

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021 VIA ZOOM COMMENCING AT 7:00PM

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

PRESENT: Supervisor Losaw
Councilman Middleton
Councilman Fisher
Councilwoman Mullen

ABSENT: Councilman Mercier

OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Ives, Brian Brockway, Evan Lawrence, Katie DeGroot, Chuck Bump, Steve Davie, Elizabeth O’Leary and Town Clerk Aimee Mahoney

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Councilwoman Mullen, Seconded by Councilman Fisher to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of 12/14/2020 **ALL AYES**

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Fisher to approve the minutes of the special meeting of 12/28/2020 **ALL AYES**

APPROVAL OF REPORTS: MOTION by Councilwoman Mullen, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the following reports: Town Clerk Monthly, Town Clerk Annual, Town Justice, Building Inspector, Highway and Supervisor’s Report as submitted **ALL AYES**

APPROVAL OF BILLS: MOTION by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve Abstract #1 in the amount of \$44,661.11 **ALL AYES**

ABSTRACT #1

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| GENERAL A – 9624-9626, 9629-9645 | \$25,837.96 |
| GENERAL B – 9646-9647 | \$ 3,564.00 |
| HIGHWAY – 9648-9656 | \$ 6,655.04 |
| MUNICIPAL – 9657-9659 | \$ 620.33 |
| SPECIAL LIGHTING – 9627,9660-9662 | \$ 5,857.46 |
| SPECIAL WATER – 9628,9663-9664 | \$ 285.56 |
| SPECIAL WATER 2 – 9628,9663-9664 | \$ 40.76 |
| CONSOLIDATED BOARD OF HEALTH – 1 | \$ 1,800.00 |

TOTAL: \$44,661.11

BUSINESS:

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Fisher to set the auditing of the books for the Town Clerk and Town Justice for Monday, January 25, 2021 at 10:30am **ALL AYES**

Office Cleaning

Supervisor Losaw: We received a new proposal today from North Country Janitorial for the cleaning of the building. They quoted \$625.00 in April of 2020 and the new proposal has almost doubled. I would like to get proposals from the other interested parties.

Tabled until new bids are received

Proclamation David Starbuck

PROCLAMATION HONORING DR. DAVID STARBUCK, ARCHAEOLOGIST

WHEREAS, in memory of Dr. David Starbuck, who passed away from cancer on December 27, 2020, the Fort Edward Town Board wish to express their sincere appreciation for his longtime efforts to preserve and celebrate the rich history of the town of Fort Edward.

WHEREAS, Dr. Starbuck has worked diligently for thirty years in the town of Fort Edward on Rogers Island, the Old Fort House Museum campus and his personal property, the sutler site.

WHEREAS, Dr. Starbuck spent those years not only performing archaeological excavations, but also sharing his comprehensive knowledge and expertise with not only his students and his 'diggers', but also anyone who expressed an interest.

WHEREAS, Dr. Starbuck's unwavering passion of sharing local history through archaeology has led to countless discoveries of artifacts hundreds of years old, ongoing projects and education for others, including but not limited to SUNY Adirondack Field School, exhibits at Rogers Island Visitor Center, The Old Fort House Museum, and the New York State Museum.

NOW THERE IT BE PROCLAIMED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Edward is eternally grateful to Dr. David Starbuck for his unwavering devotion to the search and preservation of our extensive history. He has left a vast and incredible legacy to our town.

Supervisor Losaw thanked Elizabeth O’Leary for writing the Proclamation

Local Law #1 of 2021

Supervisor Losaw: We need to set a public hearing to adopt Local Law #1 which prohibits nighttime parking on Town roads during certain snow events.

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to set a public hearing to hear comments on Local Law #1 of 2021 on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 10:25am
ALL AYES

**Shared Dog Control Agreement
W/Kingsbury**

Councilwoman Mullen: The address in the agreement says 100 Broadway. Part 2 states that the Town pays Kingsbury monthly and then further down it says quarterly so that needs to be clarified.

Supervisor Losaw: We did receive 1 letter of interest today for the job; I will reach out to them and see if they are still interested. I called former DCO Chris Goodness because he still has a check here and has not dropped off the equipment.

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to approve and adopt the agreement to share Dog Control Officer services with the Town of Kingsbury in substantial form as presented at this meeting, subject to approval of the Town of Kingsbury and in form acceptable to Town legal Counsel with the changes that Councilwoman Mullen pointed out **ALL AYES**

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 10 OF 2021

MOTION BY COUNCILMAN MIDDLETON

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN FISHER

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo issued Executive Order

Number 202, declaring a State disaster emergency for the entire State of New York, and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2020 said declaration was extended to include: Subdivisions 7, 7-a and 8 of section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law, and subdivisions 5, 5-a, 5-b, 5-c and 6 of section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law, which permits the governing body of an assessing unit to adopt a resolution directing the assessor to grant exemptions pursuant to such section on the 2021 assessment roll to all property owners who received that exemption on the 2020 assessment roll, thereby dispensing with the need for renewal applications from such persons, and further dispensing with the requirement for assessors to mail renewal applications to such persons, and

WHEREAS, the Town is desirous in adopting such resolution while also allowing the assessor to require a renewal application to be filed when he or she has reason to believe that an owner who qualified for the exemption on the 2020 assessment roll may have since changed his or her primary residence, added another owner to the deed, transferred the property to a new owner, or died, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board is authorized to pass such resolution, and that the assessor is instructed to take any such necessary actions in the above-described directives.

DATED: January 11, 2021

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Mercier – ABSENT
Councilman Middleton – AYE
Councilman Fisher – AYE
Councilwoman Mullen – AYE
Supervisor Losaw - AYE

OTHER BUSINESS:

Supervisor Losaw: I just want to say that what happened in Washington was just disgusting, no place for that. I believe it gives a black eye to all of us and I am not in support of that at all.

Katie DeGroot: Do you support impeachment?

Supervisor Losaw: Yes

Katie DeGroot: Thank you for that

Councilman Middleton: I view the capital building as sacred ground and no place for that.

Steve Davie: We need to be alert in our own community due to threats of violence.

Elizabeth O’Leary: Our building is locked down.

Brian Brockway: I am going to need a resolution for both the plow and the water truck. I know we are going to bond the plow truck but I'm not sure if we will be using the antenna rate on the water tower for the water truck. Plow trucks are a year out on build due to COVID.

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Fisher to get prices for the water truck as well as the plow truck **ALL AYES**

Councilman Middleton: Are there any State contracts out there for 2021?

Brian Brockway: Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Katie DeGroot: Can I get an update on the Dewatering Property.

Supervisor Losaw: They have had a couple interested parties but no agreements have been made. The WWIDA is getting a grant for a feasibility study to come up with a best use plan for the site.

Katie DeGroot: I will be reaching out to the IDA about this also but will they be holding any public meetings to get ideas of what people think would be useful seeing as it is taxpayer funded in some way. I also want to ask you as Town Supervisor to please keep us posted on that.

Councilman Middleton: I would like to wish Councilman Mercier a speedy recovery from COVID.

Brian Brockway: He came home from the hospital today.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to adjourn the meeting at 7:32pm **ALL AYES**

Dated: January 13, 2021

Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk