

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 10, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN TOWN HALL

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-Enforcement Officer, Katelyn Moskos, Jo Jo DeVecchi, Penny Gould, Bill Bailey, Lyle Washburn, Mary Davis, Tim & Kathy Stachnick, Don Bedeaux

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 resident Joe Carbotti.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith 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 Minutes of June 12, 2023.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Supervisor Hall read the May 2023 monthly financial statement.

Receipts for the month of May

Checking Account Balances

General Fund	\$ 168,769.67
Highway Fund	\$ 19,171.99
Youth Commission	\$ 9,158.44
Hadlock Dam Project	\$ 240.09
Hadlock Park District Fund	\$ 19,345.50
Consolidated Health District	\$ 370.48
Trust & Agency Fund	\$ 2,402.72
Medical Reimbursement Fund	\$ 3,878.46

Savings Accounts

NYCLASS-General Fund	\$ 1,173,510.84
NYCLASS-Highway Fund	\$ 910,945.94
NYCLASS-Hadlock Park District	\$ 180,670.16

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

Motion was carried unanimously.

6:04 p.m. Public Comment opened.

6:05 p.m. Public Comment closed without comment.

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Hall stated he worked on many things during the course of the month, that included meetings with Granicus to start the process of getting the short-term rental permitting system underway before the laws are implanted in January of 2024, the Rescue Squad issues in the Pilot Knob area.

Councilman Sexton, Councilwoman Stark, and Supervisor Hall all attended the Fort Ann EMS Meeting on Sunday July 2nd, 2023.

Councilman Smith, Councilwoman Stark, and Supervisor Hall attended the Lake Hadlock association meeting on July 1st, 2023.

Councilwoman Stark, Town Clerk Miranda Herringshaw, and Supervisor Hall attended the Pilot Knob Association meeting on July 8th, 2023.

Councilwoman Witherell stated she had some calls on why the canal docs had not been placed as of yet? Supervisor Hall stated that is up to the Canal Corp, and to refer any questions or concerns to the Canal Corp.

Councilman Sexton stated he had no news to report.

Councilman Smith stated on the 1st, he attended the annual Hadlock Association meeting.

Councilwoman Stark stated the beach is open, swim lessons through summer rec have started they will take place from 11:30-1 on Tuesday and Thursday's. Parking has already been an issue at the beach, two cars have already gone over the bank; the Pilot Knob Firehouse has placed a few cones on the shoulder of the road so we have no more accidents.

Councilwoman Stark wanted to thank the West Fort Ann Firehouse for donating a backboard to the Fort Ann Beach.

A senior picnic will be held at Washington County Fairgrounds on July 14th for seniors 50 and above from 10-2 being organized by Office of the Aging.

Town Clerk's Report was given for June 2023.

Town Clerk also stated that her office hours would be changing for summer and if these hours are an inconvenience to any Town residents, they can call or email to set up an appointment time that will work for them. The new hours will be Monday & Fridays from 9am-3pm and Tuesdays, Wednesday, Thursday's from 8am-1pm.

A consensus vote was held on the changing of the Town Clerk's office hours.

AYES 5 Smith, Sexton, Stark, Witherell, Hall

Town Clerk Also stated that she had been working on submitting parcel data to Granicus to get the short- term rental program up and running.

Town Clerk also stated that she had attended the Pilot Knob Association meeting on July 8th, with Supervisor Hall and Councilwoman Stark.

Highway Superintendent Report: Not present.

Enforcement Officer Report Paper report given to Town Board Member’s for June 2023.

Supervisor Hall asked Mark Miller what was happening with the Ellsworth property that is being used by Kiewit?

Mark stated Danna Ellsworth came to the monthly planning board meeting that was held on June 24th,2023, she did not have a definitive answer to any questions asked by the Planning Board as to what the long-term plan was for this property. She stated that the lease with Kiewit would be expiring at the end of July of 2023.

Supervisor Hall stated that it is a definitive change of use from the designated rural to now commercial industrial use of the property (TAX # 110.-1-44), and that at this current time, Ellsworth & Sons Properties, Inc. stands in violation of Local Law #4 of 1990 (The Site Plan Review Law).

Supervisor Hall stated that if they do not remedy the violation, they will need to be given an appearance ticket and seen before the Judge in Town Court.

Historian: Not present.

Dog Control Officer: Not present, paper report was submitted.

5.0 Old Business:

6.0 New Business

RESOLUTION #66-2023

RESOLUTION TO MODIFY THE 2023 BUDGET BY APPROPRIATING MONIES RECEIVED FROM SALE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT TO BE USED FOR UNANTICIPATED REPAIRS TO HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT AND AS DOWN PAYMENT ON NEW TRUCK TO COVER ADDITIONAL COST

On motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution to modify the 2023 budget by appropriating monies received from sale of surplus equipment to be used for unanticipated repairs to highway equipment and as down payment on new truck to cover additional cost”

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

RESOLVED, the 2023 budget shall be amended by appropriating funds to the accounts as indicated above.

**RESOLUTION #67-2023
RETIREMENT STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING RESOLUTION FOR ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Retirement standard work day 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 work days 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 #68-2023
RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR EQUIPMENT TO HARVEST AQUATIC PLANTS**

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled “ Resolution to establish a capital reserve fund for equipment to harvest aquatic plants”

RESOLVED, that pursuant to section 6-c of the NY General Municipal Law, as amended, the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann does hereby establish a Capital Reserve Fund for the Lake Hadlock Park District to finance the cost of acquisition for equipment to harvest aquatic plants on Lake Hadlock.

**RESOLUTION #69-2023
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REQUEST FOR PERFORMING AQUATIC PLANT SURVEY ON LAKE HADLOCK**

On motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “ Resolution approving the request for performing aquatic plant survey on Lake Hadlock”

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the request to perform an aquatic plant survey on Lake Hadlock this year and every one (1) year thereafter in accordance with the Town’s procurement policy.

6:31 p.m. Open Public Discussion

Supervisor Hall ‘thanked’ Bill Bailey and Penny Gould for the extensive weed report that they had put together concerning the weeds on Lake Hadlock.

Penny stated that she would like to thank the Town Clerk, Miranda Herringshaw for her help with obtaining information that was requested.

Lyle Washburn stated that he had brought some pictures that he had taken of houses around Hadlock that are being under assessed, he stated he has brought these concerns to the County Assessor’s office and to the Fort Ann Town Assessor, and that he believes these properties should be re-evaluated prior to the re-assessment project that will be taking place.

Supervisor Hall took the photos that Lyle brought and told him he would look into these issues and try to come up with a resolution.

Don Bedeaux asked about the solar moratorium, and asked if this was for personal and commercial properties?

Supervisor Hall stated that anything under 12 Kilowatts being used for personal use can still be brought before the Planning Board, and anything over 12 Kilowatts will not be able to be submitted to the Planning Board for Site Plan review until the Town has come to a resolution regarding the solar energy. This moratorium is in place for at least one (1) year with the possibility of extending two (2) times at a period of six (6) months each.

6:57 p.m. Closed Public Discussion

6:58 p.m. Councilman Sexton requested the Town Board and Town Attorney enter into executive session to discuss contractual issues.

7:12 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Smith to adjourn executive session.

Motion was carried unanimously.

7:13 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith to adjourn.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Total Abstracts for July:	General:	\$ 9,580.17
	Highway:	\$ 25,669.10
	Hadlock:	\$ 406.91

Respectfully submitted,

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

Dated: July 15, 2023