

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD PUBLIC HEARINGS AND REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2023 AT TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 6:50 P.M.**

Supervisor Fisher opened the public hearing at 6:52pm

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

**ABSENT:** Councilwoman Collier

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Frank Burkhardt, Elizabeth O’Leary, Brian Brockway, Donna Brockway, Richard Belden, Peter Ives, Katie DeGroot and Town Attorney Bill Nikas

The following notice was published in The Post Star on October 16, 2023:

**TOWN OF FORT EDWARD  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Fort Edward on October 23, 2023 at 6:50 p.m. at Town Hall, 118 Broadway, Fort Edward, NY regarding the consideration of a proposed Local Law of the Town of Fort Edward for the year 2023 which would amend the Town Code by adding the enclosed local law entitled: “A Local Law Amending Chapter 51 of the Town Code of the Town of Fort Edward, Fire Prevention and Building Code to add thereto a New Article X Entitled Property Maintenance Code.

Any resident of the Town of Fort Edward is entitled to be heard upon said proposed Local Law at such public hearing. Copies of said proposed Local Law are available for review at the Town of Fort Edward Clerk’s office.

By order of the Town Board of the Town of Fort Edward, dated October 23, 2023.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MOTION** by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to close the public hearing at 6:55pm **ALL AYES**

Supervisor Fisher opened the public hearing at 6:55pm

The following notice was published in The Post Star on October 16, 2023:

**TOWN OF FORT EDWARD  
NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET HEARING**

Notice is hereby given, the preliminary budget for the Town of Fort Edward,

Washington County, New York, for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024, has been completed and filed in the Office of the Town Clerk, 118 Broadway, Fort Edward, New York where it is available for inspection during regular business hours.

Further notice is hereby given, the Town Board will hold a public hearing thereon Monday, October 23, 2023 at 6:55 P.M. at the Town Hall, 118 Broadway, Fort Edward, New York and at such hearing any person may be heard.

Pursuant to Section 113 of the Town Law, the proposed salaries of the following town officers are hereby specified as follows:

Supervisor	- \$ 11,360
Town Councilman (4)	- \$ 5,125
Superintendent of Hwy	- \$ 70,788
Town Clerk/Collector	- \$ 50,425
Town Justice	- \$ 17,394

In addition, REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW-SECTION 495

Exemption report: shows total assessed value on the final assessment roll that is exempt from taxation: shows the cumulative impact of all exemptions granted: this report is part of the final budget, and made available at the Town Hall.

Publish: October 16, 2023

**Councilman Suprenant:** The overall increase from last year is 1.006%. I have a question about the interest on the Water District 2 loan, why are we paying more in interest than principal.

**Peter Ives:** It is due to the length of the loan.

**Supervisor Fisher:** I believe we are locked in to that rate.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MOTION** by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to close the public hearing at 6:59pm **ALL AYES**

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

Pledge of Allegiance

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

**ABSENT:** Councilwoman Collier

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Frank Burkhardt, Elizabeth O’Leary, Brian Brockway, Donna Brockway, Richard Belden, Peter Ives, Katie DeGroot and Town Attorney Bill Nikas

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION** by Councilwoman Mullen, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 11, 2023 and 2024 budget workshop of September 28, 2023 **ALL AYES**

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

**APPROVAL OF BILLS: MOTION** by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Suprenant to approve Abstract #10 in the amount of \$62,531.95 **ALL AYES**

**ABSTRACT #10**

<b>GENERAL A: 11954-11965,11975-11996</b>	<b>\$14,975.27</b>
<b>GENERAL B: 11997</b>	<b>\$ 7,500.00</b>
<b>HIGHWAY: 11998-12007</b>	<b>\$ 9,571.02</b>
<b>MUNICIPAL: 11966-11967,12008-12010</b>	<b>\$ 1,765.69</b>
<b>SPECIAL LIGHTING: 11968-11969</b>	<b>\$ 2,751.20</b>
<b>SPECIAL WATER: 11970-11972,12011- 12017</b>	<b>\$25,854.10</b>
<b>SPECIAL WATER 2: 11973-11974,12018-12019</b>	<b>\$ 114.67</b>

**TOTAL: \$62,531.95**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 14 OF 2023**

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN SUPRENANT**

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MIDDLETON**

**AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 51 OF THE CODE “FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING CODE” TO ADD THERETO A NEW ARTICLE X ENTITLED “PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE”**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Fort Edward (herein the “Board”) is considering the adoption of Local Law Number 1 of 2023 which would, if adopted, amend Chapter 51 of the Code of the Town of Fort Edward by adding a new Article, to be entitled “Article X: Property Maintenance Code”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board finds that the adoption of Local Law No. 1 of 2023 is a necessary and proper exercise of authority by the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, a public hearing on the proposed adoption of Local Law No. 1 of 2023 was duly conducted on October 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has considered the public comments made at the public hearing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board, serving as lead agency for this unlisted action under SEQRA, reviewed a short environmental assessment form and determined that the action does not present any adverse environmental impacts; and

**WHEREAS**, after thorough review and deliberation, the Board proposes to adopt Local Law No. 1 of 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Attorney for the Town has prepared the necessary documents for filing this local law with the Secretary of State including the text of the law itself.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board adopts Local Law No. 1 of 2023, and Chapter 51 is hereby amended; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby authorizes the Town Clerk and Attorney for the Town to make such minor modifications to the local law documents as they deem necessary, to execute and file the said documents as required by law, and to take all of the necessary actions for the promulgation thereof.

Roll Call:

Supervisor Fisher - AYE  
Councilperson Suprenant - AYE  
Councilperson Middleton - AYE  
Councilperson Collier - ABSENT  
Councilperson Mullen - AYE

I hereby certify that this Resolution was duly adopted by the Fort Edward Town Board at a regular meeting of the Town Board conducted on October 23, 2023.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk  
Town of Fort Edward

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Thank you card from the Fort Edward Library for their annual stipend from the Town to help with expenses

**Councilman Suprenant:** The library does a great job for the community.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Brian Brockway:** I got an estimate of \$5,000.00 to get the garbage truck frame welded and the piece of metal needed for the job will cost approximately \$440.00 from Stonebridge; then it will pass inspection.

**MOTION** by Councilman Suprenant, Seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve repair of the garbage truck frame to get it inspected and back on the road **ALL AYES**

**Brian Brockway:** I would like to purchase \$10,000.00 worth of culvert pipe; we have nothing for inventory right now.

**Brian Brockway:** Argyle is willing to go halves on a Bucket Truck. The truck is out of Virginia and will be certified before we purchase it and is priced at \$38,000.00. We would have to get a shared services agreement drawn up. The truck will be stored here because we have room for it so we would have to insure it and maybe they could reimburse us for their half or pay every other year.

**Supervisor Fisher:** I think we should ask the Village if they want to go in on it as well and then it would be 1/3 of the cost.

**MOTION** by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to go in on the purchase of a bucket truck at a price of \$38,000.00 with 2 possibly 3 entities **ALL AYES**

**Councilman Suprenant:** Any update on when the new pick-up truck will arrive?

**Brian Brockway:** I know that it left the factory and is on its way but I do not have an actual date.

**Councilman Middleton:** I encourage everyone to go look at the church that Paul Breton built at the cemetery on Breton Lane. We should contact The Chronicle and see if they will do a story about it to recognize Mr. Breton's efforts as well as our Highway Dept. for their help with the tree removal.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Katie DeGroot:** Can you explain the specs of Local Law #1.

**Attorney Nikas:** The current code is specific to buildings whereas the property maintenance code is a state code that covers quality of life issues which are not in the Town's current building code.

**Katie DeGroot:** Who makes the call on that?

**Attorney Nikas:** The Code Enforcement Officer.

**Supervisor Fisher:** We have complaint forms that can be filled out and given to the Code Enforcement Officer.

**Katie DeGroot:** The RV place on Route 4 doesn't look good. I spoke with the Planning Board Chairman about this to see if they were in violation of any approvals and he said they were not.

**Councilman Suprenant:** Katie, I spoke with someone at Irving Tissue about the Midland Trucks on Route 4 and was told they take that Route to take a break from the Northway.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilman Suprenant to adjourn the meeting at 7:28pm **ALL AYES**

Dated: October 26, 2023

---

Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk