

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2017 AT 6:00 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, Mark Miller, Enforcement Officer, Todd Humiston, Dog Control Officer, Joe Loszynski, George Smith, Floyd Ladd, Roy Harrison, Gene Connell, Dave DeLor, Bob Griffiths, Cody Jacobsen

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

This meeting was published in The Post Star October 1, 2017.

The purpose of this special meeting is to review and update the 2018 tentative budget from the October 2, 2017 budget workshop.

Supervisor Moore started the budget workshop by stating that we are \$10,195.00 over the tax cap. All Town Board Member's agreed they want to stay under the tax cap.

Supervisor Moore stated he had an opportunity to speak to Dr. Foote on October 14, 2017 regarding the role and responsibility of the Consolidated Health District. Dr. Foote did share with Supervisor Moore that the Town of Fort Ann doesn't use his services like other towns do regarding Public Health issues. For instance the Town of Fort Edward Supervisor stated that in the eight (8) years that he has been Town of Fort Edward Supervisor ½ dozen times. Supervisor Moore recommends leaving the \$1,200.00 in budget for Dr. Foote.

Todd Humiston, Dog Control Officer, spoke of when he was appointed as the Dog Control Officer for the Town of Fort Ann in 2015 there was a salary concern. He stated that he has provided the town with guidance, started school program with first graders at Fort Ann Central School, been available for court cases, etc. Councilwoman Stark, Councilman Fletcher want to bring him up to the \$7,638.00 to be more in line with the Town of Kingsbury and the Town of Fort Edward. Councilwoman Witherell and Councilman Varney suggested \$657.00. Todd said he respects their decision of \$7,375.00.

Cody Jacobsen, Fort Ann EMS, met with Supervisor Moore October 5, 2017 to discuss the rescue squad's request. After much discussion it was decided that the Fort Ann Rescue Squad would remain at the \$139,301.00 for 2018. Councilman Fletcher suggested more fundraisers. Cody stated that 3,000 letters went out two (2) years ago. Councilman Fletcher asked if anyone from the Fort Ann Rescue Squad has ever spoke to Assembly/Senate about funding. Cody stated that Terry Barber did speak to Senator Little but it was some time ago. Cody stated that the calls/revenue that they used to receive from the correctional facilities is little to none based on a recent statewide memo stating that the correctional facilities were spending too much on ambulance services so now the inmates are transported by state owned vans.

Mark Miller, P/T Enforcement Officer, started by saying his position is along the same lines as the dog control officer that the position is underpaid. Councilwoman Stark suggested the Town Board get the salary for the Dog Control Officer in line with where it should be in 2018 and get the Enforcement Officer salary in line with where it should be in 2019. Mark stated he would still like the 2% this year and can live with waiting until 2019 to bring the salary to where it needs to be. The Town Board all agreed with this.

The Town Clerk distributed a spreadsheet showing the Deputy Town Clerk annual salary/hrly wage from 2012 through 2017 and asked the Town Board to please consider increasing the \$2,000.00 annual salary for the Deputy Town Clerk to \$2,300.00 where it was in 2016. The Town Board agreed.

Supervisor Moore asked the Town Board if they had any suggestions on how to reduce the proposed budget to remain under the tax cap. No one had any so he recommended the following:

Reduce Town Engineer from \$5,000.00 to \$2,500.00 (pg 2)  
Increase Revenue from \$85,000.00 to \$90,000.00 fines & forfeitures (pg 7)  
Increase Revenue from \$2,000.00 to \$3,500.00 dog license (pg 7)  
Decrease control of dogs contractual expenses \$5,200.00 to \$4,500.00 (pg 3)

All of the Town Board Member's agreed with these suggestions.

Supervisor Moore reminded everyone of the public hearing Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Fort Ann Town Hall.

**RESOLUTION #94-17**

**TO ADOPT 2018 TENTATIVE BUDGET TO BECOME PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Adopt 2018 Tentative Budget to become Preliminary Budget."

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board adopts the 2018 preliminary budget with changes to made to the 2018 tentative budget.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to adjourn meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Dated: October 17, 2017