

**VILLAGE OF FORT EDWARD REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 6, 2016**

**MAYOR TRAVER CALLED MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00PM.**

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Traver, Trustee Carpenter, Trustee Conlon, Trustee DeVoe, Trustee Williams

**ALSO PRESENT:** Clerk Ives, Police Chief Derway, Attorney Matt Fuller.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brenda Freeborn, Catherine Rea, Jim Thatcher – CT Male, Harold Fitzsimmons, Dennis Babson, Fire Chief Matt Hurlburt, Bob Haley, Jeanne Mullen.

**MAYOR TRAVER LED THOSE PRESENT IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLIANCE.**

Motion by Trustee DeVoe seconded by Trustee Conlon to approve the minutes of the following meetings:  
Regular Meeting of May 2, 2016  
Special Meeting of May 25, 2016

**ALL AYES**

Motion by Trustee Carpenter seconded by Trustee Williams to approve the reports from the following departments:

Clerk-Treasurer	Police Chief	Water	Highway Dept.	Groundskeeper
Code Enforcement	Planning Board Minutes of 4/16			

**ALL AYES**

Motion by Trustee Williams seconded by Trustee DeVoe to adopt **Resolution #1** which states:

**WHEREAS**, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby authorize the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer to sign the tax warrant for fiscal year 2016-2017 in the amount of \$1,702,038.50 and also authorize the Clerk to collect taxes as of June 1, 2016.

**ALL AYES**

Motion by Trustee Williams seconded by Trustee Carpenter to adopt **Resolution #2** which states:

**WHEREAS**, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby give permission to Prime Link, Inc. to install a high speed internet line a minimum of 18” in ground following the National Grid power line that runs over Village property along the old canal to Energy Park.

**ALL AYES**

Motion by Trustee DeVoe seconded by Trustee Carpenter to adopt **Resolution #3** which states:

**WHEREAS**, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby increase the rate of pay for Part-Time Police Officers to \$15.00 effective June 7, 2016.

**ALL AYES**

Mayor Traver stated that the Village needs to be competitive in their rates of pay.

Motion by Trustee Conlon seconded by Trustee DeVoe to adopt **Resolution #4** which states:

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING CLOSURE OF EAST STREET/EAST ROAD BRIDGE OVER CHAMPLAIN CANAL**

**WHEREAS**, the Village Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of the Village of Fort Edward (the “Village”) is in receipt of a letter dated April 21, 2016 from the New York State Department of Transportation discussing a proposal from DOT to consider the closure of the existing bridge across the NYS Champlain Canal connecting East Street and East Road in the Village and Towns of Fort Edward; and

**WHEREAS**, the DOT noted that the potential cost to rehabilitate the bridge could be \$4 million, with replacement upwards of \$7 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the DOT noted that traffic studies supporting closure showed around 702 average annual daily trips (AADT), which DOT believes could have been influenced by the GE dewatering facility; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board does not agree that the traffic figures are significantly impacted by the dewatering facility as the access to that facility is not generally off East Street, rather it is accessed via an access road through the Town of Kingsbury and Fort Edward west of the canal; and

**WHEREAS**, what DOT did not note is that this bridge serves a local business known as Wedgewood Golf Course and also numerous residences along East Road; and

**WHEREAS**, the bridge also provides emergency access to the properties on the east side of the bridge along East Road which would be negatively impacted by the significantly increased travel distance and response time for emergency medical services and fire services; and

**WHEREAS**, though the Board can understand the significant costs associated with maintaining the bridge, there is no reasonable connection to the properties on East Road that will be negatively impacted by the proposed closure. Properties located East of the Champlain Canal will have to travel out East Road and either proceed East or West, adding by measurement anywhere from 5-10 minutes, to upwards of 20 minutes or more, to access the Village of Fort Edward; and

**WHEREAS**, the loss of connection between the East and West sides of the Champlain Canal will have a significant impact to the Village and the residents of the Village.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby voices its opposition to the removal or abandonment of the bridge across the Champlain Canal connecting East Street and East Road; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Board supports the rehabilitation and if needed, replacement by the DOT of the bridge across the Champlain Canal connecting East Street and East Road; and be it further

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

**ALL AYES**

Mayor Traver said that a copy of the resolution should be sent to DOT, Assemblywoman Carrie Warner, The Town of Fort Edward. Trustee Williams said he spoke to Assemblywomen Carrie Woerner and she is very interested in helping the Village and Town of Fort Edward. Trustee Williams is very concerned about the fact that emergency services will not be able to get to the residences in a timely manner.

*Mayor Traver read the retirement letter from Patricia Ives and thanked Ms. Ives for her dedication to the Village.*

Motion by Trustee Williams seconded by Trustee DeVoe to adopt **Resolution #5** which states:

**WHEREAS**, The Fort Edward Village Board does hereby accept the letter of retirement from Patricia Ives, and

**WHEREAS**, the village board thanks Ms. Ives for her 35 years of service to the Village of Fort Edward.

**ALL AYES**

Motion by Trustee Carpenter seconded by Trustee Williams to adopt **Resolution #6** which states:  
**WHEREAS**, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby appoint Janelle Rose to the position of Deputy Village Clerk effective June 13, 2016 at the rate of \$14.00 per hour.  
**ALL AYES**

Motion by Trustee Conlon seconded by Trustee Williams to adopt **Resolution #7** which states:  
**WHEREAS**, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby appoint Phil Perry to the Village Zoning Board of Appeals, and  
**WHEREAS**, Mr. Perry's term will expire April 2021.  
**ALL AYES**

Motion by Trustee Carpenter seconded by Trustee Williams to adopt **Resolution #8** which states  
**WHEREAS**, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby approve the application for the fireworks pending approval of Washington County Code Enforcement for the following event: FESTA – June 24th & 25th.  
**ALL AYES**

Fire Chief Matt Hurlburt discussed the parking lot quotes. Mayor Traver said that the Village has only received two (2) quotes for the parking lot. The village and town crew will be removing the old pavement and will be preparing the parking lot for the new payment. Mayor Traver asked where the Fire Department stands on contributing to the cost of this project. Dennis Babson said that he can set a special board meeting to discuss this issue. The meeting is set for June 8, 2016 at 6:30PM. Patrick Fitzsimmons spoke of the issue they are having with mold at the Fire House.

Mayor Traver asked the Fire Department representatives if they are interested in the William's Property on Canal Street. Fire Chief Hurlburt said that this can also be discussed at the meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Williams spoke of the Town, the Village and the Historical Society trying to take possession of the Fort Edward Annex Building for storage of historical documents.

Katherine Rea – Asked if there is any progress on Barton Ave.  
Mayor said that there is not much progress – He and the Highway Superintendent did walk the street to see where improvements can be made. They feel that if they bring in some stone on the side that will give more road space. They also feel that there should be parking only on one (1) side.

Robert Haley – McCrea Street – asked where the village sweeper has been.  
Mayor Traver said that the sweeper is no longer working. The Village is currently looking at getting a new sweeper at a cost of about \$200,000.00.

The MS4 requires the catch basins to be maintained. This new sweeper is capable of cleaning catch basins. Trustee DeVoe asked how long it may take to get the new sweeper if the village buys it. Mayor Traver said it may take about six (6) weeks. Mayor Traver said that the long delivery may require the Village to bring a commercial sweeping company in to do the village. The company charges about \$100.00/hour. Trustee Williams asked that the village contact the Town of Fort Edward to see if they are willing to share the cost of the new sweeper.

Trustee Ed Carpenter told the board that he has spoken to Gary Hill about maybe planting Christmas trees at the reservoir property. Mr. Hill said that you can get over a thousand trees for about \$100. Trustee Carpenter said that Mr. Hill as a forester is recommending the planting of the trees. Pat Fitzsimmons told the board that he has a friend who has a Christmas Tree Farm and there is a lot of work involved. The trees need to be trimmed at least twice a year.

Jim Thatcher – CT Male – told the board that the next CFA Funding is due on July 29, 2015. This application would be for water lines on Prospect, Summit, Cooper and McIntyre Apartments. Jim Thatcher is looking for funding for the Water Tower. An engineering reports needs to be done to see if we qualify for funding through EFC. Mr. Thatcher spoke of the success that the Village has had with CDBG funding in the past.

*Board scheduled public hearing for July 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM for the 2016 CDBG Funding.*

Motion by Trustee DeVoe seconded by Trustee Williams to adopt **Resolution #9** which states:

**WHEREAS**, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby hire Jim Thatcher – CT Male to prepare an income survey on Prospect Street, Cooper Street, Summit Street and McIntyre Apartments at a cost of \$1500.00, and

**WHEREAS**, if the income survey is as strong as recent years the Village Board does authorize Jim Thatcher to prepare a CDBG Application for the 2016 CDBG Funding for Phase V water line project which includes the Prospect, Cooper Streets along with nearby streets heading north along Burgoyne Avenue. The total cost of the application will be \$5000.00.

**ALL AYES**

Motion by Trustee Conlon seconded by Trustee Carpenter to adopt **Resolution #10** which states:

**WHEREAS**, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby authorize Chazen Engineering to prepare and Engineering Report on the dams located at the Fort Edward Reservoir, and

**WHEREAS**, the total cost of the Engineering Report is \$5000.00.

**ALL AYES**

Motion by Trustee DeVoe seconded by Trustee Williams to adopt **Resolution #11** which states:

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Fort Edward and the Washington County Sewer Agency has secured funds from CDBG to replace water and sewer lines on Washington Street, Liberty Street, and Keating Avenue, and

**WHEREAS**, The Village of Fort Edward will act as the lead agency for the Phase IV Water Line Project.

Motion by Trustee Carpenter seconded by Trustee Conlon to adjourn meeting at 8:00PM.

**ALL AYES**

Respectfully Submitted,

Clerk/Treasurer

*Dated: June 7, 2016*