

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
Highway	Bryan Etu
Police	Justin Derway, Dean Watkins
Code	Dave Armando
Attorney	Matthew Fuller
Water	
Public	Peter C. Amorosi, Janelle Rose, Jeanie Mullen, Steve 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 **Carpenter**, SECONDED BY Trustee **Williams**.

All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes	VB Monthly Meeting- November 1, 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 **Carpenter**.

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

All Ayes. Motion Carried.

AUDIT OF BILLS

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

All Ayes. Motion Carried.

<u>Fund</u>	Abstract # 7	PBA # 7	Comments
General Fund	\$242,757.74	\$8,994.13	\$79,879.93 McCrea St.- Chips \$146,290.26 NYSLRS- 2022 Retirement
Water Fund	\$ 7,904.65	\$24,399.39	\$16,438.74 NYSLRS- 2022 Retirement

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 22 of 2021-2022

RESOLUTION ADOPTING LOCAL LAW 1 OF 2021 REQUESTING THAT THE CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK PROHIBIT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ON-SITE CONSUMPTION LICENSES IN THE VILLAGE OF FORT EDWARD, COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, STATE OF NEW YORK

Motion by Trustee Cutler
Seconded by Trustee Carpenter
Dated December 6, 2021

WHEREAS, New York’s recently adopted Cannabis Law of the State of New York provides, at Section 131 of the Cannabis Law, that a municipality may request that the New York State Cannabis Control Board prohibit on-site consumption licenses in the municipality, which request must be in the form of a local law adopted by the municipal board subject to permissive referendum; and

WHEREAS the Village Board of the Village of Fort Edward previously introduced a local law requesting that the New York State Cannabis Control Board prohibit on-site consumption licenses in the Village of Fort Edward pursuant to Cannabis Law Section 131; and

WHEREAS the Village scheduled a public hearing to be held before the Village Board on December 6th, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Village of Fort Edward Village Hall to hear all interested parties on the proposed Local Law; and

WHEREAS notice of said public hearing was duly posted and then published in the *Post Star* the official newspaper of the Village, pursuant to and in conformance with Section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing was duly held and all parties in attendance were permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf of or in opposition to the proposed Local Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Village Board, upon due deliberation of the proposed Local Law and the comments presented at the public hearing, finds that the adoption of the same shall be in the best interests of the Village; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Proposed Local Law 1 of 2021 law requesting that the Cannabis Control Board of the State of New York prohibit any on-site consumption licenses in the Village of Fort Edward pursuant to Cannabis Law Section 131, a copy of which is attached to and made a part of this resolution, is hereby adopted subject to permissive referendum as provided for in Section 131 of the Cannabis Law of the State of New York, and shall take effect as provided for in said Local Law; and be it further

RESOLVED, this resolution shall take effect immediately.

PRESENT:

AYES: Trustee Boucher, Trustee Carpenter, Trustee Cutler, Trustee Williams

NAYES:

ABSENT:

Resolution 23 of 2021-2022

RESOLUTION SETTING PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED DISCONTINUANCE AND CONVEYANCE OF PORTION OF CHURCH STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF FORT EDWARD

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

WHEREAS the Village is the owner of a certain street known as Church Street located in the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees has been approached by adjoining owners Irving Tissue with a request to discontinue a portion of Church Street, and to convey any remaining rights, subject to utilities and conditions as the Board of Trustees may adopt with payment to Village for such rights and within the portion of Church Street to be discontinued; and

WHEREAS Irving Tissue has provided a map of the portion requested to be discontinued and conveyed, which map is provided with this resolution; and

WHEREAS the Village Board wishes to hold a public hearing concerning the proposed local law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the consideration and proposed adoption of this Local Law is an action under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The Village Board hereby declares that this action is an Unlisted pursuant to SEQRA; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a public hearing shall be scheduled for the consideration of this proposed discontinuance and conveyance to be held by the Village Board on January 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village of Fort Edward Village Hall **[or by remote access to be published on the Village's website and in the notice of public hearing]**; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk is direct to post and publish a notice of said public hearing in the Post Star at least five (5) days before the public hearing.

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution 24 of 2021-2022

APPOINTMENT OF WATER SUPERINTENDENT- WILLIAM CAPROOD JR.

Motion By	<u>Trustee Cutler</u>
Seconded By	<u>Trustee Carpenter</u>
Dated	<u>December 6, 2021</u>

WHEREAS the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby approve an increase in annual salary for William Caprood Jr. as Water Superintendent to \$62,392.00, effective November 15, 2021.

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

All Ayes. Motion Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Mayor Traver received a letter from Shana DeRusso of 11 Old Fort Street thanking the Fort Edward Police Department for their quick response to an incident at her house. An intoxicated, mentally unstable man tried to break into her house. He used sexually explicit language during this encounter. Sergeant Watkins and Officer Ackley were on the scene in 2 minutes to prevent any further escalation and the suspect was apprehended. Trustee Cutler reported that the Police Committee and the P.B.A. have been having regular meetings and the feedback has been positive. They are doing active property checks on local businesses and vacant properties. It was suggested that the Police Department should set up their own Facebook page which could help promote the positive things of the department.

- The Snow & Ice Agreement between the Village and Washington County has been signed by Highway Superintendent Bryan Etu. and will be submitted this week.
- There was a discussion on Juneteenth which is the new Federal holiday. The Village already has 12 paid holidays so we will have to determine if we add one more holiday. The Village Board will make a decision on this in March or April at the latest.
- COVID-19 cases are rampant in Washington County at the present time. Zoom meetings could become an option if the meetings get too large for the courtroom. It was determined that we will continue to meet in person, but the situation will be monitored closely.
- Village Attorney Matt Fuller said that a new law has been passed requiring all municipalities to post their agenda and any resolutions on their website 24 hours in advance. In our case, the Village would have to have everything on our website by the Friday before our scheduled Village Board meeting on Mondays.
- Mayor Traver reported that cost of the Champlain Hudson Power Express project which was estimated at \$285 million is expected to be more than \$400 million. This should increase the amount of money which the Village should receive to probably \$50,000.00.
- There was no update on the proposed purchase of the annex from the Fort Edward High School. Mayor Traver will contact school president Tom Roche to see what the status of the sale is. He will report back at the January Village Board meeting.
- There was an email from Mike Dickinson requesting that the Village possibly be of more help financially to the Canal Street Marketplace. There is a possibility of using some of the ARPA money to help them out and, possibly increase the amount in our budget that we allocate to them.
- Village Historian Paul McCarty inquired about the possibility of moving the brick building which is on the old reservoir property. This is a historic building and could be moved to the property on the Old Fort House Museum land. The cost of moving this building would be expensive, so this is probably not a viable option.
- Sergeant Dean Watkins gave a detailed report on what the police department has been dealing with. There have been multiple drug overdoses, outstanding warrant arrests, mental health issues, domestic violence cases, and the increasing use of motorized bicycles on the Village streets. He feels that some of these issues should be dealt with two officers on duty because of safety issues. He will continue to give a monthly briefing which will help the public understand what the police department deals with daily.

Motion to adjourn at 7:56 PM by Trustee **Carpenter**. SECONDED BY Trustee **Cutler**. *ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter C. Amorosi, Clerk-Treasurer