

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD TOWN BOARD PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2016 AT TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 6:00PM**

Supervisor Suprenant called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

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

**ABSENT:** Councilman Fisher  
Councilman Mercier

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mary-Ellen Stockwell, Amanda Cedrone, Diane Cook, Tim Livsey

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION** by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Orsini to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 12, 2016 **ALL AYES**

**BUSINESS:**

**Hawking/Peddling: Amanda Cedrone:**

**Amanda Cedrone:** I have an office in Queensbury, Edward Jones Investments. I have gone door to door in Queensbury for the last year and a half and would like to do it here as well as other surrounding towns as well. I live in Saratoga, I help people retire and help get Edward Jones name out there.

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** She is essentially selling a service yet it falls a little outside the scope of the Code but I am glad a permit was filed.

**BOARD:** Granted the Peddling and Soliciting Permit

**Public Hearing  
Solar Local Law  
6:00pm**

Supervisor Suprenant opened the Public Hearing at 6:08pm

The following notice was published in the Post Star on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016:

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE,** the Town Board of the Town of Fort Edward will hold a public hearing on Monday, September 19, 2016 at Town Hall, 118 Broadway, Fort Edward, NY

at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of hearing comments regarding the consideration of the proposed Local Law adopting new Solar Regulations for the Town of Fort Edward.

At the Public Hearing anyone who wishes to comment will be heard.

**PUBLIC:**

**Diane Cook:** I am surprised no one is here to learn about this.

**Supervisor Suprenant:** Our law is intended to limit the amount of panels you can put on a property and help regulate where the panels can be placed.

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** It's a lot of different regulation, very comprehensive local law relative to size of property, different types of solar, etc.

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** We referred it to the Washington County Planning Board; they met on September 13th and deemed it a matter of local concern with a few comments such as cross references. Sec 4B2? That is up for discussion, the Planning Board wanted to talk about how high roof mounted solar could go. Maybe we could put a limitation on that like 10 feet.

**BOARD:** Agrees with 10 feet for roof mounted

Rear and Side yard setback for solar accessory structures, 20 feet for both?

Sec. 3D9: The percentage of lot coverage is very important; we pride ourselves in Fort Edward on agricultural land. How much can be covered without a variance?

**Councilman Middleton:** I have an issue when it starts getting commercial which would be if you were doing 5 to 10 acres. To me 5 acres should be the cap

**Councilman Orsini:** If someone has a south facing roof that's fine but if you are doing 30 acres of solar panels then no.

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** I can look into how realistically big of a farm could someone in this area really sustain. I could speak to APEX Solar and find out what they have in mind as far as solar farm size in this area.

**Supervisor Suprenant:** Whitehall has 1 already up and 1 coming in now that will be powering Gore Mtn. and SUNY Albany.

I would say at least 10 acres but no more than 20% of the property.

**Supervisor Suprenant:** Laurie LaFond (Friends of the IBA) left a message concerned about the battery disposal; she couldn't be at the hearing.

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** I will look into setbacks to wildlife habitat. The Planning Board also wants to know who is qualified to say who is qualified to perform the work.

**Supervisor Suprenant:** I would say the Town Board, Code Enforcement Officer and Town Attorney should all be involved in that.

**Councilman Middleton:** I am concerned about the people that want to put 5 or 6 on their roof, what if the roof can't hold it?

**Councilman Orsini:** Many solar companies won't put them on unless you get a new roof.

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** I suggest tabling until the October meeting

**MOTION** by Councilman Orsini, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to table the public hearing until October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 6:55pm **ALL AYES**

**Mary-Ellen Stockwell:** Take a look at the wind energy information I gave you for discussion at the next meeting, pg. 6 has model local laws in NY.

Back into regular meeting

October Town Board meeting date will be the 11<sup>th</sup> with a public hearing at 6:50pm to discuss fee schedule changes and a continued public hearing at 6:55 to discuss the proposed Solar Local Law.

Budget Workshop set for Oct 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 6:30pm

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 23 OF 2016**

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN MIDDLETON**

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ORSINI**

**WHEREAS,** the Fort Edward Town Board does hereby reappoint Ann Hayes as a member of the Town of Fort Edward Board of Assessment Review for a five year term from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2021.

Dated: September 19, 2016

Supervisor Suprenant – AYE  
Councilman Orsini – AYE  
Councilman Mercier – ABSENT  
Councilman Middleton – AYE  
Councilman Fisher - ABSENT

**Councilman Middleton:** Asked Assessor for total acreage of state land that is currently not on the tax roll and spoke with Carrie Woerner regarding the legislation and she told me there is a very slim chance it would pass and the Governor said if it did pass he won't sign it.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Orsini to adjourn the meeting at 6:50pm **ALL AYES**

DATED: September 20, 2016

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Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk