

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2017 AT TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 7:00PM**

Supervisor Suprenant called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeannie Mullen, Katie DeGroot, Darlene DeVoe, Town Attorney Mary- Ellen Stockwell

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION** by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilman Mercier to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 13, 2017 **ALL AYES**

**APPROVAL OF REPORTS: MOTION** by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilman Orsini to approve the reports of the Town Clerk Monthly, Town Justice, Building Inspector, Highway, Code Enforcement Officer & Supervisor's Report as submitted **ALL AYES**

Grant Coordinator Darlene DeVoe submitted the following grant report for August:

**Grant Coordinator Report for August 2017**

Submitted by Darlene DeVoe 8/14/2017

**HOME 2013 –**

We are wrapping up our last approved projects this month and have begun grant closeout.

**EPA Petroleum Assessment Grant -**

We expect final approval on the Phase 2 ESA performed on 1099 Burgoyne Ave.

The Phase 1 and 2 that are underway on the Freight House are expected to be complete by September 15<sup>th</sup>. Grant closeout will follow.

This grant will be finished this year.

\* I have requested a debriefing on the FY 2017 Hazardous Substance Assessment Grant application that was not funded. According to our Project Officer we missed by only a few points. These grants are very competitive but we are always a contender. We can take his

comments and strengthen the app for FY18 which will be likely due in November ahead of the Brownfields conference in December which will be in Pittsburgh this time.

### **BOA Step 3 –**

Project Team meeting with DOS Project Officer scheduled for 8/24.

We need updates from the Board and WCC on both pending and potential development, and ownership of the former dewatering facility to incorporate into the document. This information is needed for Project Tasks under Marketing and Public Workshops which have been in limbo while litigation and other negotiations were conducted. We have been focused on transportation, infrastructure, and SEQR until now.

### **Community Planning –**

The Town Master Plan is coming together. At this point 4 sections are now complete: Demographics, Municipal and Inter-Municipal Resources, Educational, Parks and Recreation.

Town Historian Paul McCarty is drafting the Historical section. I am seeking assistance from the Friends of the IBA to contribute to the Scenic and Open Space section also. In progress are Economic Development, Transportation, Land Use, and Agriculture.

I have comments from the Planning Board regarding Land Use and would like thoughts from the Board as well. Since zoning was recently revised in the north area of the town, we are focusing on the southern portion of the town. Please email me your comments by the end of this month.

Also, for the section on Transportation I would like thoughts from the Highway Superintendent and Board regarding concerns, potential projects and investments. Remember that having priority projects in the Master Plan makes them eligible for potential future grant funding.

Anyone that would like to contribute thoughts or ideas that will positively impact the Town of Fort Edward are highly encouraged to do so this summer.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS: MOTION** by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Orsini to approve Abstract #8 in the amount of \$40,089.98 **ALL AYES**

**ABSTRACT #8**

<b>GENERAL A – 6738,6742-6744,6746-6791,6805</b>	<b>\$25,526.11</b>
<b>GENERAL B- 6801-6804</b>	<b>\$ 2,536.59</b>
<b>HIGHWAY- 6792-6800</b>	<b>\$ 326.49</b>
<b>MUNICIPAL-6806-6814</b>	<b>\$ 2,393.32</b>
<b>SPECIAL LIGHTING-6739,6741,6815</b>	<b>\$ 2,346.16</b>
<b>SPECIAL WATER- 6740,6745,6816,6821</b>	<b>\$ 1,166.09</b>
<b>SPECIAL WATER 2- 6822-6823</b>	<b>\$ 79.22</b>
<b>BOA 3 –23</b>	<b>\$ 275.00</b>
<b>EPA PET. ASSES. 2-48-49</b>	<b>\$ 592.25</b>
<b>HOME 2013 –14</b>	<b>\$ 923.00</b>
<b>VERIZON CELL TOWER-10</b>	<b>\$ 378.00</b>
<b>MHW ESCROW- 1-2</b>	<b>\$ 2,210.10</b>

**TOTAL: \$40,089.98**

**BUSINESS:**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Letter from the Argyle July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade Committee thanking the Fort Edward Highway Dept. for helping them hang their banner
- The Town Planning Board would like to see used car lot taken out of the current zoning regulations.

Discussion was held regarding the suggestion and will be looked into further by the Board to make sure no other changes need to be made at the same time.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Katie DeGroot:** Fort Miller Reformed Church is starting a community meeting space, we are putting together ideas on how to use the space as it is only used on Sundays. One of the requests that people had was would it be possible to hold Town Board meetings in southern Fort Edward. Maybe more people would come if we could hold them in the southern end.

**Darlene DeVoe:** One of the reasons why would be that there is no public transportation down there. It would be perfect for a workshop or something like that.

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** It would have to be noticed as a change in location. You could have a special meeting there.

**Katie DeGroot:** John Peterson is looking to get back on the Planning Board; he just retired. I think it would be nice to have meetings to talk about what is going on in Fort Edward south of the Village. I know there would be at least 10-12 people that would come which is more than is here now.

**Katie DeGroot:** Raptor Fest on Backhouse Rd., Fort Miller would be interested in maybe working with that group to have an auxiliary annex exhibition space and community center, there

is parking and maybe we could have a bigger map of places for people to see birds in Fort Edward and just use Fort Miller as some kind of staging zone for more activity in the Town.

**Supervisor Suprenant:** Raptor Fest is on the Washington County Fair Grounds now. The annual bike ride from Hudson crossing goes by the Fort Miller Church and goes to Glens Falls and then it comes back through and something could be done then.

**Katie DeGroot:** They would just like to offer it to the Town for meetings or workshops. Fort Edward is a big town and there are a lot of farmers that would like to get involved.

- Our farm is on DeGroot Road and some on Carey Rd. There are only 4 families in that area. It hasn't changed. We are looking to change our farm to forever farm land.
- I am going to run for Town Council.
- We could benefit from an exhibition space downtown to show the birders photos.

**Councilman Orsini:** Parks and Rec have a conservation easement over the island, anything we do on the island we have to get permission from Parks and Rec. they do not agree with archeology and are not very friendly when it comes to that. I met with them this week and they toured the island and they want a professionally produced report which we do not have the money for at this time. We reached out to DEC and they are going to get us a pre-done report that we can remodel our report on. We are replacing our main computer because it's filled. Can the center donate the old computer to separate the Visitors Center and LDC again if we take our financials off it? We have been in touch with Carrie Woerner and Betty Little and we are moving forward with Parks and Rec. and it looks good.

**BOARD:** Yes the computer can be donated

**MOTION** by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilman Orsini to go into executive session to discuss litigation at 7:30pm **ALL AYES**

**MOTION** by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilman Mercier to come out of executive session at 7:51pm **ALL AYES**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** Councilman Orsini, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm **ALL AYES**

DATED: August 15, 2017

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Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk

