

VILLAGE OF FORT EDWARD REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 1, 2010

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00pm BY MAYOR TRAVER

ROLL CALL: Mayor Traver, Trustee Forte, Boucher, Devoe & Williams

OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy-Clerk Lyons, Dave Armando (Code/Zoning), Kevin Stimpson (Highway), Josh Fish (Police), Arv O'Connell (Water)

ATTORNEY: Matthew F. Fuller, Esq.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeanne Mullen, Jim Durler, Jim Thatcher (Avalon Assts.)

THESE ARE NOT OFFICIALLY ADOPTED MINUTES AND ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD AND STAFF REVISIONS. ANY REVISION WILL APPEAR ON THE FOLLOWING MONTHS MINUTES AND WILL STATE SUCH APPROVAL OF SAID MINUTES.

A motion to approve the regular minutes of January 4, 2010 was made by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Forte. **ALL AYES.**

Monthly Reports

Code 39 & 43 Seminary was reported with code issues today. A resident dropped off pictures showing the deteriorating condition of both homes. Both Trustee Devoe addressed concerns with the condition of these locations while Trustee Williams said that a resident contacted him this weekend in regards to these locations.

Trustee Devoe asked D. Armando if he was aware of the 55' tractor-trailer that has been sitting in front of 1 Liberty Street. This is a one-way street, how will the tractor be getting off Liberty Street? **D. Armando stated he would follow up with the tenant.**

Street Mayor Traver inquired as to the status of K. Stimpson's site visit to Irving Tissue. **K. Stimpson indicated that while the sill fences are up there are some areas that will need to be cleared of debris or replaced once the ground thaws. The inlets have been covered. K. Stimpson said that Tim Smith from CR Meyer has a book a weekly reports that he has done since he took over.** Mayor Traver recommended that this be monitored closely to make sure that they stay in compliance with DEC standards.

Mayor Traver asked D. Armando what is the status of the Irving Tissue entrance directly off of McCrea Street. **D. Armando stated that this topic was discussed at the January planning board meeting. At that meeting Ralph Forte stated that this entrance would only be used in the case of an emergency. All personnel, including CR Meyer employees, will use the main entrance.**

Trustee Devoe thanked the street department for their assistance with removing the dirt from the Hudson Headwaters location. They removed multiple loads of dirt, trucked it to ESMI and spent the better portion of a day working to address this issue.

There being no further discussion or comments, a motion to accept the monthly reports for the Clerk-Treasurer, Planning Board minutes or December 2009, Village Justice, Water Superintendent, Street Superintendent, Police Chief and Code Enforcement Officer was made by Trustee Devoe, seconded by Trustee Boucher. **All ayes.**

New Business

A motion by Trustee Forte, seconded by Trustee Williams to adopt **Resolution #55** which states:

WHEREAS, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby appoint the following workers for the Tuesday, March 16, 2010 Village General Election and Village Special Election:

Inspectors at a rate of \$9.00 per hour:

Republican	Democrat
Mary Ann Nichols	Joan Lasarso
June Traver	Patricia Carpenter

Custodians at a rate of \$60.00 if lever machines are used:

Republican
Malcolm Ogden
ALL AYES.

Mayor Traver informed the board that the Village received a memo today from the County that states that lever voting machines will be allowed for use during the March election.

A motion by Trustee Devoe, seconded by Trustee Boucher to adopt **Resolution #56** which states:

WHEREAS, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby authorize the Clerk-Treasurer to loan \$75,000.00 from the General Fund to the Water Fund to pay the final payment on the bond for the Water Filtration Plant additional expenses; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the amount to be paid in full to the General Fund by the end of fiscal year 2009-2010.

ALL AYES.

A Peddling/Soliciting Permit was submitted by LaRoy Hought for do door-to-door sales for energy. Trustee Devoe stated that she is more comfortable with the business hours between 10 and 4pm. Trustee Williams had a discussion with a resident a couple months back in regards to the last company that was selling door-to-door. The resident wasn't comfortable with their approach. The solicitor should refer all questions on the legitimacy of their permit to either the clerk's office or the police department. A brief discussion of the application took place.

A motion to approve the permit on the condition that their business hours are from 10-4, carry a copy of their application with approval and clear photo identification was made by Trustee Boucher, seconded by Trustee Devoe. **ALL AYES.**

A motion by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Forte to authorize the Clerk to pay the following abstracts:

General Fund	\$22,095.85
Water Fund	13,069.08
Air Stripper	14,999.39

PAID BEFORE AUDIT

General Fund	\$11,991.85
Water Fund	4,426.28

Shared Service	94.50
Rourke	607.65

ALL AYES.

Committee Reports

DPW- Bucket Truck

Trustee Williams asked K. Stimpson to update the board as to the status of bucket truck the village has the opportunity to purchase. K. Stimpson stated Hour Electric has a 1985 Ford bucket truck for sale at the cost of \$6000.00. The truck is in good condition and the

highway department has had the chance to test it out. The department has removed smaller trees on Canal Street and larger trees on Marion Street. In addition to removing trees the department would be able to hang banners, flags and maintain the light poles, including changing light bulbs. Having this truck would also save the village money because the street department would now have the ability to remove trees thereby reducing the number of times necessary to contract with an outside vendor for this service. At this time the Town is not interested in sharing the purchase of the vehicle.

Mayor Traver asked if the employees are required complete training prior to using the vehicle. Attorney Fuller stated that the village should contact the insurance carrier to verify training that may be necessary prior to use of the vehicle. Also the village should follow the procurement policy that is in place.

Contract Negotiations

Trustee Williams stated that the committee has had initial conversations with DPW representatives in regards to the upcoming contract. More information will be forwarded to the board at the appropriate time.

Fort Edward School

Trustee Williams informed the board that he was recently approached by Ken Chester the maintenance supervisor at the Fort Edward High School. Ken asked if the village would be interested in sharing services with the school, particularly with snow removal and sanding. A brief discussion took place with the board considering the possibility of trading the maintenance of McIntyre Park for snow removal and sanding.

Attorney Fuller stated that an agreement should be in place prior to trading services. Also the village should be insured on the school's insurance policy as well. Attorney Fuller went on to say this is a viable option but there are issues that need to be discussed and worked out prior to work being done.

K. Stimpson stated that he would contact Troy and Ken to discuss the possibility of sharing services.

Other

Shared Services- DPW Barn

Mayor Traver meet with Mike Ferrell of Vision Engineering. The documents are almost ready to go out to bid for the building as proposed. The intent is to go out to bid then see where the bids come in financially. The village is not obligated to accept any of the bids. If the bids come in and they are financially unacceptable, they can be rejected.

We will need to set a public hearing to approve the bids to go out. Depending on the results of the bids and the funding available we may need to consider doing the project in portions.

Mike Farrell is going to apply for a NYSERTA grant that is available with stimulus money. This may be a source of revenue for the project. Also the County may have money available for pipes and drainage. He will pursue this option as well. Mike Farrell will be attending a meeting at the County on our behalf.

A brief discussion of the MS4 requirements and how the village is currently addressing this program was held. Attorney Fuller stated that FitzGerald Morris Baker Firth would be able to co-sponsor educational outreach to the community.

Franchise Fees

Mayor Traver informed the board that he received a letter from NYCOM in regards to increasing franchise fees from 1% to 3% as a means to boost revenues. A brief discussion of franchise fees took place. Specifically there has been a decrease in the amount of gross receipts. This is due to the increased use of cell phones and the all-in-one packages. In addition the internet service is not included in gross receipts.

Water

A. O'Connell asked the board if there are any plans to paint the water tower. Mayor Traver stated that this is something that has been discussed and possibly should be worked into the water budget.

A discussion of the recently mandated water tests and the current water rates was held. Mayor Traver said that as we move towards budget discussions we would have to take a look at the water rates and minimum usage. In addition perhaps the village should take a second look at how the air stripper is run possibly consider this a revenue option for the village. The majority of the maintenance may be able to be handled by Fort Edward, while larger, more involved tasks can be outsourced on an as needed basis. Mayor Traver said that he would schedule a meeting with Paul Hare at General Electric to discuss options.

Further discussions were held in regards to finding additional revenue sources for the water plant. Mayor Traver discussed the possibility of marketing the sale of water to residents north of the village. A discussion of this option took place. The board requested the Clerk's office to pull numbers of actual usage in Water District I. The main focus of combining users in the north with the village would be to keep the user rates low and to still have enough money to make necessary repairs.

Attorney

Attorney Fuller discussed the current proposal of the Oak Ridge Subdivision as it was presented to the planning board at the December 2009 meeting. Of notable discussion, Attorney Fuller presented the board with an overview of the proposed recreation area as outlined in the updated plans. The subdivision is proposed with two, unconnected phases. The proposed entrance for Phase I is off State Route 197 and the proposed entrance for Phase II is off of Frederick Drive. The planning board recommended to the applicant to connect the two subdivisions with a pedestrian bridge over the wetlands and to add walking paths to the area. In concept the board agreed with the recreation proposal of walking paths and a pedestrian bridge over the wetlands. The board supports the idea of passive recreation in the village. Attorney Fuller reminded the board that while they may agree in concept with the proposed, this is in no way binding or to be interpreted as a final acceptance of the proposal.

Jim Durler briefly addressed the board in regards to the subdivision.

Mayor Traver asked Attorney Fuller if it is ok for the village to set up a meeting with Delaware Engineering to discuss the loss of metered water. Attorney Fuller stated this was acceptable but to notify him each time Delaware comes to the plant or is contacted for assistance.

A motion to set the second public hearing to discuss the local community development needs and consider an application for CDBG funding on Monday, March 1st at 6:30pm was made by Trustee Boucher, seconded by Trustee Williams. All ayes.

There being no further business at 8:20 a motion to adjourn to executive session was made by Trustee Boucher, seconded by Trustee Williams. **ALL AYES.**

There being no further business at 9:10 a motion to adjourn out of executive session was made by Trustee Devoe, seconded by Trustee Forte. **ALL AYES.**

There being no further comments or discussion amongst the board, at 9:10 a motion to adjourn the February monthly meeting was made by Trustee Boucher, seconded by Trustee Williams. **ALL AYES.**

Dated – February 3, 2010

Liann M. Lyons, Deputy Clerk