

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN FIRE HOUSE

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

ABSENT: Paul Winchell, Highway Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT: Helen Denno, Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor/Bookkeeper, Barbara Winchell, Town Clerk, Jeff Meyer, Town Attorney, Mark Miller, Enforcement Officer, Todd Humiston, Dog Control Officer, Dave Perkins, Deb Perkins, Veronica Aurelio, Emily Latterell, James Black, LeRoy Harrison, Christine Milligan, Dale Grinnell, Henry Jordan, Barbara Jordan, Cindy Rathbun, Kevin Lovely, Donna Bennefield, Tony Bennefield, Barbara Eagle, Lynn Wall, Paul Carlo, Jody Carlo, Mark Rehm, Don Pierce, Arlene Green, Joan Degener, Gene Connell, Karen Campbell, David Campbell, Dan Monahan, Bill Knapp, Brenda Bennefield, Ray Bennefield, Jeff Hamblin, Irma Hamblin, George Sherwood, Floyd Ladd, Georgia VanGuilder, George Smith, Michael LaCross, Sandy Schlotter

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 Ellen Ruth (Dandurand) Greenfield, Ronald Taylor, George Edmonds and Helen Bearor.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney to accept tonight's agenda.

Motion was carried.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept the Hadlock Dam Table Top Exercise meeting minutes of December 8, 2016.

Motion was carried.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept the Regular Town Board Minutes of December 12, 2016.

Motion was carried.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept the Organizational Town Board Minutes of January 3, 2017. Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney amending of Resolution 16 of 2017 naming Meyer & Fuller as the Town Counsel and the Town Planning Board Attorney's for the calendar year 2017.

Motion was carried.

Supervisor Moore read the December 2016 monthly financial statement.

Receipts for the month of December

General	\$ 15,920.92
Highway Fund	\$296,429.70

Disbursements

General Fund	\$ 90,909.34
Disbursements Highway	\$114,059.12

Checkbook Balances

General Fund	\$ 52,890.44
Highway Fund	\$203,931.82
Youth Commission	\$ 1,843.44
Hadlock Dam Project	\$ 239.78
Hadlock Park District Fund	\$ 677.48
Consolidated Health	\$ 898.95
Trust & Agency Fund	\$ 349.53
Medical Reimbursement Fund	\$ 100.05

Savings Accounts

General Fund	\$606,291.04
Hadlock Park	\$ 59,704.07
Highway Fund	\$111,614.31
LOSAP	\$ 14,161.30

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

Motion was carried.

Supervisor read portions of the Tax Collector's report distributed today's date to Town Board Member's.

2016 Tax Collection Annual Report	\$6,234,684.74
Total Warrant Accounted for by Collector	\$6,234,684.74
Misc to Supervisor (interest, insufficient fees)	\$ 8,553.22
2017 Total Amount Accounted for by Collector	\$6,243,237.96
Petty Cash on Hand	\$ 200.00

Councilwoman Stark introduced Dave Perkins, member of the working group, who did a presentation to update everyone on the Champlain Canal Trail from Waterford to Whitehall. Christine Milligan wanted it known that the Fort Ann Battlefield is still in research stage. Mr. Perkins stated that building a bike trail does disturb the landscape. The land is owned by Canal Corp. Mr. Perkins offered to come back again as things develop and questions/concerns arise.

Supervisor Moore thanked Mr. Perkins and Councilwoman Stark for all their hard work and time put into this project.

7:25 p.m. public comment opened

7:26 p.m. public comment closed with no comments.

Supervisor's Report:

Cemetery update: Supervisor Moore stated that he, Attorney Rehm, Attorney Nikas, and Attorney Meyer met on 12/21/16 regarding the Brown's cemetery. It was agreed more surveying will take place January 10, 2017, weather permitting. He reminded everyone that he had directed the attorney for the Town to do the necessary research and prepare a resolution for tonight's meeting for the town to take over the cemetery but based on the 12/21/16 meeting it only makes sense to wait for next month's meeting.

Supervisor Moore advised that he received a letter from The Lake George Park Commission stating they are requesting to be the Lead Agency in increasing fees. The Lake George Association would like to meet with the Fort Ann Town Board for a 15-20 minute presentation regarding watershed. A special meeting will be scheduled for the future for the Planning Board, Town Board and Highway Superintendent.

Supervisor Moore stated he received a job specification for Park Manager from Washington County Civil Service and forwarded it on to the rest of the Town Board Members for their review. Supervisor Moore suggested it be put on the Town of Fort Ann website (www.townoffortannny.com). The website will include that anyone interested should apply to the Town of Fort Ann Supervisor with a letter and resume by January 31, 2017. The ad in The Post Star will simply direct people to the Town website for details. Interviews will be scheduled in the month of February.

Supervisor Moore and the Fort Ann Highway Superintendent had a meeting with DEC regarding private land (Shelving Rock and Dacy Clearing) that the DEC would like the Town of Fort Ann Highway Department to build or enhance four (4) or five (5) parking lots. The DEC will send the Town of Fort Ann a proposal on what the scope of work would be. The work would be done on Friday's and Saturday's. The Highway Superintendent will work on a price to perform the work once he receives the proposal from DEC. The DEC would like to get a parking ordinance in place so it will be clearer when issuing tickets as well as trying to get emergency vehicles in and out when there's vehicles parked on both sides of the road.

Washington County received three (3) bids for two (2) parcels they own on Burquist Road that were put up for auction. The lots will be on the January 20, 2017 agenda to be voted on by the Washington County supervisors. Supervisor Moore stated he had heard from a gentleman on Rocky Way that is concerned about the noise level if these two (2) parcels are permitted to operate as a mine.

Supervisor Moore mentioned that there was an article in The Post Star recently about the Regional Economic Development Group receiving a grant for \$395,000.00. Part of the \$395,000.00 would be used for an erosion project on Pilot Knob Road.

It was mentioned at the January 3, 2017 organizational meeting about changing the start time of board meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Supervisor Moore wanted to wait until the public was present before making this sort of consideration. Councilwoman Stark was concerned about people having enough time to get home from work to attend a 6:00 p.m. start time. She mentioned 6:30 p.m. for a start time. A woman, who did not identify herself, stated that she doesn't live in Fort Ann but she was coming here tonight from Saratoga and there was a lot of traffic.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Varney, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to try the 6:00 p.m. meeting start time, on a trial basis, starting with the February 13, 2017 meeting. Resolution Number 1 of 2017 will reflect the start time of 6:00 p.m. rather than 7:00 p.m. and the Post Star will be notified of the time change that appears monthly under Today's meeting.

Motion was carried.

Supervisor Moore stated the permit was received for the Kayak launch from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Councilwoman Stark to contact Susan Butler at Kay-aKcess, Placida, Florida to have shipped to the Highway Department for storage.

Washington County is conducting a shared operation survey regarding combining Town and County highway barns for efficiency.

The five (5) candidates for the Right to Farm committee are Larry Bailey, Grant Whitmer, Donald Bedeaux, Greg Lehoisky, Jeff Vrooman. There will be a meeting so they understand the scope of the duties. Voting on their appointments will take place at the February 13, 2017 Town Board meeting.

Supervisor Moore announced that there will be a noise ordinance workshop held January 12, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Fort Ann Town Hall.

There will be a Planning Board meeting at the Fort Ann Town Hall January 23, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Town Clerk's Report was given for December 2016.

Dog Control Report: paper copy was given to Town Board Member's.

Highway Superintendent Report: None

Councilwoman Witherell asked the Dog Control Officer if there were any regulations on cats. He replied no.

Councilwoman Stark announced that the 4th annual Ice Fishing Derby will take place January 21, 2017. There will be food and lots of prizes. Supervisor Moore reminded Councilwoman Stark of insurance document(s).

Enforcement Officer report was given for the month of December 2016.

Historian Report: None but Dale Grinnell asked if a town comes across artifacts where should those artifacts go. Supervisor Moore will check with the Washington County Historical Society.

Lake Hadlock Project Manager, Joseph Loszynski, not present but emailed a copy of his matters pending from December 2016 progress report to the Town Board Member's. A paper copy is on file in the Town Clerk's Office for anyone who would like a copy. The contract with AIM was executed for hand harvesting for summer of 2017.

Old Business

New Business: The Fort Ann Fire Company is seeking to purchase a Ferrara Pumper Truck. A Public Hearing will be scheduled for February 13, 2017. Kevin Lovely, President, was present to answer any questions/concerns.

Supervisor Moore provided the Town Board Member's with A Local Law Providing for Partial Real Property Tax Exemptions for Persons Sixty-Five Years of Age or Older and A Local Law Providing for the Partial Real Property Tax Exemptions for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes. Both will be public hearings at the February 13, 2017 Town Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Fort Ann Fire house. Both would need to be adopted by March 1, 2017 in order to be effective for 2018.

7:55 p.m. open public discussion with Christine Milligan asking about Resolution Number 145 of 2016 "Resolution Approving the Stipulation of Settlement and Order Relative to Moose Hillock Campground – NY, LLC v. The Board of Assessors, et. al. Bearing Washington County Supreme Court Index No. 26233."

Supervisor Moore stated that this was discussed in executive session and then came out of executive session for the board to vote on. Christine confirmed that Moose Hillock was asking for reduction in taxes. Supervisor Moore stated yes but it had nothing to do with the cemetery.

Christine Milligan brought up the eliminating of the annual application renewal fee as well as the per lot fee for Moose Hillock Campground back on August 8, 2016. This also eliminated the fees for Bruce's Campground and Lake Hadlock.

Supervisor Moore explained that an Article 7 was filed through the court and settlement was recommended, accepted and acted upon.

Supervisor Moore stated that the focus needs to be on the cemetery.

Joan Degener asked who will be doing the cemetery survey and who makes the final decision. Supervisor Moore responded that Van Dusen & Steves will be conducting the survey and Supervisor Moore has asked that the public be notified first of the outcome.

Jeff Hamblin will forward cemetery bill of sales to Supervisor Moore.

8:09 p.m. close of public discussion

8:10 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilman Varney seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to adjourn.

Motion was carried.

Total Abstracts:	General:	\$25,906.48
	Highway:	\$17,800.75
	Hadlock Park District:	\$12,028.11

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 20, 2017

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

DRAFT