

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2018 AT TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.**

Supervisor Middleton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Middleton  
Councilman Orsini  
Councilman Mercier  
Councilman Fisher

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeannie Mullen, Brian Brockway, Todd Humiston and Town Attorney Mary-Ellen Stockwell

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION** by Councilman Orsini, Seconded by Councilman Fisher to approve the minutes of the Organizational & Regular Meeting held on January 8, 2018 **ALL AYES**

**APPROVAL OF REPORTS: MOTION** by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilman Mercier to approve the following reports: Town Clerk Monthly, Town Justice, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer, Zoning Officer, Highway, Animal Control, Assessor, Historian & Supervisor's Report **ALL AYES**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS: MOTION** by Councilman Orsini, Seconded by Councilman Mercier to approve Abstract #2 in the amount of \$132,315.03 **ALL AYES**

**ABSTRACT #2**

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>GENERAL A: 7158-7160,7165-7201</b>   | <b>\$63,675.34</b> |
| <b>GENERAL B: 7202-7210</b>             | <b>\$20,556.40</b> |
| <b>HIGHWAY: 7211-7223</b>               | <b>\$18,290.42</b> |
| <b>MUNICIPAL: 7164,7224-7233</b>        | <b>\$ 4,393.60</b> |
| <b>SPECIAL LIGHTING: 7161,7234-7235</b> | <b>\$ 7,066.10</b> |
| <b>SPECIAL WATER: 7163,7236-7240</b>    | <b>\$ 629.70</b>   |
| <b>SPECIAL WATER 2: 7162,7241-7243</b>  | <b>\$13,290.47</b> |
| <b>BOA 3: 2</b>                         | <b>\$ 4,200.00</b> |
| <b>HOME 2013: 6</b>                     | <b>\$ 213.00</b>   |

**TOTAL: \$132,315.03**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 11 OF 2018**

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN ORSINI**

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN FISHER**

**WHEREAS**, Town Boards are required by Town Law to audit the financial records of the Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Town Justice.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Edward Town Board audited the financial records of the Town Justice, Town Clerk and Tax Collector for the fiscal year January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 at a special meeting held on January 25, 2018.

DATED: February 12, 2018

**VOTE:** Supervisor Middleton – AYE  
Councilman Orsini – AYE  
Councilman Mercier – AYE  
Councilman Fisher - AYE

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 12 OF 2018**

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN FISHER**

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ORSINI**

**ELECTION FACILITATION AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Washington County Board of Elections (WCBOE) requires various assistance from the Towns in Washington County to provide for conduct of elections:

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Fort Edward (hereinafter Town) located at 118 Broadway, Fort Edward, New York 12828, acting by and through its Town Clerk, is willing and able to provide said assistance as indicated herein for the conduct of elections.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is agreed as follows:

Town Clerks will:

- Contact Inspectors to determine availability
- Inform Inspectors of their work schedule (written or verbal)
- Contact WCBOE for help in filling shortages

- Contact WCBOE of your Inspector’s roster in writing at least 10 days before the election( fax 746-2179 or email: [msuprenant@co.washington.ny.us](mailto:msuprenant@co.washington.ny.us))
- Appoint an Inspector to be responsible for the Site’s Green Security Bag. Please indicate who will be on the Sites Inspector on the Roster that will be faxed or emailed to the WCBOE.

The responsibilities of the appointed Green Bag Inspector will include:

- Picking up the Green Security Bag at WCBOE office the day before the election (8:30 am to 4:30 pm)
- Keeping the bag secure overnight
- Bring the bag to the poll site by 11:30 am on Primary and 5:30 am on General Election dates.

DATED: February 12, 2018

**VOTE:** Supervisor Middleton – AYE  
 Councilman Orsini – AYE  
 Councilman Mercier – AYE  
 Councilman Fisher - AYE

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 13 OF 2018**

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN MERCIER**

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ORSINI**

**WHEREAS,** the Fort Edward Town Board does hereby appoint Richard Fisher to the Town of Fort Edward Zoning Board of Appeals for a 5 year term commencing upon appointment term ending December 31, 2022.

DATED: February 12, 2018

**VOTE:** Supervisor Middleton – AYE  
 Councilman Orsini – AYE  
 Councilman Mercier – AYE  
 Councilman Fisher - AYE

**BUSINESS:**

The Board reviewed the proposed 2018 Agreement with C.T. Male Associates for engineering services for the Town.

**MOTION** by Councilman Orsini, Seconded by Councilman Mercier to renew the Agreement with C.T. Male Associates for engineering services for 2018 **ALL AYES**

The Board reviewed the Countryside Veterinary Hospital Agreement with the changes made by the Animal Control Officer.

**Todd Humiston:** The fees are the same as last year; we just needed to change paragraph 3 from 9 days to 5 days for the holding period. Also, we have nothing that covers seized dogs in police related matters. The Local Law should be modified to include that which will save on bond hearing fees in the future.

**Supervisor Middleton:** Is there an alternative to putting seized dogs down if the owners do not claim them?

**Todd Humiston:** Countryside has a 100% adoption rate, Dr. Keller and his staff go above and beyond to try and re-home the animals unless they pose a threat of some sort. Also our fines and fees are so low at \$25.00 that the cost benefit is not there, court costs are not covered by that which is why I try every way possible to not write tickets if I can solve it another way.

**MOTION** by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilman Mercier to renew the Agreement with Countryside Veterinary Hospital for 2018 **ALL AYES**

**Supervisor Middleton:** The Village received a quote for flooring in the court foyer, courtroom and police station totaling \$10,200.00 from Mike Pollock. The Board agreed to place the quote on file due to other expenses in the foreseeable future that may take precedence.

**Supervisor Middleton:** The Town has received 2 quotes for cleaning services for the Town & Village Offices; the Village has not received any but are working on it. The Town Board would like to table the discussion until Village quotes are received and a reference is obtained from Irving Tissue for one of the interested parties.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Supervisor Middleton:** I received correspondence from Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner asking if she could put the Town in for a grant for Qualified Opportunity Zones. No match is required. Each State may nominate as Qualified Opportunity Zones up to 25% of communities that are income eligible.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Brian Brockway:** We are having issues with the Post Office again. The employees are supposed to park out behind the Firehouse and they are not. Apparently one of the employees was upset and reported to Aimee that he got intentionally plowed in. I did not plow him in intentionally and it would have never happened if he parked where he was supposed to as per the agreement that was made when the parking lot was redone.

**Councilman Orsini:** Why doesn't the Post Office have parking for their employees? They could plow out behind there and have plenty of parking.

**Brian Brockway:** As far as recycling goes I have nothing new, I cannot find anyone that will take it.

**Supervisor Middleton:** What do the recycling employees do the rest of the week?

**Brian Brockway:** Tom works on the trucks and Jack gets called in for storms to do the sidewalks. He is only part time.

**Supervisor Middleton:** I asked Mayor Traver what they pay for their recycling bins and it's around \$1,053.00/month. It's \$175.00 to dump them and they average around 6 a month.

**Brian Brockway:** It's cheaper doing what we are doing right now.

**Supervisor Middleton:** My issue is we are giving the illusion that we are recycling when we aren't.

**Brian Brockway:** The Government mandate states that legally we have to offer recycling.

**Supervisor Middleton:** If we go in with the Village then residents will have here and the transfer station as options.

**Councilman Orsini:** The Village bins fill up in 3 days now. We are facing some big decisions in the near future regarding garbage and recycling.

**Brian Brockway:** Our tonnage hasn't changed in 3 or 4 years. I say you put some heat on the private haulers and make them pay a fee and you may get some customers back.

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** The Village requires a license fee & proof of insurance per their local law. They have also regulated the days of pickup. Doing that makes it a code enforcement issue also as well as legal and time costs. The haulers license can be in jeopardy if they do not follow the regulations.

**Brian Brockway:** The Town & Village looks like a dump with the cans all over the place.

**BOARD: Review the recycling mandate before making any decisions**

**Supervisor Middleton:** We bought Code Enforcement Officer Matt French a new printer to help with organization and Mary-Ellen met with him to stream line the process of taking someone to court on a violation to help save time and expenses.

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** We will be resolving the 1 case before us tomorrow and they will be fined.

**Councilman Orsini:** I was speaking to a nice couple at The Anvil the other night and it happened to be the parents of the child that was killed in the tragic accident in Greenwich

involving snow removal. They told me that they have 1 goal right now which is to ask that every driver during snow removal get down and do a visual assessment before dumping.

**Brian Brockway:** We do not do any snow hauling like that, we dump ours in big open fields but I totally agree.

**Supervisor Middleton:** The roads are looking good in the Town; the guys are doing a great job.

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** What would the Board like me to do with the letter from C.T. Male regarding our solar local law if anything?

**Supervisor Middleton:** I believe it was because we were approached by a solar company that was interested in the old dump.

**Councilman Orsini:** I believe de-commissioning was an issue when it was brought up in the past, also methane removal in old dumps is being talked about so what would happen then? Would it have to be torn down?

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** I received notice that Larry Clute is ready to come back before the Planning Board with his proposal for senior housing on the Williams farm property. They are on the agenda for February 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Brian Brockway:** I would suggest that they loop the 2 water lines if they do that. Both Hudson Ave. and Juliet St. are dead ends and include Sullivan Parkway also. The water quality will be a lot better if you get rid of the dead ends.

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** I will speak directly to the engineer and the applicant and also have them speak directly with Brian.

**Supervisor Middleton:** The Champlain Hudson Power Express went to the County to discuss where the power lines go through and broke down the assessments for 2021 as follows:

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| Town:    | \$50,000.00  |
| Village: | \$70,000.00  |
| County:  | \$80,000.00  |
| School:  | \$215,000.00 |

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**Supervisor Middleton:** WCC, LLC has offered to sit down and negotiate assessment. I asked them who they were going to use and they asked who we wanted them to use. I believe this is the best road to go down, our new Assessor is not very enthused about it but it is a unique property.

**ADJOURNMENT: MOTION** by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilman Orsini to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm **ALL AYES**

DATED: February 14, 2018

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Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk