

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD JANUARY 15, 2015 COMMENCING AT 10:07 A.M.**

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

**ABSENT:** Councilman Denison

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Bookkeeper/Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor, Helen Denno, Town Justice James Richardson, Court Clerk, Barbara Burch, Tax Collector, Donna M. Klein, Town Clerk, Barbara J. Winchell

Supervisor Dumas called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The purpose of this meeting was to allow the Town Board to audit the records of the Town Justice, Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Supervisor for the fiscal year January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014.

A resolution will be presented at the February 9, 2015 regular Town Board meeting.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Stark and seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to close the audit workshop.

New Business: Supervisor Dumas brought up the mileage reimbursement resolution from the 1/12/15 organizational meeting and stated that it would be best to keep it at \$.50 per mile and have further discussion during the 2016 budget process. This topic will continue at the 2/9/15 Town Board meeting when all Town Board members can be present.

Supervisor Dumas reported that she had investigated the appointing of the Planning Board Chairman resolution and found the following: according to New York Town Law Section 271 (Planning board, creation, appointment) begins with the following two sentences:

1. Authorization. The town board of each town is hereby authorized by local law or ordinance, to create a planning board consisting of five or seven members **and shall, by resolution, appoint the members of such board and designate the chairperson thereof.** In the absence of a chairperson the planning board may designate a member to serve as chairperson.

From this statute, we note that if a town board fails to appoint the chair of a planning board, there is a mechanism in place for the designation of a chairman by the members of the planning board. However, and more importantly, we note from the very first sentence

is this section of the town law that a town board “shall appoint the members ... designate the chairperson”.

Councilman Varney and Councilwomen Stark and Witherell appreciated the clarification on this subject. This will also be discussed when the entire board is present at the February 9, 2015 regular Town Board meeting.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Varney and seconded by Councilman Varney to adjourn at 11:41 a.m.

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Barbara J. Winchell, Town Clerk

Dated: January 15, 2015