

MAYOR TRAVER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:08 PM AND LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Roll Call	Trustee Carpenter, Trustee Cutler, Trustee Williams, Mayor Traver
Highway	Bryan Etu, Geoff Bigelow
Police	Chief Justin Derway, Andy Bluman, Joseph DeAngelo
Code	Dave Armando
Water	
Attorney	Matt Fuller
Public	Peter Amorosi, Janelle Rose, Jim Thatcher, Gary Hill, Kris March, Stephen Davie

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 **Williams**, SECONDED BY Trustee **Cutler**.

*All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	VB Monthly Meeting- October 2, 2020
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**REPORTS**

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

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 **Cutler**. SECONDED BY Trustee **Williams**.

*All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Abstract #6</u>	<u>Pay Before Audit #6</u>	<u>Comments</u>
General Fund	\$13,917.16	\$7,516.22	
Water Fund	\$2,428.12	\$2,686.49	
Air Stripper			

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution 18 of 2020-2021

**RESIGNATION OF FULL TIME PATROLMAN, MICHAEL SQUIRES**

Motion By            Trustee Williams  
Seconded By        Trustee Cutler  
Dated                    November 2, 2020

**WHEREAS**, Michael Squires was hired as a full-time patrolman for the Police Department on August 16, 2018 by resolution number 17 of 2018-2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby accept the resignation of Mr. Squires and extends their appreciation to him for his service to the Village of Fort Edward, and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, this resignation is effective immediately.

*ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.*

Resolution 19 of 2020-2021

**BOND RENEWAL FOR THE RAVO SWEEPER 5I PURCHASE**

Motion By            Trustee Cutler  
Seconded By        Trustee Williams  
Dated                    November 2, 2020

**WHEREAS**, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby authorize the issuance of a Bond # 6697801 in the amount of **\$11,960.00** for the purchase of Ravo Sweeper 5I. The bond was due and payable on November 23, 2020 with a renewal interest rate of 2.80 percent.

*ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.*

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- There was a discussion on the numerous complaints concerning the tenants who live above Slickfin’s Brewery at 147- 149 Broadway. The police have been called there numerous times to the same apartment. It seems like people are staying in the apartment besides the people who actually rent it. There are not enough code issues to shut down the apartment and evict the tenants. With COVID-19, the earliest an eviction can take place is January 2021. Depending on the time frame for paper processing, the realistic eviction date would be March. We will continue to monitor this situation.
- Trustee Williams reported that the Canal Street Marketplace will not be rented this winter due to COVID- 19 concerns. The heat will be shut off and once the building is winterized, the building will be shut down until next spring.

- Gary Hill said that he contacted four different logging companies to forest the property on Reservoir Road. Dale Monroe was the only person to submit a bid. The seedlings that were planted last year are doing well. He would like to plant some additional trees on the property across the road from the old Tee-Bird golf course. The Village will purchase an additional 100 trees for this land. Gary Hill mentioned that it would make more sense to have this bid be for two years. Legally, we will have to resubmit the bid for a 2 year program. The bid can be accepted at the December Village Board meeting which will still leave enough time for some foresting to begin.
- Jim Thatcher would like to set up a meeting with local business owners to discuss their concerns, ideas, and plans for improving their local businesses and the entire business district. There are some economic development programs which are available even if it is on an individual basis. Mayor Traver scheduled a meeting for Wednesday, November 11, 2020 with the local businesses and the Promote Fort Edward group.
- Code Enforcement Dave Armando reported on the stone wall from Terrace Place to the railroad tracks on Broadway. It looks like the Village may be responsible to replace or repair the wall. We will contact the Washington County DOT to see who is responsible. It may also fall back on the responsibility of the property owners.
- There was a discussion on the continuing water problems at 38 Center Street. Numerous attempts have been made to contact the property owners to no avail. It needs to be repaired because the amount of water be wasted is considerable. It was determined that the Village will fix the break and bill the owners for the water that is being wasted. We cannot legally shut off the water so this is our only option. There are also water issues that need to be addressed on Oak and Summit Street.
- There was a discussion on the property on Canal Street which is owned by National Grid. The Board is in favor of leaving it zoned as residential property instead of reclassifying it as commercial. It was mentioned that it would be a good place to have a dog park if it was ever turned over to the Village. We will have to see if this would be an allowed use.
- The fence at the water plant will be replaced with a temporary fence because Stanton Fence is booked until the beginning of next year.
- The DPW is looking into purchasing a mini-excavator to help out with water breaks. The cost of this would be approximately \$74,000. If we traded in our backhoe, it would bring the total cost down to \$56,000. It may be more beneficial if the Village tried to sell the backhoe outright. This unit would be much more mobile than the backhoe we are using now. This may be the perfect time to trade or sell because there is a good market for it. This may be covered under the CHIPS program which would not affect our budget.
- There was a discussion on the continuing staffing problems with the police department. Mayor Traver recommended that the rate for certified part-time officers be raised to \$20.00 per hour. This would also affect the pay rate for full-time officers as well. The PBA will have to open up contract negotiations for MOU to address the full-time pay rate.
- Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner got the police department a grant for \$150,000 for various equipment and building upgrades. We will reach out to see if there is any way to do this without banning the entire amount. We have to find out if we buy things on an individual basis or spend the all the money at once. Jim Thatcher recommended that we bite the bullet and spend the entire amount because the interest rates are rather low at the present time. The State usually does not release money in a piece meal basis and if they do, it could be a lengthy process. It would make financial sense to wait until June 1, 2021 to ban anything.
- There was a discussion on the committee that needs to be developed to address potential police reform. The committee would have to be formed from various sectors of the community. This committee needs to be formed by April 1, 2021. This will be a lengthy process to meet all of the requirements set forth by the Governor. If this resolution is not followed, state funding such as CHIPs would possibly be delayed.
- Trustee Cutler reported on a sidewalk at 52 Seminary Street that needs to be repaired. The Village took down a tree years ago and there was a verbal agreement that the property owner would maintain the sidewalk. It is starting to buckle and it could become a safety hazard. The Village will replace the sidewalk and the property owner will be responsible for the cost of the concrete. We will send a letter to the owner notifying him that the sidewalk will be replaced in the spring.

Motion to adjourn at 8:42 PM by Trustee **Carpenter**. SECONDED BY Trustee **Cutler**. *ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter C. Amorosi, Clerk-Treasurer