

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN TOWN HALL

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

ABSENT: Paul Winchell, Highway Superintendent
 Christine Milligan, Historian (P/T)
 Haley Kirby, Dog Control Officer (P/T)

OTHERS PRESENT: Barbara Winchell, Town Clerk, Helen Denno, Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor/Bookkeeper, Jeff Meyer, Attorney for the Town, Mark Miller, Dale Grinnell, Chad Wilson, Michelle Vara, Gene Connell, Arlene Green, Penny Gould, Bill Bailey, George F. Smith, Kristine Brown, Patrick VanNess

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 Marjorie May (Shaw) Hunt, Patricia Ann Warren Sherwood.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Hall, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept tonight’s agenda.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept the Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2019.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Hall, seconded by Councilwoman Fletcher to accept the Special Town Board Meeting Minutes of November 15, 2019.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Receipts for the month of October		Receipts for the month of November	
General Fund	\$152,259.28		\$119,817.68
Disbursements			
General Fund	\$305,958.75	\$	63,114.13
Highway	\$203,502.28	\$	85,755.11
Checking Account Balances			
General Fund	\$ 76,414.47	\$	133,118.02
Highway Fund	\$ 86,020.48	\$	79,218.94
Youth Commission	\$ 2,137.81	\$	1,164.31

Hadlock Dam Project	\$ 240.09	\$ 240.09
Hadlock Park District Fund	\$ 98,345.09	\$ 91,178.53
Consolidated Health District	\$ 370.48	\$ 370.48
Trust & Agency Fund	\$ 1,190.92	\$ 1,326.02
Medical Reimbursement Fund	\$ 3,115.48	\$ 5,767.84

Savings Accounts

NYCLASS – General Fund	\$ 36,385.22	\$ 36,433.47
NYCLASS – Highway Fund	\$257,580.13	\$182,908.77
LOSAP	\$ 6,907.69	\$ 6,907.97

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

Motion was carried unanimously.

Public Comment opened at 6:05 p.m. Kristine Brown, 23 Paige’s Way, Fort Ann stood to introduce herself and wanted to speak about paving Sly Pond Road to Hogtown Road. Supervisor Moore told her that her opportunity to speak would be later in the meeting.

Public Comment closed at 6:06 p.m.

Supervisor’s Report: Supervisor Moore stated he, Councilman Hall, Paul Winchell and Deb Donahue, Washington County DPW, met along with two (2) individuals from NYS DOT regarding Farley Road. It was recommended to check Farley Road weekly and keep a log. Paul Winchell will maintain the log. Next Spring from the edge of road go in 8’ take off dirt and fill to take pressure off of the bank. They are of the opinion this can be done in a relatively short period of time. The engineers offered to give assistance. Supervisor Moore recommended to Councilman Hall that in February 2020 but no later than March 2020 get a bid from contractors and have contractor cut drains for water runoff. Supervisor Moore suggested Councilman Hall to get a hold of Washington County to see if there’s grant money. Key people would be Laura Oswald, Senator Little’s Office and Tracey Clothier.

Supervisor Moore received a letter from Army Corps of Engineers regarding a major replacement of a culvert on Rte 4. Should be taken care of between now and the year 2022.

Supervisor Moore received a letter regarding the dental coverage for the Town of Fort Ann and is pleased to report there is no increase in price through 12/31/2021.

Supervisor Moore stated there will be a special election 12/17/19 from noon to 8:00 p.m. at the West Fort Ann firehouse. Proposition 1 of 2019 is regarding West Fort Ann Fire Company current contribution of \$480.00 then \$800, then 1000.00 and third year out to \$1,200.00 (to be raised over three (3) years) and Proposition 2 of 2019 is regarding Pilot Knob Fire Company current contribution to be raised over three (3) years.

Supervisor Moore stated this is his last meeting as the Town of Fort Ann Supervisor. He thanked everyone. He stated it has been a pleasure to serve the public. He thanked all the appointed, elected officials and the employee’s as well as the Attorney for the Town, Jeff Meyer. He wished everyone Happy Holidays!

Councilwoman Witherell thanked Supervisor Moore. She said he taught us how a Town Board should run.

Councilwoman Stark thanked Supervisor Moore.

Councilwoman Stark has information from the Office for the Aging.

Councilwoman Stark said that the annual Christmas in the Country seemed to be well attended despite the snow on Friday.

Councilwoman Stark stated there was Champlain Canal bike trail meeting held at the Fort Ann Town Hall December 3, 2019. She was glad that Councilman Hall was able to attend. They spent the afternoon mapping out various routes so people will have places to go. The bike routes are Kingsbury, Fort Ann and Whitehall.

Councilwoman Stark stated the annual ice fishing derby on Hadlock Pond will be January 11, 2020.

Councilman Hall attended an orientation today at Washington County Department of Public Safety.

Councilman Hall thanked Supervisor Moore for making this a smooth transition from Councilman to Supervisor. Councilman Hall stated Supervisor Moore has brought the Town of Fort Ann a long way over the last four (4) years as well as his presence at Washington County having a positive impact with his business expertise. Councilman Hall stated Supervisor Moore committed a lot of hours to the Town of Fort Ann.

Councilman Hall stated there will be a swearing in ceremony at the Town Hall January 1, 2020 at noon with refreshment served immediately following.

Councilman Fletcher stated he went to Home Depot where the couple, that were here last month's meeting, from Rocky Way that they should attend the Town of Kingsbury Town Board meeting about their concerns with Rocky Way.

Councilman Fletcher stated he is getting the run around from Washington Correctional and National Grid about the lighting along Route 22 in Comstock.

Councilman Fletcher stated it's been a pleasure to work with Supervisor Moore and he has had a calming effect on the Fort Ann Town Board.

Town Clerk's Report was given for November 2019.

Highway Superintendent Report: None

Enforcement Officer Report was given for the month of November 2019. Councilman Hall asked if the building permit section of the monthly report could be broken out between residential and commercial. Mark responded he can change the report to reflect whatever the Town Board would like.

Historian Report: None

New Business:

4.1 Library Foundation Improvements – Supervisor Moore suggested Councilman Hall to get a hold of Washington County to see if there’s grant money. Key people would be Laura Oswald, Senator Little’s Office and Tracey Clothier.

**RESOLUTION #113-19
APPROVING KINGSBURY BARNSTOMERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB LETTER REGARDING USE OF NIAGARA MOHAWK’S PROPERTY**

On motion of Councilman Hall, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Approving Kingsbury Barnstormers Snowmobile Club Letter Regarding Use of Niagara Mohawk’s Property.”

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

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to notify National Grid and provide the Town’s consent relative to the Barnstormers Snowmobile Club use of the proposed snowmobile trail.

**RESOLUTION #114-19
AUTHORIZING THE CONTRACT WITH NORTH SHORE SOLUTIONS FOR TOWN OF FORT ANN WEBSITE**

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing the Contract with North Shore Solutions for Town of Fort Ann Website.”

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

RESOLVED, the Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign and enter into said agreement, subject to final attorney approval of the same.

**RESOLUTION #115-19
APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE**

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilman Hall to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Reappointing a member to the Dispute Resolution Committee.”

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

RESOLVED, the Town Board hereby reappoints Larry Bailey to serve as a member of the Dispute Resolution Committee as well as Chairman of the Dispute Resolution Committee from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022.

**RESOLUTION #116-19
ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF PART-TIME LABORER**

On motion of Councilman Hall, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Accepting the resignation of part-time Laborer.”

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann hereby accepts the resignation of Joseph Foran, part-time Laborer, and authorizes the Town Supervisor to hire a qualified applicant to be a part-time Laborer.

**RESOLUTION #117-19
APPOINTING PART- TIME LABORER**

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Appointing part-time Laborer."

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann hereby hires Hannah Barber, 5719 Ball Park Way, Fort Ann, New York 12827 as a part-time Laborer as of November19, 2019 at an hourly rate of \$13.10 to be paid on a biweekly basis.

**RESOLUTION #118-19
TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF MEO**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Hall to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Accept the Resignation of MEO."

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

RESOLVED, that the Fort Ann Town Board does accept the resignation of Frederick Walkup, MEO, as of November22, 2019.

**RESOLUTION #119-19
SETTING 2020 ORGANIZATION MEETING**

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilman Hall to accept resolution entitled "Resolution setting 2020 Organization meeting."

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

RESOLVED, the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to post and publish the requisite notice of Organization Meeting.

**RESOLUTION #120-19
DISSOLVING THE CONSOLIDATED BOARD OF HEALTH**

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilman Hall to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Dissolving the Consolidated Board of Health."

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

RESOLVED, the 2019 Youth Commission budget shall be amended by transferring funds between appropriations.

**RESOLUTION #121-19
TO MODIFY THE 2019 BUDGET BY TRANSFERRING FUNDS BETWEEN APPROPRIATIONS DUE TO SHORTAGES IN SPECIFIED ACCOUNTS**

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Modify the 2019 Budget by Transferring Funds Between Appropriations due to Shortages in Specified Accounts."

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

RESOLVED, the 2019 budget shall be amended by transferring funds between appropriations in the Highway Fund.

RESOLUTION #122-19

TO MODIFY THE 2019 BUDGET BY TRANSFERRING FUNDS BETWEEN APPROPRIATIONS DUE TO SHORTAGES IN SPECIFIED ACCOUNTS

On motion of Councilman Hall, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Modify the 2019 budget by Transferring Funds between Appropriations due to Shortages in Specified Accounts."

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

RESOLVED, the 2019 budget shall be amended by transferring funds between appropriations.

RESOLUTION #123-19

TO MODIFY THE 2019 BUDGET BY APPROPRIATING GRANT REVENUE RECEIVED FROM THE GREENWAY CONSERVANCY TO BE USED FOR ENGINEERING FEES FOR THE BATTLE HILL MASTER PLAN

On motion of Councilman Hall, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Modify the 2019 Budget by Appropriating Grant Revenue received from the Greenway Conservancy to be used for Engineering Fees for the Battle Hill Master Plan."

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

RESOLVED, the 2019 budget shall be amended by appropriating funds to accounts.

RESOLUTION #124-19

TO MODIFY THE 2019 YOUTH COMMISSION FUND BUDGET BY APPROPRIATING STATE AID RECEIVED FROM NYS OCFS TO BE USED FOR EXPENDITURES RELATED TO THE 2019 SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Modify the 2019 Youth Commission Fund Budget by Appropriating State Aid Received from NYS OCFS to be used for Expenditures Related to the 2019 Summer Recreation Program."

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

RESOLVED, the 2019 Youth Commission budget shall be amended by transferring funds between appropriations.

RESOLUTION #125-19

ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILMAN SAMUEL J. HALL EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2019 AT 11:59 P.M.

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Councilman Samuel J. Hall effective December 31, 2019 at 11:59 p.m.

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann accepts the resignation of Samuel J. Hall as Councilman for the Town of Fort Ann effective December 31, 2019 at 11:59 p.m.

Open Public Discussion at 6:46 p.m. Kristine Brown stated she was here with some of her neighbors about paving Sly Pond Road up to Hogtown Road. Supervisor Moore stated that the Highway Superintendent is not here tonight but he did ask him about this. He said several people have come to the Town Board over the last four (4) years looking for their roads to be paved.

The Town of Fort Ann has 73.55 miles of road and 28.8 miles is dirt and 47.7 is paved. Eighteen years ago blacktop was \$27.85 now it's 67.00. Could cost up to \$200,000 per mile. Getting money from New York State is a possibility. Councilman Hall said he will get back to the people of Paige's Way.

Kristine Brown asked for guardrails for safety purposes.

Councilman Hall will speak with the Highway Superintendent.

Councilman Fletcher will speak with Senator Little's Office.

Dale Grinnell thanked Supervisor Moore for starting the food pantry in Fort Ann. Word got out to the Queen Ann Senior Citizens, Fort Ann Central School and the food pantry is well stocked thanks to Supervisor Moore getting the word out to these different organizations and to the community.

Supervisor Moore stated he came across a picture of the food drive and it was heartwarming.

Daniel Snay, 24 Paige's Way, Fort Ann said he has pulled cars including mail truck out of the ditch because there is no cell service up in that area.

Arlene Green thanked Supervisor Moore. Supervisor Moore asked if the Old Stone House Library was considered an Historical Building. It is an Historical Building. Mrs. Green will get a number to Councilman Hall. Mrs. Green will be gone for the winter and wanted to make sure Councilman Hall continues making progress with the paperwork.

Supervisor Moore stated he was advised by the Charles R. Wood Foundation not to come back next year for more money for the Old Stone House Library.

Gene Connell thanked Supervisor Moore for his time and stated he has brought a lot of care and concern to the Town of Fort Ann. Mr. Connell stated Supervisor Moore has been a confidence builder.

Close Public Discussion at 6:55 p.m.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Hall, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to adjourn at 6:56 p.m.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Total Abstracts:	General:	\$26,685.38
	Highway:	\$72,410.16

Respectfully submitted,

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

Dated: December 12, 2019