

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022 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 Middleton
Councilwoman Collier
Councilman Suprenant
Councilwoman Mullen

OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Ives, Roseanne Lemery, Elizabeth O’Leary, Steve Davie, Brian Brockway, Richard Belden, Colleen LaPan, Cheryl Powers, Heidi Brownell, Derek Shaw, Sara Tompkins, Mike Dickinson, Melissa Dickinson, Harrison Downs and Town Clerk Aimee Mahoney

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Collier to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 11, 2022 **ALL AYES**

APPROVAL OF REPORTS: MOTION by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to approve the reports of the Town Clerk Monthly, Town Justice, Building Inspector, Highway, Supervisor, Dog Control Officer & Assessor **ALL AYES**

APPROVAL OF BILLS: MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Suprenant to approve Abstract #4 in the amount of \$88,355.19 **ALL AYES**

ABSTRACT #4

GENERAL A: 10651-10657,10668-10696	\$37,915.54
GENERAL B: 10697-10702	\$ 8,655.06
HIGHWAY: 10708-10716	\$12,056.42
MUNICIPAL: 10658,10703-10706	\$ 5,650.83
SPECIAL LIGHTING: 10659-10663	\$ 4,206.25
SPECIAL WATER: 10664-10666,10707	\$19,476.56
SPECIAL WATER 2: 10667	\$ 394.53

TOTAL: \$88,355.19

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 18 OF 2022

MOTION BY COUNCILMAN MIDDLETON

SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN COLLIER

WHEREAS, the Freight House is in need of extensive repairs, and

WHEREAS, an inspection of the damage was performed by Michael Neffke Designs and it was recommended that the following repairs be made ASAP:

- Replace missing slates on roof
- Repair 2 holes in the ceiling
- Replace main support post, repair the wooden beam
- Fix the Truss
- Repair exterior siding
- Replications of 2 exterior missing ornate brackets for the eaves

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the repairs is \$12,000.00, and

WHEREAS, in addition to the \$12,000.00 an additional \$1,000.00 is needed to secure the building due to vandals causing significant damage to the building as well as an additional \$1,000.00-\$2,000.00 for issues not apparent at the time of inspection or that have worsened over time.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Edward would like to use \$15,000.00 of the American Rescue Plan Funds to make the necessary repairs to the Fright House.

Dated: April 11, 2022

Vote: Councilman Middleton – AYE
Councilwoman Collier – AYE
Councilman Suprenant – AYE
Councilwoman Mullen – AYE
Supervisor Fisher - AYE

**Bid Opening
Pool Repair**

Councilman Middleton: A request for proposals went out March 31, 2022 to repair the community pool to get it up and running for the season. We received 1 bid from PCC Contracting in the amount of \$46,560.00 and they can begin the work immediately in order to be open for the season. The bid includes supervision, labor, material and equipment necessary to perform the detailed work.

MOTION by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilwoman Collier to accept and award the bid for pool repairs to PCC Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$46,560.00 **ALL AYES**

Supervisor Fisher: We are looking for lifeguards and the lifeguard course is offered free to Washington County residents during April break at the Hudson Falls Middle School and the contact at the County for that is Mike Gray.

Fee Schedule Changes

Councilman Middleton: I noticed on the fee schedule that the fees for a permit for a garage are incorrect. Current price is \$100.00 for a 24'x24' garage and \$10.00 for every additional square foot. I would propose changing it to \$100.00 plus \$25.00 for each additional 250sf. Also there is no fee listed for residential new construction for anything small than 1,200sf. I spoke with Matt French and he would like to see \$175.00 for anything under 1,200sf as well as the following:

- 1,200-2,900sf - \$325.00
- 3,000-4,999sf - \$600.00
- 5,000-7,999sf - \$850.00

Under additions or Alterations – Residential - .30 per sq. ft. instead of .50 per sq. ft.

MOTION by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to set a Public Hearing for May 9, 2022 at 6:55pm to discuss changes to the fee schedule **ALL AYES**

Process Server

Supervisor Fisher: The Code Enforcement Officer is in need of a process server to serve a summons when needed.

Councilman Suprenant: Check with the Town Attorney and see if they have one at their firm.

Library Funds Request

Supervisor Fisher: We received a letter from the Fort Edward Free Library looking for assistance with the unanticipated, unbudgeted costs due to COVID. A new ventilation system is needed to help promote acceptable air quality to allow the library to remain a safe place for local patrons. They are requesting \$6,000.00 from the Town as well as from the Village to come out of the Rescue Plan Funds received by both.

Councilman Suprenant: The Library hosts a lot of great programs for the kids every year.

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Suprenant to approve a one-time payment of \$6,000.00 out of the American rescue Plan Funds to the Fort Edward Free Library to help with the cost of a new ventilation system **ALL AYES**

OTHER BUSINESS:

Brian Brockway:

- The estimated cost for a new garbage truck is around \$180,000.00.
- Argyle would like to purchase one of the trucks that we have up at the landfill that has already been declared surplus.
- I would like to advertise the bucket truck
- Terry and I met with Dornan regarding the trees at the cemetery on Breton Lane and he can't do it because he doesn't own a crane.
- Tom Hill looked at the trees and quoted \$2,750.00/day with worst case scenario being a total of \$5,000.00

MOTION by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to hire Tom Hill to remove the trees at the cemetery on Breton Lane for a price not to exceed \$5,000.00 **ALL AYES**

Supervisor Fisher: Our Attorney is currently looking over the lease purchase proposal from SolaREIT for the purchase of the AC Power solar project lease on Leavy Hollow. I spoke with Boralex and they are waiting on NYSERDA before they move forward.

Councilman Middleton: Contingent on the Village matching us, I would like to see \$1,500.00 go to the Chamber of Commerce for a prize or prizes for the most improved house and business in the Town and Village as a way to give incentive to residents to keep up their homes.

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Suprenant to donate \$1,500.00 to the Chamber of Commerce to award the most improved house and business in the Town and Village contingent on the Village matching our \$1,500.00 **ALL AYES**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Therese Gillis: I reached out to the Canal Corp. because of the activity on the wharf which really does not lie in Canal Side Energy Park; it's owned by Canal Corp. I first reached out to Michael Taylor who was able to give me a lot of information about activity on the wharf and also getting the walkway opened up back down to the gate house. He put me in contact with Shane Mahar, Jacqueline Schillinger and Joseph Maloney and after 3 emails to Joseph Maloney I did hear back from Jacqueline Schillinger with information that there was a plan to re-establish public access to that lot but she had no information available to her about who would be controlling it. I would like you guys to reach out to him because I don't know if anyone attended the IDA meeting this week but I listened to it on YouTube and there was a lot of discussion about Braen Quarry using that wharf to move sediment rock and they are proposing to do it 24/7 from April to November. The company is from Fort Ann and they do have wharf activity that goes on in Fort Ann but this will be for their big rock that they will be shipping down to New York City. They are projecting 3 or 4 trucks/hour 24/7. That is a lot of activity behind Sara and Derek's house. Last time we had activity on the wharf we had somebody we could talk to if something unusual was going on.

Councilman Suprenant: I think it would be like anything else on the river; Canal Corp. will give a permit and that's it they can use it.

Therese Gillis: Can we give input to Canal Corp. before a permit is issued that this is 100 feet from a residence?

Councilman Suprenant: Get ahold of Brian Stratton, he's the Commissioner.

Sara Tompkins: Is there a noise ordinance in the Town?

Councilman Suprenant: Yes

Sara Tompkins: Do they have to abide by that being that they own the Canal or are they separate from Town ordinances?

Supervisor Fisher: This will be a private company using Canal Corp.'s Wharf and I believe there are regulations for a private company.

Councilman Suprenant: Our Planning Board can put some regulations on it as far as noise and stuff is considered. As far as the Canal Corp. goes they are looking for money and this is going to be a money maker for them.

Roseanne Lemery: When this project comes before the planning board they can set some barriers and limitations.

Councilman Middleton: All of these concerns are standard to the planning board.

Roseanne Lemery: If they are of the opinion that they don't need to file any approvals then they are sadly mistaken.

Sara Tompkins: Who can I complain to?

Councilman Suprenant: There isn't anything going on right now to complain about, they have not filed anything with the Town. When and if they file an application with the Planning Board then they will hold a public hearing and you can come and voice your concerns then.

Sara Tompkins: East Rd. is in pretty rough shape, lots of destruction on that road, pot holes and water damage by the farm, the most recent rain is washing out the side of the road. There has also been some garbage dumping on the road as well.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Suprenant to adjourn the meeting at 8:13pm **ALL AYES**

Dated: April 14, 2022

Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk

