

**Village of Fort Edward
Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
Monday, March 3, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Traver called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Trustee Williams, Trustee Cutler, Trustee Boucher
Absent: Trustee Carpenter

Present: Matthew Rimkunas, Rob Martin, Melanie Dickinson, Mike Dickinson, Steve Davie, Therese Gillis, Denise Mayer, Amanda Durkee, Daniel Ward, Kyle Cozzens, John Perrine, Vicki Plude.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES

MOTION BY: TRUSTEE WILLIAMS

SECONDED BY: TRUSTEE CUTLER

APPROVAL OF REPORTS - CLERK, COURT, CODE, STREET, WATER, SHERIFF

MOTION BY: TRUSTEE CUTLER

SECONDED BY: TRUSTEE WILLIAMS

AUDIT OF BILLS – ABSTRACT # 10

GENERAL ABSTRACT - \$121,253.73

PAY BEFORE \$13,740.19

WATER ABSTRACT - \$11,958.47

PAY BEFORE \$4,317.42

MOTIONED BY: TRUSTEE WILLIAMS

SECONDED BY: TRUSTEE BOUCHER

Summary

The meeting focused on updates on community sports facilities, and the potential establishment of a camping area at the yacht basin to promote local tourism. The meeting also addressed the rising costs of the recycling center and the approval of a grant for demolishing derelict properties, alongside updates on community projects and initiatives.

 Outline

1. Community Sports Facilities

- There are ongoing issues with the availability of tennis courts, with only two available for use.
- The community has seen a decrease in youth participation in sports, with only three players transported last year.
- The introduction of pickleball courts has been noted, but there is a need for more tennis courts to host tournaments.

Resolution #21

Peddling and Soliciting Permit, VIP Banquet Servies, Inc. – Hibatchi Truck

Motion by: Trustee Cutler

Seconded by: Trustee Williams

Dated: March 3, 2025

WHEREAS, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby approve the Peddling & Soliciting permit for VIP Banquet Service, Inc operated by Qiang Wu; and

WHEREAS, the approved days of operation are 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm on Tuesdays for Tuesdays on the Hudson as well as any other day throughout the summer season from May through October 2025 ; and

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

ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED

2. Camping at Yacht Basin

- A proposal was made to establish a camping area at the yacht basin as a pilot program for bikers and boaters.
- The initiative aims to promote local businesses and attract tourists, with a small fee for campers.
- Discussions included the need for private business to manage the camping area, as the village lacks the resources to do so.

3. Guidelines for Camping Program

- There was a consensus on creating guidelines for the camping program to ensure it is well-organized and limited to specific groups.
- Concerns were raised about the impact on local residents and the need for a trial period to evaluate the program's effectiveness.
- The possibility of cashless payment options for camping fees was suggested to streamline the process.

4. Recycling Center Costs

- The village spent over \$50,000 last year on the recycling center, which is projected to increase to \$55,000 this year.
- Current operations involve sending a truck twice a month, but usage has decreased, leading to discussions about potentially reducing service frequency.
- Suggestions were made to hire personnel to manage the recycling center, but this would incur additional costs.

5. Community Development Block Grant

- The village applied for a \$275,000 grant aimed at demolishing dilapidated properties.
- This grant is part of a new initiative to assist smaller communities with demolition funding.
- A motion to procure engineering and grant administration services for the project was made by Trustee **Williams**, seconded by Trustee **Cutler**. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Updates on Local Projects

- There are ongoing discussions regarding properties at 138-140 and the need for stormwater management plans.
- A developer is interested in the properties, but progress is contingent on resolving mural-related issues.
- Community events are being planned, including a meeting on March 19th to discuss local projects and initiatives.

7. New Golf Course Initiatives – previously Wedgewood Golf Course – East Road, Fort Edward

- A new owner is planning to revitalize the local golf course with youth-focused activities and amenities.
- Plans include adding a restaurant, bar, and recreational activities such as miniature golf and cornhole tournaments.
- The owner aims to create a family-friendly environment and improve accessibility for disabled individuals.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee **Cutler**, seconded by Trustee **Williams**. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janelle Rose
Village Clerk-Treasurer