

**FORT EDWARD VILLAGE BOARD PUBLIC HEARING OF MARCH 29, 2010**

**MAYOR TRAVER CALLED MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:30PM.**

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Traver, Trustees Forte, Boucher, DeVoe, and Williams

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Clerk Ives, Deputy Clerk Lyons, Trustee elect Carpenter and Robert Haley.

The Mayor told those present the purpose of the public hearing is to hear public comment on the new water rates for the Village of Fort Edward residential users.

The Mayor explained about the additional charges attached to the proposed water rate schedule.

At the present time the Village does not charge for new meters and parts for meters. The cost for meter repair is rising and the Mayor would like to see some of the costs reimbursed.

The clerk will be sending out notices with the April water billing explaining the new water rates charges. This water bill will include the notice of the new water rates, a MS4 brochure, and the annual water report.

The board would like an additional statement added saying – Meter repairs above normal wear and tear will be the responsibility of the homeowners. The board will work with the water department to get a schedule of costs.

The board discussed providing water to the Town of Fort Edward Water District #1. At the present time Water District #1 gets water from the Village of Hudson Falls. The Village of Fort Edward provides Town of Fort Edward Water District #2 with water and have committed to providing water to the proposed Killian Subdivision (300 homes) also located in the Town of Fort Edward.

This process would include a public hearing with the residents of Water District #1. The new rate for the Village of Fort Edward water rents is still less than the Village of Hudson Falls rate.

The clerk's office will contact Hudson Falls and get their commercial and industrial rates.

The board feels that Fort Edward should market our water.

The board agreed to the following rates for residential users:  
Billing will be semi-annually and billed on a per unit charge:

0 – 15,000 gallons \$50.00  
over 15,000 gallons will  
be billed \$50.00 plus a  
rate of \$2.80 per thousand  
gallons over 15,000 gallons.

Broken meters or lack of meters will be billed on use of 40,000 gallons per unit or the last billing cycle.

Meter repairs above the normal wear and tear will be the responsibility of the homeowners.

Robert Haley asked that the board should try to get the upper portion of the Town as water customers for the village.

Mayor said the village is actively pursuing this.

Trustee Elect Carpenter said that if it cost effective the residents will listen.

Trustee Williams said that many of the residents of Water District #1 were upset because they had to pay for their district and Water District #2 had a grant. They would oppose any change.

The board feels that if it is cost effective they may change.

The Mayor talked about the current application for CDBG funding for the replacement of water lines. The Village applied last year and was denied – the Mayor and Avalon Associates met with CDBG and feel we have a good chance this year. This is a full grant.

The application is for \$600,000. – this includes replacing the lines on Beverly, Marion and around the loop. This would be contracted out. This would also include pavement and sidewalks.

Motion by Trustee Williams seconded by DeVoe to adjourn public hearing at 7:00PM.

ALL AYES

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**VILLAGE OF FORT EDWARD SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 29, 2010**

Meeting called to order at 7:01PM.

At this time the board discussed going out to bid for the Highway Garage.

The Mayor explained to those present that Vision Engineering has the bid documents ready – this will show where the costs are – at the present time there is about \$290,000 left in the Shared Services account.

Trustee Williams asked if the costs for the engineering would be included. Mayor Traver said that the grant allows only a percentage for engineering costs.

Motion by Trustee DeVoe seconded by Trustee Boucher to adopt **Resolution #64**, which states:

**WHEREAS** the Village and Town of Fort Edward have secured a Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant from the NYS Department of State for the purpose of the consolidation of both public works facilities, and

**THEREFORE NOW BE IT RESOLVED** that the Village of Fort Edward hereby authorize the Clerk’s office to go out to bid for the construction of a municipal highway facility, and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Village board does hereby authorize Vision Engineering to prepare bid documents for the construction of a municipal highway garage, and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Village reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

**ALL AYES**

Motion by Trustee Forte seconded by Trustee Williams to adopt Resolution #65, which states:

**WHEREAS**, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby establish the following water rates for the Village of Fort Edward water customers on a per unit basis effective April 1, 2010:

**RESIDENTIAL USERS**

Billing will be semi-annually and billed on a per unit charge:

0 – 15,000 gallons \$50.00

over 15,000 gallons will be billed \$50.00 plus a rate of \$2.80 per thousand gallons over 15,000 gallons.

Broken meters or lack of meters will be billed on use of 40,000 gallons per unit or the last billing cycle.

Meter repairs necessary above and beyond the normal wear and tear is the responsibility of the homeowners.

**ALL AYES**

Mayor Traver told the board about an invitation for the Village Board for an evening forum on Composting on April 20, 2010. This will be held on Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Greenwich Library.

Mayor Traver commented on some of the proposed changes to the state budget from NYCOM. It seems the CHIPS will be staying the same, the changes to the Gross Receipts does not seem to be happening. This is not final.

The Mayor will send an email to Assemblyman Tony Jordan and Senator Betty Little regarding the Gross Receipts.

Mayor Traver told the board he was given papers regarding another exemption General Electric has applied for. This is for the air pollution control facility located in the Village of Fort Edward. This is for the purpose of catching potential PCB emissions. The assessor is denying the request – this is a reduction of \$8,417,000.

The Mayor asked about the master meter located before Water District #2. This meter should equal the total gallons used per household.

Also, the Mayor said this is how Water District #1 is billed. There is a master meter between Water District #1 and Hudson Falls. They bill from the master meter. The clerk will contact Hudson Falls and get the total gallons used.

Trustee Williams commented on the mining permit for the Reservoir. Attorney Fuller has been asking about if there is a permit in place.

Mayor Traver said the permit is good until 2014.

A discussion regarding Rogers Island – everything should be signed by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Robert Haley asked the board about changes to the Zoning Ordinance in regard to dogs in the Village of Fort Edward.

Mr. Haley said he has submitted a petition to the clerk for the April Meeting.

There is a house on 98 McCrea Street, which has five (5) dogs.

He said that the fence is not high enough to control five (5) dogs.

When Mr. Haley contacted the Police Department there is nothing in the code that addresses how many dogs you can have.

The Town of Fort Edward says each residence can have no more than three (3) dogs.

The only way to address this situation in the village is through the noise ordinance - barking dogs.

Mr. Haley asked when the last time a survey has been done on dogs in the Town and Village.

The Mayor said that the Town Clerk has been asking for this for a long time.

Mr. Haley said there is another situation at 46 Center Street – they have four (4) dogs.

They also put up an illegal fence. The Code Enforcement Officer told them it had to be removed.

Trustee Williams asked if it is listed in the Town ordinance it may include the Village – through the Ag and Market Law.

Mayor Traver said he would contact Andy Cook – Town of FE Animal Control- to check to see if the dogs are licensed.

Mr. Haley also commented on the condition of homes in the Village and the amount of unregistered vehicles in the village.

A discussion was held on the Code Enforcement Officer in the Village. Does the village wish to stay with the county for building permits or hire their own building inspector and code enforcement officer?

Motion by Trustee Forte seconded by Trustee Boucher to adjourn meeting at 7:30PM.

**ALL AYES**

**Dated – March 30, 2010**

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**Patricia Ives, Clerk**