

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON THURSDAY, November 10, 2022 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

OTHERS PRESENT: Miranda Herringshaw-Town Clerk, Helen Denno- Budget Officer, Jennifer Jackson-Clerk to the Supervisor, Rick Dumas, Mike Gould, Rob Ladd, Floyd Ladd, Regina Ladd, Michelle Stark, Mel Dinwiddie

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

This meeting was published in the Post Star November 2, 2022.

1.1 Open Public Hearing for 2023 budget: Supervisor Hall asked if anyone had anything to say at 6:02 p.m. there was no response so he closed the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. without comment.

1.2 2023 Pilot Knob Volunteer Firefighters Assoc., Inc. \$93,200.00 (contract) Public Hearing opened at 6:04 p.m. The Pilot Knob Volunteer Firefighters Assoc., Inc. closed at 6:05 p.m. without comment.

1.3 2023 Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Company \$233,813.00 (contract) Public Hearing opened at 6:05 p.m. The Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Company public hearing closed at 6:06 p.m. without comment.

1.4 2023 West Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Company \$208,328.00 (contract) Public Hearing opened at 6:06 p.m.

Rob Ladd- "Is the payment for the new truck was just going to be not granted for this year or if this is a permanent decision?"

Supervisor Hall- "Well, the same thing would apply. I mean, there was no discussion about the truck bought and we hadn't approved the monies for the truck. That was very clear, a resolution that completely said that as well. That's where we are at this point in time. We can revisit it next year, but I don't know if that's going to change or not. You know, this year if nobody said anything about it being added and it just came added in the budget, it was slipped in with \$117,000 in payments. If we hadn't asked for an itemized list of payments, we would have never known. So, to me that indicates that someone was aware that it wasn't supposed to be there, but they added it to the budget anyways."

Rob Ladd stated that the assumption from West Fort Ann Fire Co. was that because one of the other trucks had been paid off that the new truck would fall into that payment spot.

Supervisor Hall stated that the Fire Company had many meetings and it was made clear by himself and Councilman Sexton that the fire company was not approved funding to purchase the new truck but if the Fire Company could afford the truck with no money being funded by the Town, they could do what

they thought was best. In a prior meeting the Town Board agreed to allow the West Fort Ann Fire Company to use the Town's sales tax exempt number to save on the sales tax of the truck and that was all that was approved.

The West Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Company decided on their own to go forward and purchase the new fire truck so with that Supervisor Hall stated that The Town of Fort Ann would not be providing funds for this truck, and it is up to the WFA Fire Company to decide how they will proceed forward in regards to this specific truck.

Supervisor Hall stated that this decision was not solely up to him and asked for a motion by any other board members to put the \$56,000.00 back into the budget for this truck, he asked three times to which no board members granted this motion. At this time the public hearing on West Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Company was closed at 6:39 p.m.

1.5 2023 Fort Ann Rescue Squad, Inc. \$145,000.00 (contract) Public Hearing opened at 6:39 p.m. The Fort Ann Rescue Squad, Inc. public hearing closed at 6:41p.m. with no comment.

Motion was made by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith to adjourn meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Dated: November 15, 2022