from Robert Schafer, Sr. Civil Engineer, FEMA Field Reconnaissance & Field Surveying, Washington County regarding STARR II will be conducting detailed field reconnaissance of the riverine areas of the county to determine conditions along the floodplains from January 2019 through March 2019. In addition to the initial field reconnaissance, STARR II has contracted The Nader Group, to conduct field surveys from January 2019 through April 2019.

Councilman Hall was unable to attend tonight's meeting but wanted Supervisor Moore to read an email he prepared regarding how to best recognize Virginia Parrott's contributions and dedication in preserving and researching the Town of Fort Ann's history. Councilman Hall has received several recommendations from individuals and organizations. In the upcoming weeks Councilman Hall will put together these ideas/suggestions. There is a desire for permanent recognition for Mrs. Parrott.

Supervisor Moore announced that on January 2, 2019 he was elected as Vice Chairman at the Board of Supervisor's for Washington County and Bob Henke will remain Chairman of the Board.

Councilwoman Witherell met with Todd Humiston, Dog Control Officer, and will wait until the Dog Control part of the agenda for Todd to update everyone. She would like to see town codes put on the town's website. She realizes it is too late for 2019 but would like to see it considered and budgeted for in 2020.

Councilwoman Stark stated that the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Hadlock ice fishing derby was held January 12, 2019 and it was very successful. There were over 200 people registered and \$1,847.00 was collected. She isn't going into a lot on this tonight but will when prizes are handed out at the February 11<sup>th</sup> town board meeting. There's a trail meeting January 16, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at Washington County. The on road is approximately 80% complete and trying to get signage so people can start using it.

Councilman Fletcher was in contact with Alpha Boats Unlimited and is going to give the information to Supervisor Moore who will in turn make copies for the rest of the Town Board. The information received included a DVD and price list from Alpha Boats Unlimited on upgrading the Harvester. It takes about five (5) months to purchase a Harvester from the time the contract is signed because of the complicated hydraulic system.

Councilman Fletcher stated that there have been other rescue squads in the area who are stating how expensive it has gotten. Supervisor Moore stated that Bob Griffiths stopped January 14, 2019 to let him know that they are down an ambulance and a new ambulance can be as much as \$220,000.00. Mr. Griffiths has been in touch with Senator Little to see if there is any funds to assist with replacing the ambulance.

Councilman Fletcher congratulated Supervisor Moore on being Vice Chairman of the county board.

**Town Clerk's Report** was given for December 2018.

**Highway Superintendent Report:** The Highway Superintendent said they've been dealing with a little snow, lot of ice/rain and the roads are in decent shape. The Highway Superintendent stated they go from sanding in the morning to fixing washouts in the afternoon.

**Enforcement Officer Report** was given for December 2018.

**Dog Control Officer:** Todd stated he will be unavailable February 4-10. Mike Hayes will be covering at \$30.00 a day to be on call while Todd is away like he did last year. Mike Hayes will submit a voucher and the money is in the budget.

**Historian:** Christine Milligan stated she is working with French and Indian group for July 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> re-enactment taking place in Fort Ann. There will be a meeting in March and she would like

Supervisor Moore or someone from the Town Board to sit in on the meeting. Councilman Hall will update the town board next month on the Battle of Fort Ann event that is being planned through the American Legion.

**4.0 New Business Laura Chadwick**, Washington County Real Property Director, stated she came to the Fort Ann Town Hall on January 8, 2019 to meet with John Bonanno to go over voice mail, email's, filing cabinets, laptop. She went over the short term and long term options regarding the coverage of the vacant Assessor's Office. The short term is for January and February 2019 and the long term would start March 1, 2019. Both of these will be presented as resolutions #35 and #36 later in the evening. The Town would reimburse Washington County at \$60.00/hr rate to cover the Assessor's Office for the months of January and February.

Laura explained there are three (3) long term options:

- \$5/per parcel - \$15,000 for town assessing services wouldn't include data collection
- \$8/per parcel - \$24,000 for town assessing services equal to what we currently have 6 hrs a week
- \$12/per parcel - \$36,000 for town assessing services for 12 hrs a week

Supervisor Moore stated there are approximately 3,000 parcels in the Town of Fort Ann. Supervisor Moore didn't see any point in even discussing the \$5 option. The \$12 option would provide the Tuesday coverage and even some coverage on Thursday's. The board's preference was going with the \$12/per parcel option.

Supervisor Moore stated the Town Board needs to make a decision tonight because there needs to be a 45 day period of permissive referendum. Supervisor Moore stated there is \$39,000.00 budgeted for this position in 2019. Councilwoman Witherell stated she liked having the Town's own Assessor. Laura Chadwick stated she will stop at the Town Hall January 15<sup>th</sup> to change the voice mail on the Assessor phone to the Washington County Real Property Department. Laura stated there wouldn't be anyone in the Assessor's Office in Fort Ann on January 29, 2019 since there is a conference scheduled.

**Todd Humiston** – Proposed Changes for Animal Control Law. Todd went over the dog rewrite that he distributed to the town board members to review prior to tonight's meeting. The following were the suggested changes that Todd will make:

- Page 1 - title will be Local Law 1 of 2019
- Page 1 – 19.1-2 delete CAT and any member of the feline family, regardless of sex
- Page 3 – C – Change Fee to fee in the last sentence
- Page 8 – 19.1-17 Local Law 2 not attached
- Page 10 – 19.1.-25 delete the word billed in the last sentence

**RESOLUTION #26-19**

**ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF WILLIAM BUTLER, MEO**

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Accept Resignation of William Butler, MEO."

ADOPTED	AYES 4	Stark, Fletcher, Witherell, Moore
	ABSENT 1	Hall

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board does accept the resignation of William Butler, MEO, as of December 26, 2018.

**RESOLUTION #27-19**

**APPOINTING FULL TIME MEO**

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Accept appointing full time MEO."

ADOPTED        AYES 4            Witherell, Stark, Fletcher, Moore  
                    ABSENT 1        Hall

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann hereby approves the hiring of Steven M. Wade, 758 County Rte 16, Fort Ann, New York 12827 from part-time MEO to full time MEO as of December 31,2018 at an hourly rate of \$17.30 to be paid on a weekly basis.

**RESOLUTION #28-19**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM JOHN BONNANO, TOWN ASSESSOR AND THE TERMINATION OF CONTRACT WITH MUNICIPAL ASSESSMENT SERVICES, LLC**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution accepting Letter of resignation from John Bonnano, Town Assessor and the termination of Contract with Municipal Assessment Services, LLC."

ADOPTED        AYES 4            Witherell, Stark, Fletcher, Moore  
                    ABSENT 1        HALL

**RESOLVED**, the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann hereby accepts the letter of resignation from the Town Assessor, effective December 31, 2018 and be it further, the Town Board of Fort Ann hereby approves the termination of the contract with Municipal Assessment Services, LLC.

**RESOLUTION #29-19**

**CREATING THE SEASONAL HARVESTING COORDINATOR POSITION AND TEMPORARILY APPOINTING SEASONAL HARVESTING COORDINATOR**

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to accept creating the seasonal coordinator position and temporarily appointing seasonal harvesting coordinator."

ADOPTED        AYES 4            Witherell, Stark, Fletcher, Moore  
                    ABSENT 1        Hall

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board does appoint Hannah Barber, 5719 Ball Park Way, Fort Ann, NY 12827 as the Temporary Seasonal Harvesting Coordinator for Hadlock Pond.

**RESOLUTION #30-19**

**APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE**

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to accept appointing members to the dispute resolution committee."

ADOPTED        AYES 4            Witherell, Stark, Fletcher, Moore

ABSENT 1 Hall

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby appoints Gregory Lehoisky and Donald Bedeaux to serve as members of the Dispute Resolution Committee through December 31,2020.

**RESOLUTION #31-19**

**APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to accept appointing members to the dispute resolution committee."

ADOPTED AYES 4 Witherell, Stark, Fletcher, Moore  
ABSENT Hall

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby appoints Grant Whitmer and Jeff Vrooman to serve as members of the dispute resolution committee through December 31, 2021.

**RESOLUTION #32-19**

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCING THE PROPOSED FRANCHISE RENEWAL WITH TIME WARNER CABLE NORTHEAST, LLC**

On the motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution introducing the proposed franchise renewal with Time Warner Cable Northeast, LLC."

ADOPTED AYES 4 Witherell, Stark, Fletcher, Moore  
ABSENT 1 Hall

**RESOLVED**, a public hearing shall be scheduled for the consideration of the franchise renewal with Time Warner Cable Northeast, LLC on February 11, 2019 at 6:05 p.m.

**RESOLUTION #33-19**

**RESOLUTION FOR MUNICIPAL COOPERATION**

On the motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution for Municipal Cooperation."

ADOPTED AYES 4 Witherell, Stark, Fletcher, Moore  
ABSENT 1 Hall

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the NYCLASS Municipal Cooperation Agreement Amended and Restated as of March 14, 2014 in the name of and on behalf of the Town of Fort Ann.

**RESOLUTION #34-19**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE 2019 AQUALOGIC DASH CONTRACT FOR SUCTION HARVESTING ON LAKE HADLOCK**

On the motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to approve 2019 Aqualogic Dash contract for suction harvesting on Lake Hadlock."

ADOPTED AYES 4 Witherell, Stark, Fletcher, Moore

ABSENT 1 Hall

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board accepts the proposal from Aqualogic, Inc. for performing Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting on Lake Hadlock, in an amount not to exceed \$37,600.00 and authorized the Town Supervisor to sign the contract after the review by the Attorney for the Town and Aqualogic providing required documents.

**RESOLUTION #35-19**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR STAFFING ASSESSOR’S OFFICE ON TUESDAYS FROM JANUARY 8, 2019 AND ENDING FEBRUARY 26, 2019**

On the motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution to Approve Agreement with Washington County for Staffing Assessors office on Tuesdays from January 8, 2019 and ending February 26, 2019.”

ADOPTED AYES 4 Witherell, Stark, Fletcher, Moore  
ABSENT 1 Hall

**RESOLVED**, the Town Board hereby approves entering into an agreement with Washington County for those certain real property tax related services according to the terms contained in the proposed agreement.

**RESOLUTION #36-19**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF FORT ANN TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR APPRAISAL SERVICES, EXEMPTION SERVICES AND ASSESSMENT SERVICES**

On the motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing the Town of Fort Ann to Negotiate a one year Agreement with Washington County for Appraisal Services, Exemption Services and Assessment Services effective March 4, 2019.”

ADOPTED AYES 4 Witherell, Stark, Fletcher, Moore  
ABSENT 1 Hall

**RESOLVED**, this resolution is subject to permissive referendum and as such, the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to post and publish the requisite notices in accordance with NYS Town Law section 90.

7:34 p.m. **Open Public Discussion**

7:35 p.m. **Closed Public Discussion** with nothing being brought forth.

7:36 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to adjourn.

Motion was carried.

Total Abstracts: General: \$37,953.83  
Highway: \$47,564.38

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 24, 2019

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