

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD AUGUST17, 2015 AT THE FORT ANN TOWN HALL AT9:30A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Darlene Z. Dumas  
Councilwoman Gretchen R. Stark  
Councilman Howard Denison  
Councilman Floyd Varney  
Councilwoman Deborah Witherell

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Barbara Winchell, Town Clerk, Paul Winchell, Highway Superintendent, Tom Jarrett, Inez Mattison, Shane Mattison, Richard Moore, Dave Dumas, Charles Friedman, Michael LaCross

Meeting was called to order at 9:35a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Councilman Denison.

This special meeting was called to order to discuss the Mattison Road project. The Mattison Family owns Mattison Road in the area of the project site. The Town of Fort Ann only has a right of way through that area.

Supervisor Dumas turned the meeting over to the Highway Superintendent.

The Highway Superintendent stated he has consulted with the Town Engineer, Tom Jarrett, about the Mattison Road project. The Highway Superintendent stated probably \$15,000.00 has been spent so far trying to repair Mattison Road, but it is not clear that the solution is working. As a result, Tom Jarrett consulted with a soils engineer, Fred Dente, who recommended soil borings and a slope stability analysis. The borings would be advanced to a depth of approximately 60'.

Fred Dente reported that they work on a per diem basis, but he estimated that the investigation would cost in the range of \$10,000-\$15,000.00 to do an analysis and a minimum of two (2) borings of the road. A topographic survey would be necessary for the slope stability analysis, and a quote from Dave Barrass for that work is \$2,200.00.

Tom stated he sees three (3) options for the road:

1. Repairing the road in place which absolutely needs this analysis. Mr. Jarrett emphasized that work would not be able to go forward without an analysis being done and this is the most expensive of the three (3) options.
2. Moving the road 30'-40' east of the other side of pole line depending on negotiations with the landowner; the slope stability analysis is also recommended if this option is pursued.
3. Abandon the road crossing and have a dead end in both directions. This option is the least desirable but also the least expensive.

Mr. Jarrett stated he really doesn't know the ultimate cost of restabilizing and rebuilding Mattison Road. He said the results of the testing should be back for the September 14, 2015 Town Board meeting and come up with an action plan based on those conclusions.

Charles Friedman Excavating, Inc. submitted a project quote of \$75,885.00 to relocate the road, and those costs include money to repair the slope toward the brook. No matter what option is selected, the slope has to be repaired, and it will cost a significant amount of money, and it all depends on what DEC has to say.

A question about making the road one lane, above the failure area was raised, and the Highway Superintendent stated making Mattison Road a one lane road at that section wouldn't work for safety reasons. Responding to a question about closing the road altogether resulted in discussion about emergency access, which would have routed around the closed section.

Supervisor Dumas stated that the Town Attorney advised at the 8/10/15 Town Board meeting that the Mattison driveway should be closed to the general public due to liability purposes.

Supervisor Dumas stated that the Town has been looking into a grant but the Town would have to spend the money and do the work and then wait for reimbursement should the town be awarded the grant.

The Town of Fort Ann has obtained permission from Inez Mattison to have the road tested and surveyed, but the Mattison's have not granted permission for the possible road relocation on their property.

**RESOLUTION #70-15**

**APPROVING THAT UP TO \$20,000.00 BE SPENT ON SOIL TESTING BY FRED DENTE, ALBANY, NEW YORK**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Denison to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Approving that up to \$20,000.00 be spent on soil testing by Fred Dente, Albany, New York"

ADOPTED      AYES 5              Witherell, Denison, Varney, Stark, Dumas

**RESOLVED**, to approve the spending of up to \$20,000.00 on soil testing by Fred Dente, Albany, New York.

**RESOLUTION #71-15**

**AUTHORIZING DAVE BARRASS TO COMPLETE A SURVEY OF MATTISON ROAD FOR \$2,200.00**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution authorizing Dave Barrass to complete a survey of Mattison Road for \$2,200.00.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Witherell, Stark, Varney, Denison, Dumas

**RESOLVED**, to authorize Dave Barrass to complete a survey of Mattison Road for \$2,200.00

Helen Denno, Bookkeeper, asked where the money is coming from for this project. The Highway Superintendent stated this would come of the CHIPS money. There may be \$25,000.00 bonus because of cold weather but that \$25,000.00 cannot be used for Mattison Road. It has to be used for road work but not Mattison Road.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing Personnel Issues.

Motion was carried.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Varney, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to come out of executive session.

Motion was carried.

**RESOLUTION #72-15**

**APPROVING THE HIRING OF ROBERT J. PUTORTI, JR. AS THE ACTING TOWN JUSTICE FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2015**

On motion of Supervisor Dumas, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Approving the Hiring of Robert J. Putorti, Jr. as Acting Town Justice for the remainder of 2015"

ADOPTED AYES 5 Dumas, Witherell, Denison, Varney, Stark

**RESOLVED**, to hire Robert J, Putorti, Jr. as the Acting Town Justice for the remainder of 2015.

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to adjourn at 10:25a.m.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Respectively submitted,

Dated: August 19, 2015

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Barbara J. Winchell, Town Clerk