

Village Board of Trustees  
 Regular Meeting  
 May 1, 2023

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

Roll Call	Trustee Boucher, Trustee Carpenter, Trustee Williams Trustee Cutler
Absent	
Police	
Code	Dave Armando
Attorney	Matthew Fuller
Water	
Clerk	Janelle Rose
Public	Frank Burkhardt, Nasrene Haj, Andrew Percetti, Mike & Melanie Dickinson, Jim Thatcher, 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 – Amended April 3, 2023 , May 1, 2023**

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

*All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

**REPORTS - May 2023**

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

**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 **Williams**, SECONDED BY Trustee **Boucher**.

*All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

<b>General PBA</b>	\$10,304.75
<b>General Abstract #12</b>	\$16,241.80
<b>Water PBA</b>	\$3,621.65
<b>Water Fund Abstract #12</b>	\$2,369.97

**EFC Disbursement for Water Project in the amount of \$138,500.00 paid to LaBella**

A motion to accept was made by **Trustee Cutler**, seconded by **Trustee Carpenter**.

*All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution # 38 of 2022-2023 – Authorizing the mayor to sign documents relative to the Village of Fort Edward Watershed properties in the Town of Moreau**

A motion was made by **Trustee Carpenter**, seconded by **Trustee Cutler**.

**WHEREAS** the Board of Trustees has expressed concern over the assessed values on Village owned watershed property in the Town of Moreau and wishes to proceed with filing a grievance relative to same under the Real Property Tax Law and;

**WHEREAS** the board authorizes the mayor to execute any and all documents and to authorize such actions as needed to grieve the assessed values of the Village owned properties in the Town of Moreau, and

**BE IT RESOLVED** this resolution shall take effect immediately.

*All ayes. Motion Carried.*

**Resolution #39 of 2022-2023 – Resolution authorizing agreement with GlampADK, LLC for use and maintenance of Yacht Basin Bathrooms.**

A motion was made by **Trustee Cutler**, seconded by **Trustee Williams**.

**WHEREAS**, Andrew Percetti of GlampADK, LLC has entered into an agreement or license with the NYS Canal Corporation for a use of property near the yacht basin on the Hudson River in the Village and wishes to use and maintain the Village's bathrooms on Village owned property adjoining the yacht basin;

**WHEREAS**, the board authorizes the mayor to execute an agreement in form and substance approved by counsel to the Village, for such use and maintenance by GlamADK, LLC ; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor is authorized to enter into an agreement with GlampADK, LLC for the use and maintenance of the Village's bathrooms located on Village owned property adjacent to the yacht basin in the Village; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

*All ayes. Motion Carried.*

**Resolution #40 of 2022-2023 - Surplus firearms from the Fort Edward Police Department**

A motion was made by **Trustee Williams**, seconded by **Trustee Carpenter**.

**WHEREAS** the Board of Trustees agrees to surplus firearms located in the Fort Edward Police Department and;

**WHEREAS** the Board of Trustees agrees to sell (2) sidearms and (1) rifle to the Village of South Glens Falls; and

**WHEREAS** the Board of Trustees agrees to transfer the balance of all firearms to the Washington County Sheriff's Department and;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED this resolution shall take effect immediately.

*All Ayes. Motion Carried.*

**Resolution #41 of 2022-2023 - To authorize the mayor to sign the proposal from CT Male to go after funding for the water project.**

A motion was made by **Trustee Williams**, seconded by **Trustee Boucher**

**WHEREAS** the Village of Fort Edward is working on final designs for replacement of the Burgoyne Avenue storage tank, distribution lines, and pump station in the Northeast Quadrant area, expected for construction starting in 2024, and

**WHEREAS**, the village also has secured a WIIA grant award and SRF loan financing from the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) however the expected project costs are going to significantly exceed those prior funding resources, creating the need for additional grant financing, and;

For 2023, the NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is expected to provide public infrastructure funding up to \$1,250,000 ( including any soft costs such as final engineering design and grant administration) for eligible water distribution projects that serve primarily low-and-moderate income populations and already have secured other federal or state funding resources. In addition to the Engineering Report and other preliminary design work already completed for the Northeast Quadrant area, the Office of Community Renewal (OCR) is requiring the submission of a completed NEPA Environmental Review Record (ERR) with the CDBG grant application to further demonstrate readiness to proceed quickly with the project after grant award.

**WHEREAS**, to help secure additional funding for the Northeast Quadrant area, CT Male would prepare a CDBG Infrastructure application on behalf of the Village of Fort Edward including the up-front NEPA Environmental Review for a fee of \$6,200.00 and

**RESOLVED**, the Board of Trustees for the Village of Fort Edward agrees to allow the mayor to sign said agreement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this resolution shall take effect immediately.

*All ayes. Motion carried.*

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- **FE Police Department** – The mayor thanked Phil Lindsey for all the work he’s done and all the cleaning and sorting out of the police department. Trustee Carpenter and Trustee Cutler discussed items left in the department such as firearms and how to get rid of them properly. Trustee Cutler mentioned there was interest in surplus items from private citizens. Mayor Traver said that there are other neighboring departments who’ve expressed interest in purchasing the weapons. The mayor

does not want to sell any weapons to an individual. South Glens Falls, Cambridge and Hudson Falls have a secure lock up for all handguns and firearms. The profit of a sale does not outweigh the liability of selling to an individual. The board should consider transferring them to another agency, which we all would feel more comfortable doing. Trustee Carpenter mentioned that Phil thinks there is someone else that can help us transfer them. Phil said that Amchar is a company that can assist. They usually fix them up and then sell at a higher price, but this should be a last resort. The mayor stated that after Phil is gone, part of the building will be unoccupied so the need to get all the weapons and firearms out of the department is a must. Should we transfer to the county, they can give out to different departments in Washington County. Trustee Williams asked what if we have firearms that we cannot get rid of? Sheriff Murphy said to tag them and bring them up to the county and they will destroy them properly. Phil also mentioned that the village will have a video of guns destroyed. The mayor was in the basement of the PD and noticed all the old books and mentioned that they should stay in case there is ever a need to look in them. The sheriff's office would like the patrol bikes that are down there. There are other kids' bikes down there that could possibly be donated to the school. Trustee Cutler reached out to Joe DeAngelo, the PBA president to make sure there was nothing in the basement that was needed. Joe said there is nothing more left down there.

- **Courts at Mullen Park** – New bids needed to be sent in with the prevailing wage included. The increase from SEAL and DE Contracting put them over Services Unlimited. Trustee Boucher stated that Services Unlimited has a quote for everything needed and did not list them as extras. The mayor asked the board if they wanted to award the bid to get the construction started. A motion was made to award to the lowest bidder by **Trustee Boucher**, seconded by **Trustee Cutler**.

*All ayes. Motion Carried.*

- **CHPE Meeting** – A meeting was held on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> with Sean Doty, the DPW. They have concerns about coming into the village. Easements will be needed and will have a huge impact for us. They could not come to an agreement with CP Rail, and we are still getting information as to where the utilities are. They will be doing bore samples on the island and south of the Canal Street bridge. They will be boring 7-9” in the ground. Trustee Carpenter when contacting the State historic Preservation Office, they said they are going under, and this approval is just a test. A motion was needed to approve the testing and boring on Rogers Island. A motion was made by **Trustee Carpenter**, seconded by **Trustee Boucher**.

*All ayes. Motion Carried.*

- **Water Project** – the board is waiting for a map of the Doty property where the village will be purchasing a portion of it to install the new water tower. LaBella would like to do some tests this week at the property, get a licensing agreement for hold harmless for their protection. Bob Murray does not currently have all the project costs listed. The board may have to rescind the previous resolution and approve an open the project again. We are at market price financing. We need to look at the payments. Can we still afford this project? The next meeting with LaBella is May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 p.m. Engineering costs were not in the Bond Resolution. The rate is 5%. The board needs to look at the payment apps to know what is left of the project.

- **Underwood Park** – Trustee Williams received a quote from Sears Tree Experts for some trees that need to be removed in Underwood Park alongside the building of 123 Broadway. These trees are Cedar Trees and are blocking a lot of sunlight. They will need to go through the church property with the equipment and lift to get to them. If they can do that, they will remove the two maple trees that are on the Baptist Church property at no charge. Trustee Williams met with Ray Perraz who used to work at Garden Time and has a green thumb when it comes to landscaping. He is going to work on a proposal for some landscaping changes to Underwood Park. The thoughts are maybe a new walkway, more flower beds, etc. If we can piggyback off Queensbury's contract, we do not need to follow procurement. Janelle will reach out to Paul Archer with Sears to see if this is something the village can do.

- **138-140 Broadway** – If the state budget goes through, we should know soon if we get the Restore NY Round 7 Grant. The village has received the deeds for the two properties from the county.
- **50 East Street** – Attorney Fuller sent terms to Mike Nefke who is interested in the property. Mike emailed back to the attorney that he was still interested, however we are still waiting for a formal offer/contract from him.
- **West Summit Street**– The street was inspected by Bryan Etu and Dave Cutler as they were making their rounds to start the paving project in the village. The street (West Summit) has a very large pothole, and it is not a sink hole. DA Collins looked at the street as well and it will be included in our paving project. The mayor received an email from a resident at 23 Griffin Avenue, John Guglielmo regarding the land behind his house eroding. He is concerned and would like to have some answers as to what is happening with this land. The mayor suggested we give him information from the county as well as reach out to DEC and Encon to see if there have been any studies on that location as there are many springs all through there. John Guglielmo was given the name of Kevin Ferrar with DEC who should be able to get him some answers or direct him to the right place.
- **Liberty Bell** – The mayor would like to congratulate Judge Malvuccio on receiving the Liberty Bell award from the Washington County BAR Association.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

- **East Street, lower end** – Mike Dickinson asked if there was any way to put a sign on East Road and St. James Road so tractor trailers do not turn on East Road. They have no way to turn around if they go down the road by accident. Jeanie Mullen did say that there is one at that intersection. Mike said it took him over an hour to direct the truck back out East Road to St. James Road.
- **Canal Corp Grant** – If the grant is awarded to Fort Edward for a Kayak Launch, the village will need a permit from the Canal Corp as well as the village must follow procurement for the bids for the launch including installation. Nasrene Haj who has been working diligently on the project asked if three quotes were needed and yes, we must have three. Attorney Fuller mentioned that the grant agreement must comply with the village’s procurement policy under the General Municipal Law. The village cannot purchase from one entity. They must also obtain permits from Army Corp, DEC, Canal Corp as well as notice to SHPO and NEPA. NYS SEQRA requirements also. Must draft EAF and conduct required review of SEQRA. All of this must be completed before the village can authorize expenditures of funds. The board authorizes the mayor to execute an agreement. A motion was made by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Boucher. *All ayes. Motion Carried.*
- **Yacht Basin** – The mayor has been talking with Joe Roblee about the amphitheater and drawings by Don Valentine. They are hoping to get some figures together to finalize the cost for the project so we can reach out to Stewarts, possibly Irving, etc.
- **Trees within the Village** – Trustee Cutler is working on trying to get trees for Bridge Street. National Grid has a tree replacement program specifically for these situations where trees need to be removed after numerous trimmings. Paul McCarty has 7 trees for Broadway to replace trees that have died.
- **Code Enforcement – 13-15 East Street** has the inside all cleaned up, but they are not going to open any time soon, says Dave Armando. They still need a fire rated ceiling. The kitchen is currently not put together and Dave still needs to receive a copy of the permit from SLA. **10 Cooper Street** is looking good. They are currently putting the kitchen back together and sheetrock is up. There is a new boiler, hot water heater and he is also rehabbing the pool out back. Dave mentioned in his March report that he sent letters out to all owners of storefronts on Broadway so he thinks the village should clean 138-140 Broadway as well.

A motion to move to the executive session was made by **Trustee Cutler**, seconded by **Trustee Williams** at 8:40 pm. All ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janelle M. Rose, Clerk-Treasurer  
May 1, 2023