

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 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 Middleton
Councilwoman Collier
Councilwoman Mullen

ABSENT: Councilman Suprenant

OTHERS PRESENT: Chuck Bump, Amy Runnals, Elizabeth O’Leary, Kyle Cozzens, Janet Oswald, Gail Cushing, Bruce Cushing, Mary Rowland, Jim Rowland, Roseanne Lemery, Sandy Foley, Brian Brockway, Richard Belden, Maria Rosenblum, Brian Katz, George Sigot, Amelia Peterson, Karl Peterson, Gary Stine, Nina Lockwood, Town Attorney Bill Nikas and Town Clerk Aimee Ives.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION by Councilwoman Collier, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to approve the minutes of the public hearing & regular meeting held on October 15, 2024 **ALL AYES**

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS: MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to approve Abstract #11 in the amount of \$67,132.98 **ALL AYES**

ABSTRACT #11

GENERAL A: 12859-12871,12879-12903	\$15,030.89
GENERAL B: 12904	\$ 49.00
HIGHWAY: 12905-12918	\$10,401.43
MUNICIPAL: 12872-12873, 12919-12924	\$ 6,044.17
SPECIAL LIGHTING: 12874	\$ 3,243.05
SPECIAL WATER: 12875-12877,12925-12929	\$32,321.05
SPECIAL WATER 2: 12878,12930	\$ 43.39

TOTAL: \$67,132.98

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 17 OF 2024

MOTION BY COUNCILWOMAN COLLIER

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MIDDLETON

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2025 TOWN BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Fort Edward held its public hearing on the 2025 Preliminary Budget on October 15, 2024, and

WHEREAS, there was limited public comment on the town budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Fort Edward hereby adopts the 2025 Town Budget in the amount of \$1,794,030.00.

Dated: November 12, 2024

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: 4

NAYS : 0

ABSENT: 1

BUSINESS:

**Mill Park
Fort Miller Resident Concerns/Ideas**

Supervisor Fisher: Before we talk about Mill Park, I want to let you know that the petition for a speed limit reduction on Fort Miller Rd. has been sent to the Washington County Highway Supt. For signature and from there it will go to the State and the process could take up to 2 years.

Maria Rosenblum: We would like to have a back and forth discussion regarding ideas for the park.

Jan Peterson: Who decides what happens at the park?

Supervisor Fisher: The Town with input from the residents.

Jan Peterson: Who decided to take out the berm?

Supervisor Fisher: It wasn't maintained so the Town made the decision to clean it up. It looks a

lot better than it did in my opinion.

Jan Peterson: Who was supposed to take care of it?

Maria Rosenblum: 2 years ago, we removed grapevines and cleaned up and we were going to do it again this year, but the Town took it a step further.

Councilman Middleton: When people can't walk on the sidewalk it becomes a safety concern for us.

Supervisor Fisher: The Berm was overgrown.

George Sigot: We heard you were putting jersey barriers in place of the berm.

Supervisor Fisher: That is not the case.

Brian Katz: What is needed from us? We need to communicate better, we feel punished.

Jan Peterson: The berm was put in place during Merrillyn Pulver's time as Supervisor. How can we improve communication?

Supervisor Fisher: Come to the meetings and have discussions with us.

Brian Katz: It was just wiped out and we feel action was taken without communication.

Councilman Middleton: Ultimately, it's a Town Park and it's an improvement compared to what it was.

Jan Peterson: The berm cut the wind as well.

Nina Lockwood: How will communication happen?

Councilman Middleton: Every spring and fall all edges of the roads are trimmed every year, sometimes 3x/year. The sidewalks were blocked.

Bruce Cushing: I spent 2 days down there cleaning up and left piles and it sat there for 1 ½ years.

Supervisor Fisher: Call Aimee and let her know you need it picked up and she can contact Brian, or you can contact Brian directly.

Maria Rosenblum: People planted specific plants there and we don't know if they will come back.

Kyle Cozzens: I am from Promote Fort Edward, and we have found that having a representative at each meeting is helpful. We have been successful going that route.

Brian Katz: We are not condemning; I just want that to be known.

Gary Stine: We really do appreciate the Highway Dept. they do a great job.

Mary Rowland: I agree, when we had that bad storm the Highway guys were the first ones there.

Maria Rosenblum: The residents on Senecal Lane want to be added to the 15mph signage also.

Supervisor Fisher: It's a dead end.

Nina Lockwood: People drive down there out of curiosity.

Brian Katz: Who owns the forest next to the park?

Councilman Middleton: I believe it's the same people that own the dam.

Brian Katz: Can we be assured that this will remain a park?

Supervisor Fisher: Yes

Pittsburg Tank & Tower Quote

Brian Brockway: It has been 5 years since the water tower was painted and they submitted a quote of \$1,525.00 for inspection of the tank.

Supervisor Fisher: Yes, call and tell them the sooner the better.

Brian Brockway: There was a bill this month for tires on the backhoe and there will be another tire bill next month for the new water truck.

Water District Discussion Canalside Energy Park

Bill Nikas: What is the benefit to the Town of creating the water district, why not let the IDA create it?

Supervisor Fisher: I thought it had to be the Village or the Town. Let the IDA form the district if it is possible.

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Collier to enter executive

session at 7:41pm to discuss contract negotiations **ALL AYES**

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Collier to come out of executive session at 8:22pm **ALL AYES**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Councilman Middleton, Seconded by Councilwoman Collier to adjourn the meeting at 8:22pm **ALL AYES**

Dated: November 18, 2024

Aimee Ives, Town Clerk