

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 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  
Councilman Suprenant  
Councilwoman Collier  
Councilwoman Mullen

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Steve Davie, Caitlin Mahoney, Elizabeth O’Leary, Katie DeGroot, Brian Brockway, Richard Belden, Michael Dickinson, Melanie Dickinson, Nasrene Haj and Town Clerk Aimee Mahoney

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION** by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 12, 2022 **ALL AYES**

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

**APPROVAL OF BILLS: MOTION** by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Collier to approve Abstract #8 in the amount of \$26,597.91 **ALL AYES**

**ABSTRACT #8**

<b>GENERAL A: 10935-10944,10956-10970</b>	<b>\$ 7,664.76</b>
<b>GENERAL B: 10971</b>	<b>\$ 45.50</b>
<b>HIGHWAY: 10972-10981</b>	<b>\$10,645.81</b>
<b>MUNICIPAL: 10945-10946,10982-10986</b>	<b>\$ 4,649.10</b>
<b>SPECIAL LIGHTING: 10947-10951</b>	<b>\$ 3,237.46</b>
<b>SPECIAL WATER: 10952-10954,10987-10988</b>	<b>\$ 241.34</b>
<b>SPECIAL WATER 2: 10955,10989-10990</b>	<b>\$ 113.94</b>

**TOTAL: \$26,597.91**

**BUSINESS:**

**Countryside Overhead Doors  
Quote  
Fort Miller Highway Garage**

**Brian Brockway:** I got a quote to fix the door at the Fort Miller Garage from Countryside Overhead Doors for \$1,843.00; quote includes door, installation and removal of old door.

**MOTION** by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the quote from Countryside Overhead Doors in the amount of \$1,843.00 **ALL AYES**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Supervisor Fisher:** We received a letter from Kerri Culhane and Jason Black who live in Fort Miller thanking Highway Superintendent Brian Brockway and all of the members of the Town Highway Department for their help after the storm on May 12th.

*“We can’t thank you enough for the amazing help and hard work you have given us here in Fort Miller since the storm on July 12<sup>th</sup>. Your speed in getting the rescue squad to our neighbor Penny helped save her life. All you have done and continue to do to clean up the disaster zone is deeply appreciated. Thank you!”*

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Supervisor Fisher:** We have received a lot of good feedback about the pool and the pool crew; James has done a great job.

**Elizabeth O’Leary:** We have had over 400 residents sign up.

**Councilman Suprenant:** Recreation had a pool party and over 100 kids attended, it was money well spent to fix the pool.

**Supervisor Fisher:** There is some electrical work that needs to be done at the pool and seeing as the grant will take some time we can use the ARPA funds to cover that cost and there is grass inside the pool area that needs to be removed and replaced with concrete.

**Councilman Suprenant:** I have been working on getting quotes for a kayak dock at the yacht basin and hopefully by the end of the year we will have one.

**Nasrene Haj:** Regarding the kayak launch, is that connected to what we had talked about previously with Carrie Woerner?

**Supervisor Fisher:** Yes, this is something that we had talked about even before that as far as getting pricing.

**Nasrene Haj:** The reason I am asking is because the guys at Evergreen had done some research on an accessible Kayak launch and I was wondering if we share that with you if we could reach out to them. If you have mobility issues or some type of disability you can still use this launch.

**Councilman Suprenant:** I have seen where they have a chair where people can get onto the dock.

**Supervisor Fisher:** We have the \$40,000.00 planning grant that you guys can use however you see fit.

**Nasrene Haj:** I have left a message for ELAN asking if they thought that they could do anything in time for the application date and if not could they be brought on for the strategic consulting piece that comes after the application. We have drafted a description of 150 words and the only other thing we need is a map that shows the boundaries of the Town and the Village to draw out what we consider to be the downtown focus area. That area does not have to be set in stone so if you want to add an extra block on or remove one we can do that, it is just for them to get a general idea of what area we are trying to revitalize. We were thinking from the train station down and then from the hotel to the Old Fort House Museum.

**Councilman Middleton:** Seeing as the Town is going to submit it I would like to see it at least go up as far as the Agway building just in case it may be able to help develop that.

**Nasrene Haj:** The way that they talk about it is the downtown area so we would just have to decide if that is included. When we were at the Village meeting last week they are applying for a different grant under Restore New York and they are specifically trying to do the two buildings on the corner. The big thing that they talk about in this grant is showing that this isn't the only money you are relying on so yes we can definitely include that but we also want to be strategic in how we define downtown and where we are trying to send people getting off the train and whether or not you can walk there. We can include that or not for this purpose and then expand or take away for the actual application which is due September 23<sup>rd</sup>. By submitting this letter of intent you have access to support and services through the department that is running this that you definitely want to take advantage of.

**Councilman Suprenant:** Supervisor Fisher and I met with the two developers that we worked with for Market 32 and they said brick and mortar places are just a tough sell. I asked about a Tractor Supply and they won't put anything in within 30 miles of their stores. I was thinking maybe it could be used as affordable housing or senior apartments. The building is huge and you wouldn't have to destroy the parking lot.

**Councilman Middleton:** I just think it is too valuable a piece of property on our main street.

**Nasrene Haj:** The grant that the Village is applying for, the Town could apply for also but it is due in 3 days but I think they might have another round and what they want to see for that one is that you have a plan and an end goal for that spot. I can see if there is another one coming up but it might be worth sending a letter of intent for that also.

**Supervisor Fisher:** It's privately owned right now.

**Councilman Middleton:** There were several grants for senior housing.

**Councilman Suprenant:** Reach out to Homefront.

**Councilman Middleton:** We have a lot of elderly people that move away because we don't have anything for them.

**Councilman Suprenant:** We also brought the developers down to look at the bank, they were interested in putting a dispensary in there and then they backed out.

**Katie DeGroot:** Sarah Idleman from Greenwich is coming to our next meeting; she has been through this process and is also on the board of the park in Schuylerville. I think having developers come at some point would be a really good idea. I have friends that go back and forth to the city all the time and they drive to Albany because they have to leave their car and there is no place to leave a car at this train station overnight.

**Supervisor Fisher:** Yes there is a parking lot across from the train station for people to leave their cars overnight.

**Katie DeGroot:** How many cars can it hold?

**Supervisor Fisher:** 4 or 5 cars.

**Katie DeGroot:** When I was at the farmers market I heard that the Village had turned down electric charging stations.

**Mike Dickinson:** No, they didn't turn it down they want to reduce it from 8 spaces down to 4 for the parking lot on East St. I see it as another way to bring people to Fort Edward and stop.

**Katie DeGroot:** Would they put any at the train station?

**Mike Dickinson:** We have an issue at the train station with the bicycle shop. They think they need 20 spaces, we think they need 4. The parking lot on East St. is visible from Broadway.

**Councilman Suprenant:** They put in a handicap ramp to get the wheelchairs into the train but the doors aren't wide enough on the train to get the wheelchairs in.

**Brian Brockway:**

- I met with the resident of 33 Thomas Ave. 2 years ago, we re-dug the ditch and got the culvert working and at that time he was going to put 2 dry wells in and that hasn't happened. His driveway is 6" lower than the road and he is blaming it on the paving that was done in 2002. He called in June because he gets flooded in heavy rain. He pumps 365 days/year because he is sitting on a water table. I will replace the bad culvert but if he is going to have his driveway black topped we should work together and do the culvert at that time and that is what I told him and I haven't heard back from him since June.
- We blacktopped last week: Cary Rd, patched the bad spot on DeGroot Rd., finished Blackhouse which is 20' wide now from County Rte. 46 to Route 4 and East Rd. from the town line to Ormsby's.

**Councilman Suprenant:** Any word on getting the bucket truck with Argyle?

**Brian Brockway:** He brought it up to his Board and they are going to put it in their budget for next year. They would like to share one; it will be a big savings for both Towns.

- Since we have blacktopped can we pay the Peckham bill early so we can get in for the next round of CHIPS money in September otherwise we won't be able to get in until December and we won't get our money until February or March.

**MOTION** by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to pay the Peckham Materials blacktop bill before audit to submit for the September CHIPS money **ALL AYES**

**Councilman Middleton:** Are they going to re-post the bridge in Fort Miller?

**Brian Brockway:** I haven't heard that they are going to.

**Supervisor Fisher:** I received a voicemail saying they are going to be re-posting it.

**Brian Brockway:** I haven't received any letters yet like I did for the East Rd. Bridge.

**Supervisor Fisher:** I got a letter from the Washington County Sewer District #1 & #2 asking that any large projects go to them so they are not the last to find out. Also if you have a problem at your home you should call them first before a plumber.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to adjourn the meeting at 7:42pm **ALL AYES**

Dated: August 11, 2022

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Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk