

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON THURSDAY, November 7, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Supervisor Samuel J. Hall
Councilwoman Deborah Witherell
Councilman George F. Smith
Councilwoman Gretchen Stark

ABSENT: Councilman Michael Sexton

OTHERS PRESENT: Miranda Herringshaw-Town Clerk, Helen Denno- Budget Officer, Jennifer Jackson-Clerk to the Supervisor, Rob Ladd, Regina Ladd, Lyle Washburn

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 November 2nd, 2024.

1.1 Open Public Hearing for 2025 budget:

Supervisor Hall asked if anyone had any comments at **6:00 p.m.**

Lyle Washburn stated that he would like to see the assessor salary decreased that he does not believe that his salary reflects the hours worked, as the assessor is only in the office one day a week from 9-3, making his hourly salary \$138.65 per hour.

Supervisor Hall stated that the assessor has office hours one day per week, but that he surely does more work for our Town outside of those office hours.

Mr. Washburn also stated that he would like to see the weed harvester go back to strictly volunteer, and that he would be willing to volunteer, that he thinks \$25 per hour for that job is too much and that it is more money than someone starting with the Highway Department.

He also stated that he believes the \$6,000.00 that is paid to two dam monitors should be spread across the entire Town and not just Hadlock Park District.

Lyle also thanked the Town board and Supervisor for not taking their 3% yearly raise and stated that he thinks that code enforcer Mark Millers \$390 pay increase should go to Supervisor Hall as he was the one who took on monitoring short term rentals.

Closed the public hearing with at **6:04 p.m.**

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to adjourn public hearing.

Motion was carried unanimously.

1.2 Open Public Hearing for the 2025 Pilot Knob Volunteer Firefighters Assoc., Inc. (\$93,200.00):

Supervisor Hall asked if anyone had any comments at **6:04 p.m.** Closed the public hearing for the Pilot Knob Volunteer Firefighters Assoc., Inc. with no comment at **6:05 p.m.**

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to adjourn public hearing.

Motion was carried unanimously.

1.3 Open Public Hearing for the 2025 Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Company (\$233,813.00):

Supervisor Hall asked if anyone had any comments at **6:05 p.m.** Closed the public hearing for the Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Company public hearing closed at **6:06 p.m.** without comment.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilman Smith to adjourn public hearing.

Motion was carried unanimously.

1.3 Open Public Hearing for the 2025 West Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Company (\$208,328.00):

Supervisor Hall asked if anyone had any comments at **6:06 p.m.** Closed the public hearing for the West Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Company public hearing closed at **6:07 p.m.** without comment.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilman Smith to adjourn public hearing.

Motion was carried unanimously.

1.4 Open Public Hearing for the 2025 Fort Ann Rescue Squad, Inc. (\$145,000.00):

Supervisor Hall asked if anyone had any comments at **6:07 p.m.** Closed the public hearing for The Fort Ann Rescue Squad, Inc. public hearing closed at **6:08 p.m.** without comment.

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to adjourn public hearing.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Supervisor Hall stated that he would like to thank the EMS and all fire departments for all they do for the Residents of Fort Ann, and for working hard on their 2025 budgets, he also Thanked Helen Denno for all of her time and hard work that is put into the budget and the budget process.

The Town of Fort Ann is under the allowable tax cap by \$13,592.00.

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to adjourn meeting at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda Herringshaw, Town Clerk
Town of Fort Ann, New York

Dated: November 13, 2024