

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.

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

ABSENT: Jeffrey Meyer-Attorney for the Town

OTHERS PRESENT: Miranda Herringshaw-Town Clerk, Paul Winchell-Highway Superintendent, Christine Milligan, Historian, Mark Miller- Enforcement Officer, Joan Degner Barb Burch, Duane Burch, Penny Gould, Bill Bailey, Josephine DeVecchi, Taylor Foran, Jeff Pepper, Lori Hagen

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

Moment of silence was held for the following Fort Ann residents: John Edwards & Georgie Mosher

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to approve tonight’s agenda.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept the Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes from March 13th, 2023.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept the Special Town Board Meeting Minutes from March 28th, 2023.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Supervisor Hall read the February 2023 monthly financial statement.

Checking Account Balances

General Fund	\$628,517.36
Highway Fund	\$36,040.89
Youth Commission	\$9,158.44
Hadlock Dam Project	\$240.09
Hadlock Park District Fund	\$9,263.44
Consolidated Health District	\$370.48
Trust & Agency Fund	\$2,521.68
Medical Reimbursement Fund	\$7,924.67

Savings Accounts

NYCLASS-General Fund	\$1,333,456.40
NYCLASS-Highway Fund	\$1,094,368.39
NYCLASS-Hadlock Park District	\$253,292.32

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

Motion was carried unanimously.

6:03 p.m. Public Comment opened for items listed on tonight’s agenda.

6:04 p.m. Public Comment closed without comment.

Supervisor’s Report:

Supervisor Hall stated he has been working on many projects such as, short term rental local laws, solar farms, the Pilot Knob Rescue Squad, and preparing paper work for the insurance company along with the day-to-day activities to keep things running smoothly.

Town Board Member’s Report:

Councilman Sexton stated he had been working on the Pilot Knob Rescue Squad issues with Supervisor Hall and at this point they are waiting for NYS to issue a certificate of need that will allow North Queensbury/ Bay Ridge to take the area back over, as the response time is much shorter than what Fort Ann Rescue Squad can offer the Pilot Knob Residents, but the issue is being worked currently.

Councilman Smith stated all the ice has melted from Hadlock, and that he has a new red buoy to replace an existing one, he told the Hadlock Association to let him know when they want to put it out for the season.

Councilwoman Witherell stated she had received a few calls regarding the Village Street Lights being out; Paul Winchell stated that Harry Ziegler had been addressing the problem and is hoping to have it fixed as soon as possible as he believes it is a wiring issue.

Councilwoman Stark stated that on April 22nd, 2023 there will be a canal cleanup day starting at 9 A.M., any and all are welcome to help clean the canal way to get ready for the upcoming spring and summer months.

The Community Connections newspaper will be available in Town Hall, this newspaper has many activities listed and has a lot of good information.

She also stated that she has 3 lifeguards lined up for the 2023 Beach Season, and the beach will open up the last weekend in June.

Town Clerk’s Report was given for March 2023.

Highway Superintendent Report: The Highway Superintendent reported they have graded most of the roads; sweeping of the roads will continue once we get some rainy weather. The valve on Hadlock Dam will be closed in the morning.

Paul also stated that there is a beaver dam located on the bottom side of Hadlock Dam, he will be reaching out to Bill Hosmer to see if they can use his property to get a track hoe in there to rip the dam out.

Enforcement Officer Report paper report was given for March 2023. Mark also stated he has a court case scheduled on April 26th, 2023 in regards to a mobile home on County Rt. 16.

Dog Control Officer: paper report was given for the month of March.

Historian stated that she would like to see the Town start budgeting some money to be put aside for the 250th Anniversary of Battle Hill, they would like to hire some reenactors, and make the 250th Anniversary memorable and successful. The 250th year celebration will be in year 2027.

Old Business: A Local Law Regulating Short-Term Rentals in the Town of Fort Ann- A workshop will be held on April 19th, 2023 at the Fort Ann Firehouse at 6PM, and a public hearing will immediately follow.

A Local Law Amending the Town of Fort Ann Site Plan Review- no new news to report.

New Business:

Local Law amending the grievance day from the first Thursday in June, to the fourth Tuesday in May- a public hearing date will be set for this matter. Date is to be determined.

RESOLUTION #49-2023

AUTHORIZING SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACT WITH NYS DEC TO YORK RAKE SHELVING ROCK PARKING LOTS TRASH COLLECTION AND YORK RAKE DACY CLEARING ROAD

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Authorizing Supervisor to Execute Contract with NYS DEC to York Rake Shelving Rock Parking Lots, Trash Collection and York Rake Dacy Clearing Road."

ADOPTED AYES 5 Sexton, Smith, Stark, Witherell, Hall

RESOLVED, the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all agreements and related documents associated there with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, to York Rake Shelving Rock Parking Lots, trash collection and York rake Dacy Clearing Road.

RESOLUTION #50-2023

APPOINTING DIRECTOR OF 2023 SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith to accept resolution entitled "Resolution appointing Director of 2023 Summer Recreation Program.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Sexton, Smith, Stark, Witherell, Hall

RESOLVED, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby appoints Walter “OC” West, 10566 State Rte 149, Fort Ann, New York 12827 as the 2023 Director of Summer Recreation Program at an annual salary of \$4,000.00.

**RESOLUTION #51-2023
APPOINTING 2023 VOLUNTEER LIFEGUARD**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Sexton to accept resolution appointing 2023 volunteer lifeguard.”

ADOPTED AYES 4 Sexton, Smith, Witherell, Hall
 ABSTAIN 1 Stark

RESOLVED, that the Fort Ann Town Board does hereby appoint Gretchen Stark, 364 Hadlock Pond Road, Fort Ann, New York 12827 to serve as a volunteer, without compensation of any sort, as a lifeguard for the summer of 2023.

**RESOLUTION #52-2023
AUTHORIZING THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO CONTRACT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR THE MOWING OF HIGHWAYS**

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing the Highway Superintendent to contract with Washington County for the mowing of Highways.”

ADOPTED AYES 5 Sexton, Smith, Stark, Witherell, Hall

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann hereby approves the agreement and authorizes Paul Winchell, Highway Superintendent, to sign said agreement and file a copy of the agreement in the Town Clerk’s Office.

6:25 p.m. Open Public Discussion

Jo-Jo DeVecchi stated that she has contacted NYS DOT about the culvert that was installed for Boo Town entrance, as all of the gravel has washed into her drainage ditch, and is now causing issues. The NYS DOT Supervisor said that they would fix the culvert at Boo Town entrance and fix the drainage issue with her culvert as well.

Jo Jo also provided pictures to the Town Board of what she sees from her front and back windows in her home. She also wanted to make the Town aware that the piece of property that borders her property is owned by the Town of Fort Ann, and she would like to see the Town start to maintain that piece of wooded area.

6:39 p.m. Closed Public Discussion

Motion was carried unanimously.

6:40 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith to return to public session and to adjourn.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Total Abstracts:	General:	\$ 15,908.09
	Highway:	\$ 15,684.13

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda Herringshaw, Town Clerk

Dated: April 18, 2023