

MAYOR TRAVER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM AND LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Roll Call	Trustee Boucher, Trustee Carpenter, Trustee Cutler, Trustee Williams, Mayor Traver
Highway	
Police	Justin Derway
Code	Dave Armando
Attorney	Matt Fuller
Water	Bill Caprood Jr.
Public	Jeanie Mullen, Tabitha Fish, Tadgh Nealon, Andy Bluman

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

MINUTES

A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING MONTHLY MINUTES WAS MADE BY:
 Trustee **Carpenter**, SECONDED BY Trustee **Williams**.

All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes	VB Monthly Meeting- June 17, 2021
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All Ayes. Motion Carried.

REPORTS-

A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING MONTHLY REPORTS WAS MADE BY:
 Trustee **Cutler**, SECONDED BY Trustee **Boucher**.

Clerk/Treasurer, Village Justice, Police Chief, Street and Water Department, Code Enforcement.

All Ayes. Motion Carried.

AUDIT OF BILLS

Accept the Audit of Monthly Bills
 MOTION BY Trustee **Carpenter**, SECONDED BY Trustee **Williams**.

All Ayes. Motion Carried.

<u>Fund</u>	Abstract # 2	PBA # 2	Comments
General Fund	\$31,812.75	\$7,437.70	
Water Fund	\$ 1,129.19	\$3,403.62	

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 8 of 2021-2022

APPOINTMENT OF FULL-TIME LABORER MATTHEW BEDEAUX

Motion By Trustee Williams
Seconded By Trustee Cutler
Dated July 6, 2021

WHEREAS the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby appoint Matthew Bedeaux as a full-time laborer for the Street Department at a rate of \$18.50/hr.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; this resolution shall take effect immediately.

All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Resolution 9 of 2021-2022

APPOINTMENT OF FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER NATHAN MARSHALL

Motion By Trustee Carpenter
Seconded By Trustee Boucher
Dated July 6, 2021

WHEREAS the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby appoint Nathan E Marshall as a permanent full-time police officer at a rate of \$21.00/hr. Mr. Marshall has received all necessary training and is certified.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; this resolution shall take effect immediately.

All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Resolution 10 of 2021-2022

APPOINTMENT OF ONE (1) FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER

Motion By Trustee Williams
Seconded By Trustee Cutler
Dated July 6, 2021

WHEREAS, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby appoint Morgan Brown as Fort Edward Police Officer on a provisional basis pending the passing of the Police Academy. The officer is eligible on the County list, and

WHEREAS, the officer will be paid a rate of \$15.00 per hour with health benefits. The employees share of health benefits will be 15% of the premium, and

BE IT RESOLVED, before entering the Academy the officer will sign an acknowledgment that if the officer leaves employment with the Village of Fort Edward prior to completion of the Academy plus 3 years from completion of Academy and field training, the officer will reimburse the Village of Fort Edward for all expenses incurred in the Academy and field training, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall take effect immediately.

All Ayes. Motion Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Mayor Traver recognized the recent passing of Harold “Pat” Fitzsimmons. The Village Board thanked him for his years of dedicated service to the community and the Fort Edward Fire Department. A moment of silence was observed.
- There was a discussion on the availability for a crossing guard for the summer school program at the Fort Edward High School. The crossing guard would be on Broadway and could possibly be needed up to 4 hours each day. We have not budgeted for this expense so this could be an issue. There was grant money available for the school to operate this program, but we are not sure if it just covers staffing or could offset the cost of the crossing guard. Chief Derway has reached out to the principal, but he has not heard back. If the Village decides to hire a 6th full-time police officer, the officer could be available for this which would count towards their training hours.
- Tabitha Fish and Tadgh Nealon of 38 Canal Street voiced their concerns about the safety of the railroad bridge over Canal Street. CP Rail was contacted last year, but as of now nothing has been done. There is a potential problem with closing this road because of the water and sewer lines underneath Canal Street. Village Attorney Matt Fuller recommended that the residents contact CP Rail and voice their concerns and the Village will also contact them again.
- There was a discussion on the proposed Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) project. This would be a host benefit program but the money that we receive would have to be used for certain projects. This would be a 30-year plan that would bring revenue to the Village as well as the Town and School. There would also be \$4,000,000.00 given to the Warren Washington IDA. This would help get sewer lines into the old dewatering facility which should help in the recruitment of businesses.
- Mayor Traver reported that the application for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund has been submitted. The Village is eligible to receive \$330,000 in funding. We are not sure what the stipulations are on how the money can be spent, but there are projects that could be done with this money. There are water repairs that need to be done and this could offset some of the cost.
- Code Enforcement Officer Dave Armando reported that another violation has been issued to the owner of 52 Broadway. He has until Friday, July 9, 2021, to have his property completely cleaned up or else he will be brought back to court.
- There was a discussion on the staffing issues for both the Street and Water Departments. The chances of hiring a 2A for the Water Department is slim at best. An option would be to move Geoff Bigelow to the Water Department and possibly have Matt Bedeaux get his Class B License and hire an additional laborer. If Geoff Bigelow moves to the Water Department, he would still have to be available to plow in the winter when needed. The Water Department would also be responsible for infrastructure work related to water breaks and maintaining hydrants. A resolution will be drawn up to transfer Geoff Bigelow to the Water Department at the August Monthly meeting.
- Village Attorney Matt Fuller said that the Village should make a decision soon regarding the new cannabis dispensary legislation. If we choose to do nothing, the Village cannot opt out of the program after December 31, 2021. This will be discussed further at next

month's Village Board meeting.

- Mayor Traver said he received an email from someone interested in purchasing 50 East Street. They would be interested in rehabbing the building and developing professional offices with an apartment upstairs. Further information will follow.
- Andy Bluman explained why he resigned as a police officer. He cited accountability issues within the department as a major factor in his resignation. He felt there have been ongoing issues for two years and it seems like they were always put on the backburner. He feels that there must be a reason that employees are leaving that have not been addressed. It may be for financial reasons sometimes but not all the time. Mayor Traver said that the Board realizes that changes must be made, and they are being addressed. The police department is being monitored closely and will continue to be. Hopefully with staffing less of an issue, the department will run more efficiently and with less overtime.
- Trustee Williams inquired if the Police Department was doing any extra patrols since the Fort Edward pool will not be open this summer. Chief Derway said the Police Department has increased their patrols near the old Bradley Beach to monitor if people are swimming in the Hudson River.

Motion to adjourn at 8:53 PM by Trustee **Carpenter**. SECONDED BY Trustee **Boucher**. *ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter C. Amorosi, Clerk-Treasurer