

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD MARCH 12, 2012 COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M. INTERVIEWS FOR PLANNING BOARD CLERK WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE.

PRESENT: DARLENE Z. DUMAS, SUPERVISOR  
DUANE A. BURCH, COUNCILMAN  
BRUCE K. WHITNEY, COUNCILMAN  
GRETCHEN R. STARK, COUNCILWOMAN  
ALFRED E. DUNLOP, COUNCILMAN

OTHERS PRESENT: HELEN DENNO, CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY TO THE SUPERVISOR

RECORDING SECRETARY: MARY JANE GODFREY, TOWN CLERK

ABSENT: PAUL WINCHELL, SUPT. OF HIGHWAYS

Meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A moment of silence was held for all the deceased in the Town.

Motion was introduced by Ms. Stark and seconded by Mr. Burch to approve the Town Board Minutes of February 13, 2012 with the following corrections:

Page 9; Ms. Stark was not present at the Meeting.  
Page 10; Public Comment Section was closed at 7:35 p.m.  
Page 11; Resolution No. 2012-101; the voting was not tabled but was not adopted with oneperson absent which was Ms. Stark.

Motion was carried to approve the February 13, 2012 Regular Town Board Minutes as corrected.

Motion was introduced by Mr. Burch and seconded by Mr. Dunlop to approve the Special Town Board Minutes of February 29, 2012 with the following corrections:

Page 15; Under New Business, it should read "Mr. Burch also reported that an inspection is mandated by the State for every two (2) years."  
Page 16; Under Additional New Business, it should read four (4) attorneys and three (3) engineers for interviews.

Motion was carried to approve the February 29, 2012 Special Town Board Minutes as corrected.

Motion was introduced by Ms. Stark and seconded by Mr. Dunlop to authorize the payment of bills as warranted and audited.

Motion was carried.

Monthly Statement to Supervisor for January, 2012 and February, 2012 was submitted and copies are available upon request.

Dennis Fletcher, Morgan's Lane, Comstock, NY commented on his request for a sign on said Morgan's Lane and Supervisor Dumas stated the sign has been put in place.

Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Dumas gave an update on problems, work in progress and other information.

Ms. Dumas and Mary Ellen Hill-Pierce, Assessor for the Town, recently attended a meeting on assessment.

Supervisor Dumas also reported on the on-going audit of all bills and Penflex, Inc. signings by the Town Board for the LOSAP.

Cool Insurance is the Town's agent for the Hadlock Pond Dam.

No one should contact the Attorney for the Town unless contacting Supervisor Dumas first.

Vouchers submitted by employees will no longer be accepted; all information will be on a time card only. Supervisor will not sign a voucher that does not meet the definition of employees.

A Special Meeting to interview candidates for the position of Attorney for the Town and Attorney For the Planning Board will take place Monday, March 19, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

A Special Meeting to interview candidates for the position of Town Engineer will take place Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

The Town Clerk gave her report for the month of February, 2012.

Public Comment was opened at 7:18 p.m.

William Traskis spoke of his contacting Washington County Code on clean-up in Fort Ann and will report further on this issue to the Town Supervisor.

Public Comment was closed at 7:20 p.m.

Other Committee: Mr. Dunlop spoke on the potential Canal Park and Lake George invasive species. Also, Mr. Dunlop spoke on the boat decontamination trial. The Canal Park is requesting from the Town \$16,000.00. The Town needs to decide or cancel on this request or the Department of State will award the money to another town.

Highway Superintendent: Mr. Winchell submitted to Mr. Burch his request authorizing him to purchase 6 – 8 tires to be purchased by fall.

New Business:

Resolution No. 2012-024 was introduced by Ms. Stark and seconded by Mr. Dunlop to set the salary of the Planning Board Clerk at \$2,000.00 per year.

Discussion followed from Mr. Burch who opposed and stated there is a large amount of work in the Planning Board Clerk's office. Mr. Burch requested the salary be \$4,100.00 as was budgeted.

Mr. Whitney also opposed the salary reduction of the Planning Board Clerk and reported on other town's Clerks and to change would be disruptive.

Supervisor Dumas stated some of the Clerk's duties could be done by any Planning Board Member.

It was stated that there has not been very large collection from the Planning Board recently.

Ms. Stark stated some towns have the Planning Board Clerk and the Town Clerk as one position and Ms. Stark also gave salary amounts of other towns.

Mr. Whitney stated the Town Clerk cannot take the Planning Board Clerk position being an elected official.

Supervisor Dumas stated there should be no errors in the Planning Board reports. It was stated that the job description should be changed.

Roll Call:	Burch	nay
	Whitney	nay
	Stark	aye
	Dunlop	aye
	Dumas	aye

Resolution No. 2012-024 was duly adopted.

Resolution No. 2012-025 was introduced by Mr. Dunlop and seconded by Ms. Stark to advertise for a Planning Board Member to be considered at the Regular Town Board Meeting of Monday, April 9, 2012. Two (2) letters of interest were received and one declined for said position of Planning Board Member.

Roll Call:	Burch	nay
	Whitney	nay
	Stark	aye
	Dunlop	aye
	Dumas	aye

Resolution No. 2012-025 was duly adopted.

Resolution No. 2012-026 was introduced by Mr. Burch and seconded by Mr. Whitney to approve the Budget Transfers Between Appropriations – To Cover Excess Expenditures Year Ending 12/31/11.

Resolution No. 2012-026 was duly adopted.

Resolution No. 2012-027 was introduced by Mr. Burch and seconded by Mr. Whitney authorizing the Superintendent of Highways to order culvert pipes that are to be used throughout the summer.

Resolution No. 2012-027 was duly adopted.

Correspondence/Miscellaneous: The Town received a notice from the Attorney General's Office urging the Town to establish a Board of Ethics. Mr. Dunlop will contact other towns and pursue this issue. The information on what is included in the said Code of Ethics should be in writing.

Southern Adirondack Tobacco Free Coalition letter was received questioning if the Town would like to establish tobacco-free outdoor places and policies.

There are three (3) properties on Morgan's Lane, Comstock, NY that need to be addressed on clean-up of properties.

Lake George Waterkeeper submitted information on property management of the water quality of Lake George.

Washington County: The Board of Supervisors is pursuing the sale of the Pleasant Valley Infirmary, Home Health Care and the Hospice which they believe is in everyone's best interest.

An e-mail was received from Jennifer Whittaker requesting funds for the Pilot Knob Fire Company.

Correspondence/ Miscellaneous were closed at 7:58 p.m.

Public Discussion was opened at 7:59 p.m.

Tim Webb, Jr. questioned the Code of Ethics, people who have a Code of Ethics, the Town Budget which Mr. Webb stated is not on the web site and Mr. Webb was informed for copies of the budget, one must go through the Freedom of Information Law.

Dara Michelle commented on finding new lawyers and stated it is expensive to change lawyers. Supervisor Dumas stated the Town will decide on an attorney through interviews March 19, 2012.

Howard Denison questioned how the proposals came through, also on salaries and other information. Supervisor stated the salaries vary in rate.

William Hohmann, Planning Board Vice-Chairman spoke on a Planning Board Clerk being at the next Planning Board Meeting.

Dale Grinnell discussed Paul Hawk of the Protection of American Battlefields being at the Fort Ann School April 28, 2012 with re-enactment information.

Dennis Fletcher spoke on the speed signs on Morgan's Lane in Comstock being reduced to 40 mph.

Scott Baldwin spoke and commented on the duties of the Planning Board Clerk.

Don Bedeaux, Chairman of the Planning Board questioned the by-laws of the Planning Board. Supervisor Dumas stated the duties/job description may be revised.

Public Discussion was closed at 8:24 p.m.

Resolution No. 2012-028 was introduced by Mr. Burch and seconded by Ms. Stark for the Town to request a speed limit of 30 mph on Morgan's Lane in Comstock, NY

Resolution No. 2012-028 was duly adopted.

Motion was introduced by Mr. Dunlop and seconded by Mr. Burch to go into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. to interview the applicants for Planning Board Clerk and to discuss the current litigation concerning the Hadlock Pond Dam.

Motion was carried.

Motion was introduced by Mr. Burch and seconded by Mr. Dunlop to go out of Executive Session at 9:22 p.m.

Motion was carried.

Motion was introduced by Mr. Dunlop and seconded by Ms. Stark to appoint Machelle A. Drinkwine, 11194 State Rte. 22, Comstock, NY 12821 to the position of the Town of Fort Ann Planning Board Clerk.

Motion was carried.

Motion was introduced by Mr. Dunlop and seconded by Ms. Stark to adjourn at 9:25 p.m.

Motion was carried.

Total Abstracts:	General	\$ 8,500.77
	Highway	\$22,496.84

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 16, 2012

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Mary Jane Godfrey, Town Clerk  
Town of Fort Ann, New York