

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024 AT TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENT: Supervisor Fisher
Councilman Suprenant
Councilwoman Mullen
Councilman Middleton
Councilwoman Collier

OTHERS PRESENT: Lynne Griffin, Elizabeth O’Leary, Peter Ives, Frank Burkhardt, Richard Belden, Brian Brockway, Kyle Cozzens, Katie DeGroot, Mike LaRose, Darcy Miller, Town Attorney Bill Nikas and Town Clerk Aimee Ives.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 11, 2024 **ALL AYES**

APPROVAL OF REPORTS: MOTION by Councilwoman Collier, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to approve the monthly reports of the Town Clerk, Town Justice, Building Inspector, Dog Control, Highway & Supervisor as submitted **ALL AYES**

APPROVAL OF BILLS: MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Suprenant to approve Abstract #4 in the amount of \$68,653.90 **ALL AYES**

ABSTRACT #4

GENERAL A – 12360-12369,12378-12408	\$29,140.86
GENERAL B – 12409-12412	\$ 3,926.75
HIGHWAY – 12413-12418	\$ 4,930.17
MUNICIPAL – 12370-12371,12419-12426	\$ 6,105.75
SPECIAL LIGHTING –12372-12373	\$ 3,168.54
SPECIAL WATER –12374-12376,12427-12429	\$ 913.79
SPECIAL WATER 2 –12377,12430-12432	\$10,882.61
CS ENERGY ESCROW – 12433-12434 (5-6)	\$ 9,585.43

TOTAL: \$68,653.90

BUSINESS:

Boralex Open House

Supervisor Fisher: Boralex is having an open house on April 18, 2024 from 5:00pm-8:00pm at the Durkeetown Church, 2 Durkeetown Rd. to answer any questions residents may have about the solar project.

**Resignation
Stanley Maziejka
Board of Assessment Review**

Supervisor Fisher: We received a letter of resignation from Stanley Maziejka from the Board of Assessment Review effective March 31, 2024.

MOTION by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to accept the resignation from Stanley Maziejka from the Board of Assessment Review **ALL AYES**

**Letter of Intent
Katie DeGroot
Board of Assessment Review**

Supervisor Fisher: We received a letter of intent from Katie DeGroot to fill the vacancy on the Board of Assessment Review.

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Collier to appoint Katie DeGroot to fill the vacancy on the Board of Assessment Review **ALL AYES**

Councilman Suprenant: Thank you Katie and I would like to send a letter of thanks to Stanley Maziejka for his years serving the Board of Assessment Review.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Supervisor Fisher: We received an email from Washington County Public Safety regarding AED requirements for Camps and Youth Sports Programs. We are in compliance at the pool having just purchased a new AED last year.

Councilman Suprenant: Do we have enough lifeguards?

Supervisor Fisher: Yes we are all set with lifeguards and the pump is here; we just need to contact Tom Perkins to discuss piping upgrades.

Supervisor Fisher: The Solar Project on the landfill at Leavy Hollow is up and running and they have a tentative ribbon cutting date of May 8th at 1:00pm and would like all interested parties to attend. The Town will be receiving approximately \$70,000.00 plus taxes annually as a result of this project with the proceeds going into the highway equipment fund.

Brian Brockway: I received notification that Real Bark is starting to charge for leaves & brush at the following rates:

- \$1.00/yd. – Leaves & Brush
- \$2.00/yd. - Brush up to 8”
- \$5.00/yd. - Brush 8” and above
- \$10.00/yd. – Tree Stumps

Supervisor Fisher: Keep track of how much we use that service so that we can budget for it next year. We also need to look into other recycling companies because right now we pay \$750.00/month to provide the recycling bins behind Town Hall.

Supervisor Fisher: The Village is dissolving the Village Court and the Town will need to absorb it so that will need to go into next year's budget.

Brian Brockway: 2 of the highway employees are going to get their CDL Licenses through BOCES. The cost is \$550.00 for 24 hours of Entry Level Driver Training and \$1,750.00 for 15 hours of Class B driving.

Supervisor Fisher: The Town pays for the training as long as they remain working for the Town for 3 years; if not they have to reimburse the Town.

Brian Brockway: It has been a 2 year process to get a new truck; should we start looking now to replace the plow truck that will need replacing in 2 years?

Supervisor Fisher: Get some prices if you can.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Lynne Griffin: I agree with Brian about looking now for trucks that may need to be replaced in a couple years. Also, I have noticed a lot of junk along Route 4 properties; this is supposed to be a scenic byway.

Katie DeGroot: I have noticed the same thing when heading south of the Village, not a good entrance or exit.

Supervisor Fisher: I will talk with Code Enforcement Officer Matt French and see if he has been to these properties and needs to go back.

Kyle Cozzens: On April 21st Promote Fort Edward is hosting the Canal Clean Sweep Event. The Village is providing garbage bags and we wanted to ask if the Town could pick up the bags when we are finished or we can drop them off at the Highway Garage?

Supervisor Fisher: Coordinate with Brian and he can pick them up.

Councilman Suprenant: What are they doing down there on the trail now?

Kyle Cozzens: I rode down there a couple weeks ago and it was a disaster, no one told the CCT working group. Their permit hadn't started when they started the work and Canal Corp. didn't know they had started it so they sent a cease and desist. They closed the trail for a few days to assess that and basically it's an access road to get out to the tracks to do the power transmission project. Up until a week ago they were just building the access road and I noted a bunch of safety concerns such as dump trucks going in and out without flaggers. The road is complete and until approximately May 5th there will be flaggers and signage so that people using the trail will be

able to get through. When they are finished they are supposed to put it back to how it was or better; if they continue on into the summer that will be a blow to tourism.

Councilwoman Collier: I also noticed that they are taking all of the parking up there.

Mike LaRose: I am here to address fire hydrants on Burgoyne Ave. I have been trying to get this solved for the past 3 years. I have provided an estimate on the 2nd page of the handout. The problem is that mutual aid departments do not have the proper adaptors to the hydrants. Fort Edward Fire Department does have an adaptor but I think you understand that this is time we are wasting. I have spoken with Brian and the Fire Chiefs about it and we would like something to be done. These hydrants are old, I am not saying that we need brand new ones but I would like to see the adaptor on there to help the mutual aid departments that are coming in.

Supervisor Fisher: There are 4 of them like that?

Mike LaRose: Yes, 3 in the Town and 1 in the Village.

Brian Brockway: Cooper St. is in the Village and that hydrant has been leaking water for 7 years. I did talk to Rural Water today and they said they are legal hydrants.

Supervisor Fisher: You need 4 adaptors at \$500.00 each?

Mike LaRose: Yes, that is the price that I got from EJP.

Supervisor Fisher: We need to get it fixed; we can pay \$2,000.00 and get \$500.00 from the Village.

Councilman Middleton: How many does the Fire Dept. have?

Darcy Miller: We have 3 on 3 trucks.

MOTION by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to approve the purchase of 4 adaptors for the fire hydrants that need them on Burgoyne Ave. at a price of \$500.00 each **ALL AYES**

Katie DeGroot: I was driving through Greenwich and noticed that Kings Dairy has tiled all of their fields with black plastic to help with drainage in the clay. Black plastic isn't allowed it has to be white. I just feel all of that plastic will break down and that land will forever be polluted. I am surprised it hasn't been brought up at the County meetings.

Councilman Middleton: I believe when that land was sold it was to remain farmland forever.

Councilman Middleton: Frank Colvin will be retiring the 1st of the year and I feel we should advertise for the job and see what we get for applications.

Councilman Suprenant: Brian doesn't want to hire anyone for a couple months.

Brian Brockway: The new hire will be starting on garbage.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Dated: April 11, 2024

Aimee Ives, Town Clerk