

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

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|-----------|--|
| Roll Call | Trustee Boucher, Trustee Carpenter, Trustee Cutler, Trustee Williams, Mayor Traver |
| Highway   |  |
| Police    | Chief Justin Derway, Andy Bluman, Joseph DeAngelo                                  |
| Code      | Dave Armando   |
| Water     |  |
| Attorney  | Matt Fuller  |
| Public    | Peter Amorosi, Janelle Rose, Jim Thatcher, Evan Lawrence                           |
|           |  |

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 **Cutler**, SECONDED BY Trustee **Carpenter**.

*All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Approval of Minutes</b> | VB Monthly Meeting- December 6, 2020<br>VB Special Meeting- December 29, 2020 |
|----------------------------|---|

**REPORTS**

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

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 #8</u> | <u>Pay Before Audit #8</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| General Fund | \$24,180.26        | \$ 8,577.13                |                 |
| Water Fund   | \$ 4,086.00        | \$ 1,759.48                |                 |
| Air Stripper |                    |                            |                 |

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution 24 of 2020-2021  
Settlement Agreement and Release

Motion By            Trustee Boucher  
Seconded By        Trustee Cutler  
Dated                 January 4, 2021

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees authorizes Mayor Traver to execute the order with Officer Matthew Secor to complete his training and;

WHEREAS, upon completion of training, to accept his letter of resignation and his services will no longer be needed by the Fort Edward Police Department and;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees does hereby approve the agreement and for it to be signed by Mayor Traver and shall take effect immediately.

*ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED*

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- Mayor Traver discussed the possible purchasing of a Case 60 Series excavator for \$59,735 from Monroe Tractor of Latham. The highway department would also purchase two different size buckets, a tamper and a hydraulic thumb for approximately \$15,000. We have enough money available in CHIPS to purchase these. Trustee Boucher recommended that we check on the availability of parts because they are made in Italy and this could become an issue sometime.
- There is an issue with water problems on Liberty Street behind the Trainor residence. Water flows from the railroad tracks behind properties on this street and a significant amount of water ends up in the yards, driveways and sidewalks of the residents in this area. During the winter months, the water freezes and it becomes a safety issue. We will contact Sean Doty of Chazen and coordinate a meeting with the DOT, the Village Highway department and CP Rail to find some solution to this ongoing problem.
- Mayor Traver commended the Highway Department for the job they did handling the major snowstorm we had in December. We received over three feet of snow and they worked tirelessly to clear the streets and walks and make the village safe. They worked upwards of 18 hours that day to keep up with that storm. Job well done.
- There was mayoral proclamation acknowledging the decades of work done by the late Dr. David Starbuck. Without his efforts, the digs and the findings on Rogers Island would not have been possible. Please see the attached proclamation.

**MAYORAL PROCLAMATION**

**VILLAGE OF FORT EDWARD  
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON  
STATE OF NEW YORK**

January 4, 2021

**WHEREAS**, Dr. David Starbuck was a lifelong resident of the Town of Chester, Warren County, New York, where he resided on the farm that hosted members of the Starbuck family since 1794; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. David Starbuck graduated from the University of Rochester and held a Ph.D. from Yale University where he published his doctoral dissertation on the role of animals in the Classic Period city of Teotihuacan [TAY-OH-TEE-HAWACKAN] in central Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. David Starbuck was a successful archeologist, professor, and author of some 20 books on his archeological endeavors; and

**WHEREAS**, locally Dr. David Starbuck is best known for his scholarly and archeological work on the French and Indian War and the American Revolution; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. David Starbuck led some 30 years of archeological digs in and around the Fort Edward area, including extensive research and finds on Rogers Island and the old fort area of the Village; and

**WHEREAS**, but for the efforts of Dr. David Starbuck and the countless volunteers and students he led on his research quests in Fort Edward, much of our area's history would still remain unknown; and

**WHEREAS**, the fruits of Dr. David Starbuck's decades of labor are on display at the Rogers Island Visitor's Center for future generations of adults and children alike to absorb and learn from the history of our region; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. David Starbuck's passing on December 27, 2020 marks an end to his earthly pursuits but his dedication to his craft and relentless pursuit of knowledge have left an indelible mark on our region, and in particular the Village of Fort Edward.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, MATTHEW TRAVER, MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF FORT EDWARD** do hereby proclaim that this 4<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord 2021, the residents of the Village of Fort Edward pause and reflect not only on the passing of Dr. David Starbuck, but on his tremendous accomplishments and the gifts that his talents have bestowed on our historic Village; and

**That the Village of Fort Edward** expresses its sincere gratitude to Dr. David Starbuck for his lifelong work and dedication to learning and history. His life's work in our Village leaves a foundation and legacy from which future generations of archeologists, trained and untrained, might further expand upon as we continue to write the history of our Village. Dr. David Starbuck will forever be a part of that history.

January 4, 2021

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Hon. Matthew Traver  
Mayor, Village of Fort Edward

- Chief Derway will meet with Trustee Williams this week to begin working on the police reform committee. We should have more information by the next monthly meeting. Also, the full time patrolman job has not been filled as of this time.
- Trustee Cutler inquired about Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) for improvements to Mullen Park. There may be funds available but not sure of the time frame. A map or layout of preliminary improvements may be beneficial.
- Trustee Williams mentioned that the Empire State Bike Trail has been finished and it is rather impressive. This should definitely bring more people into the Village this summer which should help the local businesses.
- Jim Thatcher reported on the Office of Community Renewal for the revitalization of downtown Fort Edward. The Micro Enterprise Assistance Program is an option to help small businesses which have fewer than five employees. There is grant fund available for \$35,000 for local businesses as long as they stay in business for three years. The money could cover various business needs not pertaining to building renovations. Motion by Trustee **Williams** to schedule a public hearing on February 1, 2021 at 6:45 PM to address this matter. **SECONDED BY Trustee Cutler. ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.**
- Jim Thatcher reported that the proposed CDBG water project on State, Moon, Edward, and Old Fort Street is still waiting for more responses from the income survey of surrounding residences. Due to COVID-19, a door to door canvassing did not seem like a safe option. We will do another mailing and hopefully, the responses will be greater.

- The Village offices will remain closed to the public due to the increased rise in COVID-19 cases. The office will have limited access to all Village employees and will utilize the window for any necessary transactions. The Town offices are following the same protocols.

Motion to adjourn at 7:54 PM by Trustee **Carpenter**. SECONDED BY Trustee **Cutler**. *ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter C. Amorosi, Clerk-Treasurer