

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD ON MONDAY JULY 9, 2018 AT TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.

Supervisor Middleton opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Middleton
Councilman Orsini
Councilman Mercier
Councilman Fisher
Councilwoman Mullen

OTHERS PRESENT: Todd Humiston, Brian Brockway, Richard Belden, Katie DeGroot, Theresa Rose, Michael Kolakovic, Gwendolyn Craig, Renee Bouplon, Mark Belden, Nasser Awadeh and Town Attorney Mary-Ellen Stockwell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilman Orsini to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 11, 2018 **ALL AYES**

APPROVAL OF THE REPORTS: MOTION by Councilman Mercier, Seconded by Councilman Fisher to approve the reports of Town Clerk Monthly, Town Justice, Building Inspector, Highway, Assessor, Supervisor & Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer **ALL AYES**

APPROVAL OF BILLS: MOTION by Councilman Orsini, Seconded by Councilman Fisher to approve Abstract #7 in the amount of \$152,120.80 **ALL AYES**

ABSTRACT #7

GENERAL A: 7514-7516,75197555	\$ 16,413.12
GENERAL B: 7556-7566	\$ 1,289.00
HIGHWAY: 7567-7579	\$130,029.16
MUNICIPAL: 7580-7586	\$ 1,473.42
SPECIAL LIGHTING: 7517,7587-7588	\$ 2,296.11
SPECIAL WATER: 7518,7589-7592	\$ 541.05
SPECIAL WATER 2: 7593-7594	\$ 78.94

Brian Brockway: The reason that the highway bills are so high is the paving bills for the year are included; we get reimbursed \$125,000.00 through CHIPS.

RESOLUTIONS:

**TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, STATE OF NEW YORK**

Resolution Number 21 of 2018
Adopted July 9, 2018

Introduced by Councilman Timothy Fisher
who moved its adoption.

Seconded by Councilwoman Jeanie Mullen

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
EFFICIENCY PROJECT GRANT FOR COUNTYWIDE ASSESSOR SERVICES AND
AUTHORIZE LOCAL MATCH**

WHEREAS, the State of New York has made Local Government Efficiency Grants available through the Department of State to promote intergovernmental cooperation, and

WHEREAS, the County Shared Services Plan recommends implementing Intermunicipal shared services for Real Property Assessment, and

WHEREAS, valuation of tax parcels in participating municipalities is outdated and revaluation of these parcels will be required to participate, and

WHEREAS, this grant would offset the revaluation costs for the County and various municipalities, and

WHEREAS, this grant requires a local match by the County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Administrator is hereby authorized to submit a grant application for a Local Government Efficiency Grant, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Washington County hereby commits to the local government share should the grant be received, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to execute those documents necessary for the application and award, if received, in a form approved by the County Attorney.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: There is a 10% local cost to the grant. The County will contract for real property valuation services. The grant would defer costs associated with that purchase for the County and other municipalities.

{Seal}

Vote: Supervisor Middleton – AYE
Councilman Orsini - AYE

Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk
Town of Fort Edward

Councilman Mercier - AYE
Councilman Fisher - AYE
Councilwoman Mullen - AYE

BUSINESS:

**Agricultural Stewardship Association
Renee Bouplon**

Renee Bouplon: We are asking for the Town's endorsement for the Simply Grazin' farm application for Round 16 of the Farmland Protection Implementation Grants Program. The approximately 287-acre farm is located in Fort Edward and is owned by Mark Faille. Simply Grazin' is an organic pork and grass-fed beef operation that sells to major retailers. As part of the grant the State pays 75% of project costs as well as the transaction costs. The property is still privately owned and has no impact to the local tax base.

Supervisor Middleton: We will put this on the agenda for the August 13th Town Board meeting; I would like to check with the neighbors in that area before making a decision.

Renee Bouplon: The deadline for the grant application is the end of August.

**Hudson River Valley Greenway Grant
Birding Center**

Funding was approved for the Birding Center Market Analysis Project and the Board has received copies of the MOU between the Greenway and the Town of Fort Edward.

The Board tabled the MOU signing until the August 13th meeting so that the Town Attorney can consult with the Grant Coordinator regarding questions pertaining to the MOU.

National Grid LED Lighting Proposal

The proposal will be placed on file until the August 13th meeting due to no presenter showing for the meeting.

**Chamber of Southern Saratoga County
Rest Area Promotion Package Information**

Supervisor Middleton: I received an e-mail from Peter Bardunias from the Southern Saratoga County Chamber proposing a promotional program where the Town would pay a fee of \$599.00/year to place Fort Edward literature at the Exit 9 Rest Area on the Northway, distribute literature at area fairs, place literature in 2 CSSC offices in Clifton Park & Waterford, Promote Town events through the CSSC calendar and social media, bring Town literature to the Amtrak NY By Rail day in May at NYC's Penn Station, as well as ability to attend events & receive

member discounts. We can think about it and make a decision at the August 13th Town Board meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Michael Kolakovic: I am here asking for the Town Board to approve my business at 280 Broadway. I am looking to open a car repair shop and do general repairs such as oil changes, tune ups, brakes, front end, exhaust, tires, batteries, diagnosing check engine lights, electrical, cooling systems, alignments, wiper blades and transmission service. Our hours would be Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Saturday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and closed Sunday. I have been in the business for 35 years and had my own business in Stillwater from 2009-2014 when I sold it and I currently work for Mavis.

Mark Belden – Planning Board Chairman: I spoke with Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer Matt French and Matt is willing to extend the same conditions that were placed on the previous applicant for his car repair shop provided that you follow through with all conditions imposed by both the Town and County. As long as you keep Matt French satisfied and run a nice business in a mixed use zone then there should not be any issues.

Nasser Awadeh: I own the property at 280 Broadway and I understand the last bad experience. There was a lot of mixed communication between him and I and the Town. If this business or applicant does not apply then his lease will be void and he is aware of that.

- **The applicant was given a copy of all the conditions that need to be met for both the Town and the County to open a car repair shop at 280 Broadway as well as copies of the minutes from the Planning Board meetings when the previous applicant came for Site Plan Review.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Katie DeGroot: How can you stop picking up recycling, isn't that a State mandate?

Supervisor Middleton: I cannot find anywhere where it is a State mandate. We have tried to find another spot that will take the recycling but they all want to charge a high fee.

Brian Brockway: The closest place I have found to bring the recycling for municipalities is Albany and that is not cost effective.

Supervisor Middleton: New York State is behind the times when it comes to recycling, transfer stations are losing money on it also. I can't see raising taxes for recycling when you can take it to the transfer station free of charge.

Katie DeGroot: How are people supposed to know about these changes if they don't get the newspaper or go on the Town's website? I don't recall the Board voting to get rid of recycling.

What about garbage? Is this the beginning of a stoppage of services? Before you get rid of garbage pickup please let the southern end of the Town know.

Councilman Orsini: We were forced out of it; there was no place to take it.

Supervisor Middleton: Back in January when it was discussed by the Board in depth we were picking up the recycling and it was going to the burn plant. The bins out behind this building are paid for by the Village and where do you think they take them?

Katie DeGroot: Can we have a cardboard day? Is there anything we can still recycle?

Councilman Fisher: They will charge us.

Theresa Rose: Can I burn it in a fire pit?

Councilman Fisher: That is a whole different issue, burning is a NYS ENCON law.

Supervisor Middleton: I will tell you that garbage pick-up will be discussed in depth come budget time.

Theresa Rose: Where does the Board sit about the Town wide Garage Sale? 1 free garage sale per year doesn't cut it.

Councilman Orsini: We are talking about it; we do not have a date yet. We are trying to find out when the best time to have it would be. You could always try and sell your things on e-bay or Craig's List or donate it.

Todd Humiston – Dog Control Officer: We have 2 criminal cases and an abandonment case right now. The D.A. is aware that we are seeking restitution for the abandonment case for any fees owed to the Town. I will be on vacation from 7/20-7/29.

Brian Brockway: The firm of Greenman-Pederson reached out to me regarding East Rd. being a Federal Road and eligible for grant money. The grant is an 80% match with possibly 15% more from the State leaving 5% for us. They would like to file an application on our behalf but need Board approval; there is no fee for the application. Approved projects include paving, ditching, lining, signage & guiderail replacement. The Town would either be responsible for 5% or 20% depending on funding.

MOTION by Councilman Orsini, Seconded by Councilman Mercier to have the firm of Greenman-Pederson apply for a grant on the Town's behalf for the repair of East Rd. contingent on Town Attorney review and approval **ALL AYES**

MOTION by Councilman Orsini, Seconded by Councilman Fisher to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation at 7:41 p.m. **ALL AYES**

MOTION by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilman Orsini to come out of Executive Session at 8:26 p.m. **ALL AYES**

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Councilman Orsini, Seconded by Councilman Mercier to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. **ALL AYES**

DATED: July 10, 2018

Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk