

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 10th, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN TOWN HALL

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

ABSENT: Christine Milligan, Town Historian

OTHERS PRESENT: Miranda Herringshaw- Town Clerk, Mark Miller-Enforcement Officer, Jeffrey Meyer-Attorney for the Town, John Moskos, Penny Gould, Bill Bailey, Ronny Mattison, Duane Burch Sr., Barb Burch, Joan Deagner, Don Bedeaux

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

Motion was introduced by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to approve tonight’s agenda.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept the Regular Town Board Minutes of May 13, 2024.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept the Special Town Board Minutes of May 15, 2024.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Supervisor Hall read the April 2024 monthly financial statement.

Checking Account Balances

General Fund	\$63166.74
Highway Fund	\$16,528.90
Youth Commission	\$6,077.06
Hadlock Dam Project	\$240.09
Hadlock Park District Fund	\$10,214.88
Consolidated Health District	\$370.48
Trust & Agency Fund	\$ Converting to new system
Medical Reimbursement Fund	\$6,778.41

Savings Accounts

NYCLASS-General Fund	\$1,245,462.52
NYCLASS-Highway Fund	\$1,017,121.80

NYCLASS-Hadlock Park District	\$166,914.18
NYCLASS-Hadlock Reserve Fund	\$50,812.44

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

Motion was carried unanimously.

6:03 p.m. Public Comment opened.

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

Supervisor’s Report:

Supervisor Hall stated he has been working on a new emergency plan for the Hadlock Dam District, which will include a merger of the West Fort Ann Fire Department and the Fort Ann Fire Department to ensure there is enough help in the event of an emergency.

Supervisor hall explained that we would be doing the “Pro Housing Communities” Resolution due to the fact that if we did not that the Town would no longer be able to apply for any grants or have any state aid.

Supervisor Hall stated that he briefed the Board of Assessment Review on recusing themselves from any cases that were close friends/family or any case that could be considered bias.

Councilwoman Witherell no news to report.

Councilman Sexton- stated that he is planning to have the second meeting with the solar committee, sometime in the next week.

Councilman Smith stated the harvester and the boat have been serviced and will be on the water this week and hoping to start harvesting weeds next week.

Councilwoman Stark stated there will be a senior picnic on July 12th 2024 held at the Washington County fairgrounds for all seniors 60 and above from 10-2. Info for protective services for adults will be going on Town Hall bulletin board. Councilwoman Stark thanked Highway Superintendent, Paul Winchell for all the work the Highway Department has put into getting the beach ready to open, the beach will be opened the last weekend in June.

Town Clerk’s Report was given for May 2024.

Town Clerk prepared list of all identified short term rentals and status of properties to date as of June 10, 2024. All properties that have been identified have been notified of the new short term rental laws, along with permitting process, all rentals that are uncompliant have been listed and list was given to Mark Miller, Fort Ann Town Code Enforcer. Copies were made available to the public as well.

Highway Superintendent Report: Paul Winchell was absent but report on Dewey’s Bridge Road was given, the road is shut down to a one way due to lack of stability of the road, test holes will be dug to

see exactly what the Town is dealing with and a plan to repair the road will be determined once the results of the test holes have been discussed.

Enforcement Officer Report: Paper report given for May 2024.

Historian: Not present.

Dog Control Officer: Not present, paper report given for May 2024.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

RESOLUTION #62-2024

RETIREMENT STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING RESOLUTION FOR ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith to accept resolution entitled “Retirement standard workday and reporting resolution for elected and appointed officials”

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

RESOLVED, that the Town of Fort Ann hereby establishes the following as standard workdays for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees’ Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the Clerk.

RESOLUTION #63-2024

PRO-HOUSING COMMUNITIES

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Pro-Housing Communities”

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

RESOLVED that Town of Fort Ann, in order to take positive steps to alleviate the housing crisis, adopts the Pro Housing Communities pledge, which will have us endeavor to take the following important steps:

1. Streamlining permitting for multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing.
2. Adopting policies that affirmatively further fair housing.
3. Incorporating regional housing needs into planning decisions.
4. Increasing development capacity for residential uses.
5. Enacting policies that encourage a broad range of housing development, including multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing

6:30 p.m. **Open Public Discussion**

Joan Deagner asked where the town was at in regard to the bids on The Old Stone House Library, Supervisor Hall stated that they have only received one bid and if no more are received in the next week that the Town will move forward with the one quote that was received. Joan also stated that the parking at the library is not great, especially for those needing to use the handicap ramp, and the Town needs to look into parking options specifically for anyone who needs to use the handicap ramp, it is not easily accessible for anyone needing to use it. Supervisor Hall stated that he would address these concerns while the renovations are taking place at the library.

6:33 p.m. Closed Public Discussion

6:34 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to adjourn.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Total Abstracts for May:	General:	\$ 62,038.46
	Highway:	\$ 26,074.26

Respectfully submitted,

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

Dated: June 14, 2024