

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN FIREHOUSE

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

ABSENT: Paul Winchell, Highway Superintendent
Christine Milligan, Town Historian

OTHERS PRESENT: Miranda Herringshaw-Town Clerk, Jeffrey Meyer- Attorney for the Town, Mark Miller- P/T Enforcement Officer, Chad Wilson, Kate Moskos, John Moskos, Lyle Washburn, Duane Burch Kevin O'Brian, Don Bedeaux, Bill Bailey, Penny Gould, Josephine DeVecchi

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

Town Clerk read the purposed amended Local Law in its entirety.

6:03 p.m. Public Comment closed without comment.

On a motion by COUNCILMAN SEXTON, seconded by COUNCILMAN SMITH, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the proposed Local Law Repealing Local Law No. 2 of 2006, as Amended, Changing the Day of Grievance Day in the Town of Fort Ann, is hereby adopted as Local Law No. 2 of 2023, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

Moment of silence was held for the following Fort Ann resident William Winchell.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to approve tonight's agenda.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Sexton to accept the Regular Town Board Minutes of April 10, 2023.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept the Special Town Board Minutes of April 19, 2023.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Supervisor Hall read the March 2023 monthly financial statement.

Receipts for the month of March

Checking Account Balances

General Fund	\$ 33,406.25
Highway Fund	\$ 11,477.53
Youth Commission	\$ 9,158.44
Hadlock Dam Project	\$ 240.09
Hadlock Park District Fund	\$ 81,688.68
Consolidated Health District	\$ 370.48
Trust & Agency Fund	\$ 2,714.35
Medical Reimbursement Fund	\$ 2,525.34

Savings Accounts

NYCLASS-General Fund	\$ 1,338,573.48
NYCLASS-Highway Fund	\$ 1,038,433.23
NYCLASS-Hadlock Park District	\$ 179,235.72

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

Motion was carried unanimously.

Supervisor/ Board Members Report:

Supervisor Hall stated that he has been working with FEMA to update flood plains, has had the final meeting with the insurance company to renew policies for the Town, the flag pole replacement will be installed soon (this is in the park across from Fort Ann Motors- there was an accident where a vehicle hit the flag pole, so insurance will be covering the cost of the new pole and installation), along with all of the day-to-day operations to keep things operating efficiently.

Councilman Sexton stated that he would like to put together a committee to construct a more up to date Emergency Plan for the Town of Fort Ann.

Councilwoman Witherell stated that the canal park was cleaned up and that she wanted to thank the Highway Department for removing the wood and tires from the area.

Councilman Smith stated he had a meeting with Dave Twiss in reference to the Hadlock Lake Association and weed removal for the summer of 2023. Councilman Smith asked if the Town would reconsider hiring 14-year-old with working papers to work on the front of the pontoon boat scooping weeds.

Supervisor Hall stated that he would check with the insurance company.

Councilwoman Stark stated that cleanup day at the canal went well. There was a pop-up lunch-in at the West Fort Ann Firehouse on May 2, 2023 it was a free event and will be offered every other month. June 3, 2023 there will be a bike rodeo event where they will be having fun games, food, bike riding, bike safety, and some history on the Champlain Canal; Dave Grunel will be speaking in Smith Basin.

Town Clerk's Report was given for April 2023. Town Clerk also stated that she had been looking into options on bringing a credit card machine into the Town Clerk office, as this would be much more convenient for Town residents who do not carry cash or checks, and also to be able to take phone payments for marriage transcripts or death certificates.

Highway Superintendent Report: Not present

Enforcement Officer Report Paper report was provided for April 2023.

Historian: not present

Dog Control Officer: not present, report for month of April 2023 is available in the Town Clerk's office to be reviewed.

New Business: None

RESOLUTION #53-2023

AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO CONTRACT WITH GRANICUS FOR SHORT TERM RENTAL COMPLIANCE

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith to accept resolution entitled "Authorizing the Supervisor to contract with Granicus for short term rental compliance"

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann hereby approves entering into an agreement Granicus to perform short-term rental compliance and monitoring for the Town.

RESOLUTION #54-2023

TO HIRE SUMMER RECREATION EMPLOYEES

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution to Hire Summer Recreation Employees."

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

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

RESOLUTION #55-2023

TO HIRE PILOT KNOB BEACH LIFEGUARDS

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

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

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

RESOLUTION #56-2023

AUTHORIZING HIRING OF SEASONAL EMPLOYEES TO WORK FOR LAKE HADLOCK PARK DISTRICT

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

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

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

RESOLUTION #57-2023

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 Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Sexton to accept resolution entitled “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 Smith, 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.

RESOLUTION #58-2023

INCREASING THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE TOWN SUPERVISOR FROM TWO YEARS TO FOUR YEARS

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Smith to accept resolution entitled “Increasing the term of office for the town supervisor from two years to four years”

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

RESOLVED, this resolution shall become effective upon approval by the qualified voters at the next biennial town election and shall apply to those elected to the position of Supervisor after January 1, 2024.

RESOLUTION #59-2023

APPROVING SUPPORT FOR QUEENSBURY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC. APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF NEED TO COVER THE PILOT KNOB AREA OF FORT ANN

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Approving support for Queensbury Emergency Medical Services, Inc. application for a certificate of need to cover the Pilot Knob area of Fort Ann”

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor and to sign the requisite application materials and take all necessary steps to disburse said funds to cover the costs incurred by Queensbury Emergency Medical Services Inc

7:02 p.m. **Open Public Discussion**

Jo-Jo DeVecchi asked Mark Miller where The Town of Fort Ann is at with the violation letter to Mary Ryther regarding Boo Town. Mark stated that the letter had been sent and that Mary was in the process of trying to amend the stipulation put forth by the planning board and that Mary plans to send someone on her behalf to the May Planning Board Meeting. Jo-Jo stated that she understands Mary is planning on having someone come on her behalf to the Planning Board Meeting but she stated she is in violation at this moment and wants to know what is going to be done about that now.

The Town does have an escrow account with \$5,000.00 in it from Mary Ryther, if the violations can not be remedied then the Town will deduct the violation fines from those funds until the violation(s) are remedied.

Penny Gould stated that it is hard to find someone for the front of the pontoon boat with scooping weeds when there is not a set schedule or a guaranteed number of hours, she had suggested that if the employee knew they would receive "X" number of hours per week that it may be easier to find someone for the position, that it is very difficult to fill a position when you have no idea how many hours you will actually end up with. She also stated that maybe they could be hired for the pontoon position but the Town could find other jobs for this person in order to achieve "X" number of hours weekly.

Supervisor Hall stated he understood where she was coming from but unfortunately due to that position being paid out of the Hadlock District account, this person would not be able to work anywhere else within the Town because the payroll money comes from separate funds.

7:28 p.m. **Closed Public Discussion**

7:29 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to adjourn.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Total Abstracts for April:	General:	\$ 11,903.18
	Highway:	\$ 20,830.89
	Hadlock Park District:	\$ 62,344.00

Respectfully submitted,

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

Dated: May 13, 2023