

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Samuel J. Hall  
Councilman Dennis Fletcher  
Councilwoman Gretchen Stark  
Councilwoman Deborah Witherell  
Councilman Michael Sexton

**ABSENT:** Jeffrey Meyer, Attorney for the Town

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Barbara Winchell, Town Clerk, Helen Denno, Account Clerk p/t, Paul Winchell, Highway Superintendent, George F. Smith

Due to Public Health and Safety concerns related to COVID-19 and in accordance with the Governor’s Executive Order 202.1, the public was able to listen to the regular Town Board Meeting live via teleconference and provide comments where applicable by dialing 646-876-9923 and using the meeting ID 821-979-9327. The notice was posted on the Town Hall front door, the town’s website, The Post Star’s website and published in The Post Star.

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 Robert Godfrey, Merrill Davis, Beverly Eastman, Patricia Fuller, Glen Lunt, Bernice Cook, Carl Masher, Mary Farrell Taylor, Dr. Anthony Lomenzo, James Yole, Lois Romano, David Jacobsen, Dave Morehouse, Janet Stockman and Chauncey Ward.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept the Regular Town Board Minutes of March 9, 2020.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept the Emergency Special Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2020.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Supervisor Hall read the March 2020 monthly financial statement.

**Receipts for the month of March**

**Checking Account Balances**

General Fund	\$89,961.62
Highway Fund	\$26,631.17
Youth Commission	\$ 1,164.31
Hadlock Dam Project	\$ 240.09
Hadlock Park District Fund	\$12,729.53
Consolidated Health District	\$ 370.48

Trust & Agency Fund                 \$ 1,697.07  
Medical Reimbursement Fund     \$ 6,623.34

**Savings Accounts**

NYCLASS-General Fund             \$362,705.11  
NYCLASS-Highway Fund            \$960,814.37  
NYCLASS-Hadlock Park District   \$190,386.97  
LOSAP                                 \$ 14,402.28

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Sexton to accept the financial report.

Motion was carried unanimously.

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

Motion was carried unanimously.

**6:05 p.m. Public Comment opened.**

**6:06 p.m. Public Comment closed without comment.**

**Supervisor's Report:**

Supervisor Hall stated the Caprood property grant was approved and money should be coming for American Battlefield Trust. Kathy Robertson is working on what maybe an issue involving a landfill at that property years ago.

Councilman Fletcher received a phone call from Christine Milligan that while George Sherwood was at East Westfield Cemetery that there was a bench going up in front of flag pole and there were two (2) boxes to the left and right of the bench. By the time Councilman Fletcher went over the work had stopped because George Sherwood had asked him to stop. Councilman Fletcher introduced himself to the professional stone mason, Jack Daley, Queensbury. Mr. Daley and his father didn't realize the work wasn't approved. They got involved thinking they were doing a good deed. Councilman Fletcher and George Sherwood explained to the Daley's that this is a Town of Fort Ann cemetery and there' an agreement in place. Councilman Fletcher wondered if the Attorney for the Town needed to do a letter. Supervisor Hall stated he would have the Attorney for the Town prepare a letter to go along with the agreement that's been in place.

Supervisor Hall asked the Highway Superintendent to have the highway department put some sand where the Washington County Alternative Sentencing has been working at Brown's cemetery.

Councilwoman Witherell stated she was happy to see everyone here and well.

Councilman Sexton commended the community for following regulations the state put in place. He also would like to remind people that this is planting time for the farmers so please be patient and not run anyone off the road.

Councilwoman Stark stated there was a nice article in the Senior Times on Carolyn Ouderkirk. Carolyn was voted Senior of the Year.

Councilwoman Stark stated the bike trail is coming along but things did slow down due to Coronavirus.

The docks have not been put in at the canal park but will be. They are just behind schedule.

Supervisor Hall stated that the canal should have water back in on or about July 2, 2020.

Councilwoman Stark stated she had three (3) lifeguards and parking will be terrible this summer at the Pilot Knob/Fort Ann Beach. Councilwoman Stark will have to speak with the Fort Ann Central School about the summer recreation program and the current restraints.

Supervisor Hall asked Councilwoman Stark about being able to keep the Pilot Knob Beach at 50% maximum which is 50 people. Supervisor Hall stated there will be a lot of issues and a lot of it is out of our control with the 6' distancing that 20 may have to come of that figure and maybe only 30 people at a time.

**Town Clerk's Report** was given for April 2020. The Town Clerk stated that NYS AG & MARKETS notified the Town Clerk's statewide that there would be a new hunting/fishing system to learn 6/1/2020. It has been re-scheduled for 6/29/2020.

**Highway Superintendent Report:** The Highway Superintendent said the single axle supposed to be here in March is finally here and will be ready in August or September. The annual order of culvert has been made. The Highway Superintendent was wondering if the Attorney for the Town would follow up on Farley Road. The Highway Department will start mowing soon and only sweep roads when it has rained because they don't have a water truck.

**Enforcement Officer Report** was not present but there was a paper report distributed through today's date.

**Historian:** not present

#### **4.0 New Business**

##### **4.1 Open bids for Highway 2020 or newer Ford F450 pick truck with plow**

Carmody Ford, 1111 State Rte 29, Greenwich, NY 12834	\$21,165.00
Warrensburg Ford, 3711 Main St., Warrensburg, NY 12885	\$18,000.00

#### **RESOLUTION #49-2020**

##### **CHANGING AUTHORIZED PARTY**

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Changing Authorized Party."

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

**RESOLVED**, that with respect to the Town of Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Department Length of Service Award Program to which Glens Falls National Bank and Trust Company is currently acting as Custodian and Investment Manager of said plan and trust, that Samuel J. Hall, as Town Supervisor, shall serve as the Administrative Delegate of said plan and trust. Glens Falls National Bank and Trust Company may rely on direction from the above Administrative Delegate.

**RESOLUTION #50-2020**

**APPOINTING TEMPORARY 2020 HADLOCK PARK MANAGER**

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Appointing Temporary 2020 Hadlock Park Manager."

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board does appoint Hannah Barber, 5719 Ball Park Way, Fort Ann, New York 12827 as the Temporary Hadlock Park Manager for Hadlock Pond at the rate of \$20.00 per hour.

**RESOLUTION #51-2020**

**APPOINTING DIRECTOR OF 2020 SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM**

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Appointing Director of 2020 Summer Recreation Program."

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby appoints Walter "OC" West, 10566 State Rte 149, Fort Ann, NY 12827 as the 2020 Director of Summer Recreation Program at an annual salary of \$3,500.00 and this appointment shall be at will.

Supervisor Hall stated we should go ahead in preparation of the 2020 Summer Recreation Program going forward rather than have to have a special meeting.

**RESOLUTION #52-2020**

**APPOINTING 2020 VOLUNTEER LIFEGUARD FOR SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Sexton to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Appointing 2020 Volunteer Lifeguard for Summer Recreation Program."

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board does hereby appoint Gretchen Stark, 364 Hadlock Pond Road, Fort Ann, NY 12827 to serve as a volunteer, without compensation of any sort, in the Town Summer Recreation Program as a lifeguard for the summer of 2020.

Supervisor Hall thanked Councilwoman Stark for her service over the years to the Swimming Lesson program and if this goes forward it will be a difficult summer to manage with the social distancing.

**RESOLUTION #53-2020**

**TO PURCHASE A 2020 OR NEWER FORD F450 PICK UP TRUCK WITH PLOW**

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilman Sexton to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Purchase a 2020 or newer Ford F450 Pick up Truck with Plow."

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann approves the purchase of a 2020 Ford F450 truck with plow from Warren Ford in the amount of \$18,000.00.

**RESOLUTION #54-2020**

**TO HIRE PILOT KNOB BEACH LIFEGUARDS**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Hire Pilot Knob Beach Lifeguards."

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

**RESOLVED**, the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor and/or Town Budget Officer to complete any forms and take any action necessary to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

**RESOLUTION #55-2020**

**APPROVING THE HIRING OF TWO (2) LABORERS TO MOW CEMETERIES FOR THE SUMMER OF 2020**

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Approving the Hiring of two (2) Laborers to Mow Cemeteries for the Summer of 2020."

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann hereby approves the hiring of two (2) Laborers for the Summer of 2020 to mow the cemeteries at an hourly rate each of \$13.35 an hour with a \$0.50 per hour, per year, longevity step.

**RESOLUTION #56-2020**

**AUTHORIZING THE ANNUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE FORT ANN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE TOWN OF FORT ANN**

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilman Sexton to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Authorizing the Annual Agreement Between the Board of Education of the Fort Ann Central School District and the Town of Fort Ann."

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

**RESOLVED**, the Town Board hereby authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor to sign the annual agreement between the Town of Fort Ann and the Fort Ann Central School in accordance herewith, a copy of which shall be on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Supervisor Hall stated if the program can go forward this is in preparation so a Special Meeting won't be needed.

**RESOLUTION #57-2020**

**AUTHORIZING THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO CONTRACT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR THE MOWING OF HIGHWAYS**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing the Highway Superintendent to contract with Washington County for the Mowing of Highways.”

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

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

**RESOLUTION #58-2020**

**AUTHORIZING HIRING OF SEASONAL EMPLOYEE TO WORK FOR LAKE HADLOCK PARK DISTRICT**

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Fletcher to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing Hiring of Seasonal Employees to work for Lake Hadlock Park District.”

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor and/or Town Budget Officer to complete any forms and take any action necessary to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

Supervisor Hall stated we will have to see how this all plays out with social distancing. Councilwoman Stark said there are two (2) people in the Harvester.

**RESOLUTION #59-2020**

**TO MODIFY THE 2020 BUDGET BY TRANSFERRING BETWEEN APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A COMPUTER**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution to Modify the 2020 Budget by Transferring between Appropriations for the Purchase of a Computer.”

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

**RESOLVED**, the 2020 budget shall be amended by transferring funds between appropriations Supervisor – contractual \$511.00 to Supervisor – equipment \$511.00.

**RESOLUTION #60-2020**

**AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL FOR ORKIN COMMERCIAL SERVICES**

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of the Proposal for Orkin Commercial Services.”

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

**RESOLVED**, the Town Board hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to accept the proposal and execute the same on behalf of the Town of Fort Ann.

**RESOLUTION #61-2020**

**TO AMEND THE HEALTH BENEFITS TO FULL TIME TOWN EMPLOYEES OVER THE AGE OF 65**

On motion of Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution to Amend the Health Benefits to Full Time Town Employees over the age of 65.”

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

**RESOLVED**, the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann approves the amendment of the employee policy as it relates to health insurance for those full time employees over the age of 65 as follows: **the Town will pay the full premium, the town will also pay the full amount of Part B; and the Town will offer an HRA in accordance with the existing health plan.**

**RESOLUTION #62-2020  
AUTHORIZING THE CLOSURE OF THE TOWN BEACH IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Sexton to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing the Closure of the Town Beach in Response to COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.”

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

**RESOLVED**, the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor, to close the Town Beach of the Town of Fort Ann and cause to be erected suitable barriers to restrain the public from parking and using the Town Beach, if there is not strict compliance with the terms of this resolution. The powers granted in this resolution shall expire on October 1, 2020 unless otherwise extended or modified by a resolution of this Board.

7:00 p.m. **Open Public Discussion**

7:01 p.m. **Closed Public Discussion**

Supervisor Hall wanted to compliment the Fort Ann Town Employee’s for wearing masks and social distancing as well as the citizens and businesses to keep it safe in Fort Ann especially the first responders.

7:02 p.m. motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Sexton to adjourn.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Total Abstracts for April:	General:	\$ 9,878.02
	Highway:	\$12,967.27
	Hadlock Park District:	\$49,060.00
Total Abstracts for May:	General:	\$46,211.05
	Highway:	\$ 6,625.01

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 5, 2020

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