

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Supervisor Samuel J. Hall
Councilwoman Gretchen Stark
Councilman Michael Sexton
Councilman George F. Smith
Councilwoman Deborah Witherell

ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Miranda Herringshaw-Town Clerk, Jeffrey Meyer-Attorney for the Town, Ronny Mattison-Highway Superintendent, Mark Paul Milligan/Matt Jones-Enforcement Officer, Christine Milligan-Historian, Mary Davis, Kevin O'Brien, Barb Burch, Pete O'Brien, George Anker, Penny Gould, Bill Bailey, Jo-Jo DeVecchi

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

6:01 p.m. Public Hearing on solar ordinance was opened.

6:02 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith to adjourn public hearing.

Moment of silence was held for the following Fort Ann residents: John Potvin, Leslie Saltsman, John Batchelder.

On motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Sexton to approve tonight's agenda.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilman Sexton to accept the Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes from March 10th, 2025.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Supervisor Hall read the February 2025 monthly financial statement.

Checking Account Balances

General Fund	\$47,395.34
Highway Fund	\$28,487.72
Youth Commission	\$2,267.25
Hadlock Dam Project	\$240.09
Hadlock Park District Fund	\$1,144.47
Consolidated Health District	\$370.48
Trust & Agency Fund	\$5,295.76
Medical Reimbursement Fund	\$6,066.23

Savings Accounts

NYCLASS-General Fund	\$1,208,689.55
NYCLASS-Highway Fund	\$1,309,660.74
NYCLASS-Hadlock Park District	\$254,362.71
NYCLASS-Hadlock Park Reserve	\$ 77,931.85

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Sexton to pay the bills as warranted and audited.

Motion was carried unanimously.

6:09 p.m. Public Comment opened for items listed on tonight's agenda.

6:10 p.m. Public Comment closed without comment.

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Hall- Stated that the Old Stone House Library project had been underway and the repairs were made to the basement, unfortunately there is structural damage and we are at a stand still until the engineer come and takes a look at what we are dealing with. The library will remain closed at this time.

Town Board Member's Report:

Councilwoman Witherell- No news to report.

Councilman Sexton- No new news to report.

Councilman Smith- Stated that the valve has been closed on Hadlock Dam.

Councilwoman Stark stated that on April 19, 2025 there will be a canal cleanup day starting at 10 A.M., anyone is welcome to help clean the canal way to get ready for the upcoming spring and summer months.

The Community Connections newspaper will be available in Town Hall, this newspaper has many activities listed and has a lot of good information- this will be the last paper copy, you can scan the QR code and sign up for emails.

Town Clerk's Report was given for March 2025.

Highway Superintendent Report: The Highway Superintendent reported they have been cleaning up brush, chipping trees, grading & sweeping the roads. Prepping for new culverts and black top on Dewey's Bridge Road.

Enforcement Officer Report: Paper report was given for March 2025.

Dog Control Officer: Paper report was given for the month of March.

Historian: Christine Milligan stated she was asked to speak at a “yelp” event hosted at Battle Hill Brewery, they had a great turn out and Christine was able to provide some history of the Town. She also stated that the historical society has been working on the upcoming 250th celebration of Battle Hill.

Old Business: N/A

New Business:

Motion made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to move the 2009 International to surplus, with the intention on purchasing a truck from the Kingsbury Highway Department.

George Anker came before the Town Board to request a waiver to stay in his travel camper from June to November while his house is being constructed on Pilot Knob. Mr. Anker contacted the Adirondack Park Agency and Lake George Park Commissions, neither of these agency's had a problem with the waiver being granted.

The waver was granted by the Town Board to George Anker from June to November of 2025.

RESOLUTION #47-2025

AUTHORIZING THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO CONTRACT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR THE MOWING OF HIGHWAYS

On motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing the Highway Superintendent to contract with Washington County for the mowing of Highways.”

ADOPTED AYES 5 Sexton, Smith, Stark, Witherell, Hall

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann hereby approves the agreement and authorizes Ronny Mattison, Highway Superintendent, to sign said agreement and file a copy of the agreement in the Town Clerk’s Office.

RESOLUTION #48-2025

APPOINTING DIRECTOR OF 2024 SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled “Resolution appointing Director of 2025 Summer Recreation Program.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Sexton, Smith, Stark, Witherell, Hall

RESOLVED, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby appoints Tara Monroe & Katelyn Wood as the 2025 Director of Summer Recreation Program at an annual salary of \$5,000.00.

RESOLUTION #49-2025

APPOINTING 2025 VOLUNTEER LIFEGUARD

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith to accept resolution “Appointing 2025 volunteer lifeguard.”

ADOPTED AYES 4 Sexton, Smith, Witherell,Hall

ABSTAIN 1 Stark

RESOLVED, that the Fort Ann Town Board does hereby appoint Gretchen Stark, 364 Hadlock Pond Road, Fort Ann, New York 12827 to serve as a volunteer, without compensation of any sort, as a lifeguard for the summer of 2025.

RESOLUTION #50-2025

AUTHORIZING SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACT WITH NYS DEC TO YORK RAKE SHELVING ROCK PARKING LOTS TRASH COLLECTION AND YORK RAKE DACY CLEARING ROAD

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Authorizing Supervisor to Execute Contract with NYS DEC to York Rake Shelving Rock Parking Lots, Trash Collection and York Rake Dacy Clearing Road."

ADOPTED AYES 5 Sexton, Smith, Stark, Witherell, Hall

RESOLVED, the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all agreements and related documents associated there with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, to York Rake Shelving Rock Parking Lots, trash collection and York rake Dacy Clearing Road.

RESOLUTION #51-2025

RESOLUTION ADOPTING PROPOSED ORDINANCE REGULATING THE SITING OF SOLAR ARRAYS IN THE TOWN OF FORT ANN

On motion of Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Smith to accept resolution entitled "Resolution adopting proposed ordinance regulating the siting of solar arrays in the Town of Fort Ann"

ADOPTED AYES 5 Sexton, Smith, Stark, Witherell, Hall

RESOLVED, the Board, upon due deliberation of the proposed Ordinance and the comments presented at the public hearing, finds that the adoption of the same shall be in the best interests of the Town and protects the public health, safety and welfare. The proposed Ordinance is designed to regulate the installation and use of solar energy collectors balancing the rights of all property owners

6:51 p.m. Open Public Discussion

Jo-Jo DeVechhi stated her dismay with "Boo-Town" and stated that she will be staying on top of all the stipulations put in place by the planning board, and hopes the new code enforcement officer(s) are up to date with all of the information to ensure that the rules are that were put in place are being followed by "Boo Town".

6:56 p.m. **Closed Public Discussion**

6:56 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Sexton to return to public session and to adjourn.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Total Abstracts:	General:	\$ 60,840.49
	Highway:	\$ 34,297.49
	Hadlock:	\$ 3,550.00

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda Herringshaw, Town Clerk

Dated: April 15, 2025