

**MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL AND REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FORT ANN HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE FORT ANN TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Darlene Dumas  
Councilwoman Gretchen Stark  
Councilman Howard Denison  
Councilman Floyd Varney  
Councilwoman Deborah Witherell

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Helen Denno, Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor/Bookkeeper, Barbara Winchell, Town Clerk, Paul Winchell, Highway Superintendent, Mark Miller, Enforcement Officer, Richie Moore, Dale Grinnell, Gene Connell, Dave Dumas, Denny Fletcher

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence was held for deceased Fort Ann residents as well as Councilman Varney's brother (Ed Varney).

Motion was introduced by Councilman Denison and seconded by Councilwoman Stark to open the 2015 Organizational Meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Motion was carried.

**RESOLUTION #1-15  
ESTABLISHING RULES OF PROCEDURE**

On motion of Councilman Varney, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Establishing Rules of Procedure."

ADOPTED AYES 5 Varney, Stark, Dumas, Witherell, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that unless procedures established in Town Code provide otherwise, either the Supervisor or a resolution of the Town Board can refer a matter to the Highway Superintendent or to the Planning Board or to another committee for review and recommendation back to the Town Board.

**RESOLUTION #2-15  
REGULAR MEETING**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Setting 2015 Town Board Meeting Schedule." (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month or, if a holiday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of that month)

ADOPTED AYES 5 Witherell, Stark, Dumas, Varney, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Fort Ann shall be held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Fort Ann Town Hall, 80 George St., Fort Ann, NY.

**RESOLUTION #3-15  
AUTHORIZING BANKING TRANSACTIONS**

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Authorizing Banking Transactions." (Glens Falls National Bank & Trust Company)

ADOPTED      AYES 4      Stark, Witherell, Dumas, Varney  
                  ABSTAIN 1      Denison

Councilman Denison stated he didn't understand why the Clerk to the Supervisor wasn't listed under the following:

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board further authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor, Deputy Town Supervisor and/or Town Budget Officer to take any and all action necessary to effectuate all terms of this Resolution.

**RESOLUTION #4-15**

**AUTHORIZING ADVANCE APPROVAL OF CLAIMS**

On motion of Councilman Denison, seconded by Councilman Varney to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Authorizing Advance Approval of Claims."

ADOPTED      AYES 5      Denison, Varney, Dumas, Stark, Witherell

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board further authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor and/or Town Budget Officer to take any actions necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

**RESOLUTION #5-15**

**AUTHORIZING TOWN SUPERVISOR TO FILE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT IN TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Authorizing Town Supervisor to File Annual Financial Report in Town Clerk's Office."

ADOPTED      AYES 4      Witherell, Varney, Dumas, Stark  
                  NAYS 1      Denison

Councilman Denison stated he had issue with this resolution last year and still does.

**RESOLVED**, that in accordance with New York State General Municipal Law #30, the Fort Ann Town Board hereby authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor to file a copy of the Annual Financial Report to the State Comptroller with the Town Clerk's Office on or before April 30, 2015.

**RESOLUTION #6-15**

**DESIGNATING OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Designating Official Newspaper." (The Post Star)

ADOPTED      AYES 5      Witherell, Stark, Dumas, Varney, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby designates The Post Star as the Town of Fort Ann's official newspaper.

**RESOLUTION #7-15**

**ESTABLISHING MILEAGE ALLOWANCE**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Establishing Mileage Allowance." (\$.50 per mile)

Councilman Denison stated he would like to see this resolution modified from \$.50 per mile to according to Federal government rate.

Councilwoman Witherell stated we are not going to set a price and she doesn't think the federal government has ever overpaid anybody.

Councilman Varney suggested tabling this resolution.

On motion of Councilman Denison, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to amend Resolution #7-15 from \$.50 per mile to according to Federal government rate. Supervisor Dumas stated the Federal government probably has more money than the Town of Fort Ann has. Supervisor Dumas stated she would see what they do at the County. Councilman Denison stated he is trying to simplify things and he doesn't care what the County does. He feels that the fair and equitable thing to do is pay the Federal government rate and made a motion to amend RESOLUTION #7-15 from \$.50 per mile to "Resolution Establishing Mileage Allowance according to Federal government rate." This was seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Establishing Mileage Allowance according to Federal government rate."

ADOPTED      AYES 5      Denison, Witherell, Dumas, Stark, Varney

**RESOLVED**, in accordance with New York State Town Law #116, the Fort Ann Town Board hereby establishes the amount per mile to be allowed for the actual and necessary use of Town employees' personal automobiles in the performance of employees' duties according to the Federal government rate.

**RESOLUTION #8-15  
DELEGATING DUTIES TO THE SUPERVISOR**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Delegating Duties to The Supervisor."

ADOPTED      AYES 5      Witherell, Varney, Dumas, Stark, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board does delegate to the Town Supervisor the power and duties of administration and supervision of the Town and any Districts contained within it, providing that the Town Board may not and does not abdicate to the Supervisor or Surrender to her the Board's basic statutory responsibilities.

**RESOLUTION #9-15  
ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY TOWN SUPERVISOR**

On motion of Councilman Varney, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Establishing the Office of the Deputy Town Supervisor."

Councilman Denison asked if this is where Gretchen gets named. Supervisor Dumas responded no this is just establishing the Office of the Deputy Town Supervisor.

ADOPTED      AYES 5      Varney, Witherell, Dumas, Stark, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board does establish the Office of the Deputy Town Supervisor.

**RESOLUTION #10-15**

**ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY TOWN HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT**

On motion of Councilman Denison, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Establishing the Office of the Deputy Town Highway Superintendent."

ADOPTED      AYES 5              Denison, Witherell, Dumas, Stark, Varney

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board does establish the Office of the Deputy Town Highway Superintendent.

**RESOLUTION #11-15**

**APPOINTING REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS AND RECORDS**

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Appointing Registrar of Vital Statistics and Records." (Virginia Parrott)

ADOPTED      AYES 5              Stark, Witherell, Dumas, Varney, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that immediately upon Ms. Parrott's acceptance of appointment, she shall appoint a Deputy to act in her place and stead in case of absence or inability and the Deputy shall accept this appointment in writing.

**RESOLUTION #12-15**

**ADVERTISING FOR A FORT ANN PLANNING BOARD MEMBER**

On motion of Councilman Varney, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Advertising for a Fort Ann Planning Board Member."

Councilman Denison asked if there were only six (6) members currently on the Planning Board and Supervisor Dumas replied yes there's only six (6) members and that we advertised last year with no luck and so we'll try again this year for the 7<sup>th</sup> member.

ADOPTED      AYES 5              Varney, Witherell, Dumas, Stark, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to advertise for this vacancy in The Post Star.

**RESOLUTION #13-15**

**APPOINTING A FORT ANN PLANNING BOARD CHAIRMAN**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Appointing a Town Planning Board Chairman." (Donald Bedeaux)

Councilman Denison stated that he did not feel that the Town Board should appoint the Planning Board Chairman that it should be the Planning Board to appoint the Chairman. Supervisor Dumas explained the Planning Board does want Don Bedeaux to be the Chairman and she doesn't want to change the existing resolution. Supervisor Dumas referred to NYS Law book. Councilman Denison made a motion, which was seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to amend resolution #13-15 to have the Planning Board choose their own Chairman and Supervisor Dumas responded she did not want to amend this

resolution. On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney it was recommended to table this resolution. Councilman Varney stated this should be tabled until they know the rules. It was stated that if the Town Board did not appoint a Chairman to the Fort Ann Planning Board then the Fort Ann Planning Board would have no choice but to appoint a Chairman. Supervisor Dumas stated she would find the rule and email it to them for their review.

**RESOLUTION #14-15**

**APPOINTING A TOWN PLANNING BOARD SECRETARY**

On motion of Councilman Varney, seconded by Councilman Denison to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Appointing a Town Planning Board Secretary." (Anne S. Wilcox)

ADOPTED AYES 5 Varney, Denison, Dumas, Stark, Witherell

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby appoints Anne S. Wilcox as Planning Board Secretary.

**RESOLUTION #15-15**

**SETTING 2015 SALARIES OF ELECTED OFFICIALS AND HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Setting 2015 Salaries of Elected Officials and Highway Employees."

Town Supervisor	\$13,260.00
Deputy Town Supervisor	\$ 2,000.00
Town Council Member	\$ 2,888.50
Town Clerk	\$26,000.00
Clerk to the Supervisor	\$12,683.00
Town Sole Assessor (part-time)	\$ 5,000.00
Town Tax Collector	\$ 8,078.00
Town Budget Officer	\$ 1,200.00
FOIL Officer	\$ 1,000.00
Town Justice	\$14,138.00
Clerk to the Justice	\$15,916.00
Town Highway Superintendent	\$52,277.00
Town Deputy Highway Superintendent	\$ 2,000.00
Hadlock Dam Inspector	\$ 2,000.00
Enforcement Officer (part-time)	\$ 7,000.00
Historian	\$ 750.00
Registrar of Vital Statistics	\$ 200.00
Planning Board Secretary	\$ 4,000.00
Town Deputy Highway Superintendent	\$ 2,000.00
Deputy Town Clerk	\$ 11.00 per hr
Clerk to the Assessor	\$ 11.00 per hr
Clerk to the Tax Collector	\$ 11.00 per hr
Clerk to the Justice Clerk	\$ 11.00 per hr
Machine Equipment Operator	\$ 17.05 hr plus longevity
New Hire	\$ 16.05 per hour

ADOPTED AYES 5 Witherell, Varney, Dumas, Stark, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board further authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor and/or Town Budget Officer to take all necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

**RESOLUTION #16-15**

**AUTHORIZING FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACTS**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Authorizing Fire Protection Contracts."

Councilman Denison stated he wanted an opportunity to review the contracts. Supervisor Dumas explained that the Town Board Members can see/review before she signs the fire protection contracts. Councilman Denison stated he wasn't comfortable with this resolution until he had an opportunity to read the contracts. Supervisor Dumas reminded him of there was a time frame with signing the contracts. Councilwoman Witherell asked the Town Clerk for copies of the 2014 contracts.

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Denison it was requested to table this resolution. All were in favor of tabling resolution #16-15.

**RESOLUTION #17-15**

**AUTHORIZING CONTRACT AND PAYMENT WITH PENFLEX FOR PURPOSE OF LOSAP PROGRAM FOR WEST FORT ANN AND PILOT KNOB FIRE DISTRICTS**

On motion of Supervisor Dumas, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to table resolution entitled "Resolution Authorizing Contract and Payment with Penflex, Inc. for Purpose of LOSAP Program for West Fort Ann and Pilot Knob Fire Districts." All were in favor of tabling resolution #17-15.

**RESOLUTION #18-15**

**APPOINTING TOWN HEALTH OFFICER**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Appointing Town Health Officer." (Dr. David L. Foote)

ADOPTED      AYES 5      Witherell, Stark, Dumas, Varney, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby appoints Dr. David L. Foote, MD, as Town Health Officer for a period of one year ending December 31, 2015.

**RESOLUTION #19-15**

**APPOINTING TOWN ENGINEER**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Appointing Town Engineer." (Jarrett Engineers, PLLC, 12 E. Washington St., Glens Falls, NY 12801) Councilman Denison wanted it stated that Tom Jarrett was a partner of his and there is no conflict.

ADOPTED      AYES 5      Witherell, Stark, Dumas, Varney, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board does appoint Jarrett Engineers, PLLC, 12 E. Washington Street, Glens Falls, NY 12801 as the Engineer for the Town for the calendar year 2015.

**RESOLUTION #20-15**

**AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL UNDERTAKING**

On motion of Councilman Denison, seconded by Councilman Varney to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Authorizing Official Undertaking."

ADOPTED      AYES 5              Denison, Varney, Dumas, Stark, Witherell

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby authorizes the continuation of the blanket undertaking policy for officers, clerks and employees of the Town as provided through NYMIR, and approves disbursing the 2015 budgeted funds for said policy.

**RESOLUTION #21-15**

**AUTHORIZING THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO DESIGNATE A CONFIDENTIAL CLERK TO THE SUPERVISOR**

On motion of Councilman Varney, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Authorizing the Town Supervisor to Designate a Confidential Clerk to the Supervisor." (Helen Denno)

ADOPTED      AYES 5              Varney, Witherell, Dumas, Stark, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board does hereby authorize the Town Supervisor to make said appointments, provided that the total expenditures for Town employees may not exceed the total amount budgeted for Town employees in the 2015 Town Budget without further authorization from this Board.

**RESOLUTION #22-15**

**ADOPTING THE FORT ANN CODE OF ETHICS**

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Adopting the Fort Ann Code of Ethics."

ADOPTED      AYES 5              Stark, Witherell, Dumas, Varney, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby adopts the Fort Ann Code of Ethics first adopted on May 14, 2012.

**RESOLUTION #23-15**

**APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE FORT ANN BOARD OF ETHICS**

On motion of Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney to accept resolution entitled "Resolution Appointing Members to the Fort Ann Board of Ethics."

ADOPTED      AYES 5              Witherell, Varney, Dumas, Stark, Denison

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board hereby appoints Mary Davis, Paul Milligan, Curtis Rehm, Terry Barber and Gretchen Stark to the Fort Ann Board of Ethics for a period of one year ending December 31, 2015.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney to close the organizational meeting of 2015 at 7:52 p.m.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilman Varney to accept the Town Board Minutes of December 8, 2014.

Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Denison, to accept the Special Meeting Minutes of December 29, 2014.

Motion was introduced by Councilman Varney, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to pay the bills as warranted and audited.

Supervisor Dumas stated the monthly financial statement is on the Town's website and a paper copy is available upon request. She stated she had approximately 25 phone calls last month and reminded people of the Supervisor's blog on the Town's website.

Supervisor Dumas read her January 12, 2015 blog. "Happy New Year! I wish there were more people here. The beginning of a new year is a great time to look backward – and also to look forward. Progress made, goals achieved, problems encountered and problems surmounted – noting some of them is worth doing. It's also worthwhile looking forward. New plans and new goals are ready to be attached with vigor and optimism.

With that in mind, 2014 was a good year:

- We created a new website that's easier for residents to use and added a Supervisor's Blog that I try to keep updated. I will continue to update in the coming year on a regular basis. Keeping the citizens of the Town informed of what their government is doing is very important to me.
- We produced a good, fair budget and came in under the 2014 1.56% NYS tax cap. We've come in under the tax cap every year since I was first elected supervisor. I think it's important to keep taxes as low as possible and live within our means.
- We created a new cemetery line item in the budget to start cleaning up our cemeteries. We can't afford to do it all in one year or even two but we can afford to get started and start making progress.
- We reduced the salary of the Town Assessor and then restructured the position completely. As a result, we'll save over \$15,000 per year in this area while still accomplishing everything that we need to do.
- Good progress was made on two of the Town projects. Both the StreetScape and Canal Park projects are nearing completion.
- Trees were removed from Route 149 to remove a hazard and create a better line of sight for drivers.
- We reinstated the parkland requirements in the subdivision regulations.
- We received a \$5,000 grant because I completed the required grant request from 2011.
- We removed five parcels from the Hadlock Special District in the name of fairness because they did not benefit at all from being in the Special District.
- We amended the local law regarding fees charged for the regulation of mobile homes, mobile home parks, travel trailers and trailer camps.
- We addressed many small questions and requests brought to me and the board over the previous year.

As far as 2015 goes, I have a few goals:

- I want to continue trying to engage more of the Town's citizens in the workings of their government. This has been a goal of mine since I first ran for supervisor. This year, I'd like to revitalize the business development committee and create a new land use committee. I'll be looking for qualified volunteers to serve on these committees.
- Along the same line, I'd like to engage the citizens in setting long-term goals and solving small problems before they escalate. I've talked about having "Supervisor on the Corner" meetings since I've been supervisor. It's hard to find venues where we can hold neighborhood meetings but I will try again this year. If anyone can suggest an appropriate venue in any of our neighborhoods, please let me know. I'm eager to meet with people in every neighborhood.
- I want to create a process that will result in a long-term plan for Fort Ann.
- I want to make it a high priority to bring high-speed Internet to Fort Ann. It's important if we want to attract new business.
- I want to remove at least one street light on Goodman Road. Eventually, we'll have them all down but it's an expensive process.
- I want to look into more grants for town-wide improvements.
- I want to continue making progress on the environmental challenges at Lake Hadlock.
- I want to continue making improvements in our new website.
- I want to continue working hard to answer the questions and solve the problems brought to me by our citizens.

Supervisor Dumas stated she was looking at scheduling the annual audit on 1/20/15 at 10:00 a.m. and will let the Town Clerk know 1/13/15 if there are any conflicts with that date and if so, a different date will be chosen to hopefully get this done by the 20<sup>th</sup> of January.

Town Clerk's Report was given for December 2014. Supervisor Dumas asked what the charge was for copies. The Town Clerk replied \$.25 whether it is a fax or a photocopy. The Town Clerk also advised that the request for photocopies has increased since the Post Office no longer has a copier and is referring people to the Town Hall who are in need of copies.

Public comment was opened at 8:05 p.m.

Mr. Richard Moore asked about choosing a Town Attorney. Supervisor Dumas stated that this has to be decided and the Town Board will go into executive session.

Mr. Denny Fletcher asked about getting information before the next Board meeting regarding the mileage submitted and paid in 2014 for the Enforcement Officer as well as Animal Control.

Mr. Dale Grinnell mentioned about advertising in The Post Star and the fact that not everyone reads The Post Star because there tends to be a lot of negativity with The Post Star. Supervisor Dumas responded she'd like to advertise in The Chronicle but they are very expensive but added whatever we advertise in The Post Star is also out on the Town website.

Public comment was declared closed at 8:08 p.m.

Highway Superintendent Report: Mr. Winchell reported his department has been very busy with storms. His department worked with National Grid to get Shelving Rock opened from Tuesday afternoon through Friday morning. He has one (1) truck with transmission issues and it's estimated to

cost approximately \$3,000.00 to repair. This truck is either a 2000 or 2001 was purchased used six (6) or seven (7) years ago.

Two Bids on a 2015 F450 Regular Cab truck were opened at tonite's meeting:

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 1) West Herr Ford, 5025 Camp Rd., Hamburg, NY 14075  | \$33,861.00 |
| 2) Warren Ford, 3711 Main St., Warrensburg, NY 12885 | \$33,408.98 |

Winchell recommended Warren Ford in the amount of \$33,408.98

Councilwoman Stark stated the ice fishing derby that took place 1/10/15 was very successful. There were 103 adults and 31 kids in attendance and every kid that participated went home with something. There is a meeting the week of 1/19/15 to decide on how to distribute the money (Fort Ann Library, Fort Ann Youth League, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Make-A-Wish). She said it was a good day and a lot of fun. There will be thank you notes sent out to those who contributed donations.

She thanked Supervisor Dumas for attending and wanted to mention that in the future if the other Town Board members could attend that would be good because it was noticed that they weren't in attendance.

She is still working on the trail from Waterford to Whitehall it is a very slow process but looking good. Also working on Locke 7 trail. the Fort Ann and Pilot Knob Fire Departments, Fort Ann Rescue Squad, The Post Star and the Fort Ann Highway Superintendent for volunteering their time for the Ice Fishing Derby on Hadlock.

**RESOLUTION #24-15**

**ACCEPT THE BID OF WARREN FORD FOR ONE 2015 CAB AND CHASSIS**

On motion of Councilman Varney, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to accept the bid of Warren Ford in the amount of \$33,408.98 for one (1) 2015 F450 Regular Cab truck.

ADOPTED      Ayes    5            Denison, Varney, Dumas, Stark, Witherell  
                  Nays    0

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board accepts the \$33,408.98 bid from Warren Ford, 3711 Main St., Warrensburg, NY 12885 for a 2015 F450 Regular Cab truck.

**RESOLUTION #25-15**

**APPOINTING STREETSCAPES CHAIRPERSON**

On motion of Councilwoman Stark, seconded by Councilwoman Witherell to appoint Cindy Allen chairperson to the Streetscapes Committee.

ADOPTED      Ayes 5            Stark, Witherell, Dumas, Denison, Varney  
                  Nays 0

**RESOLVED**, that the Fort Ann Town Board does appoint Cindy Allen, Hadlock Pond Rd., Fort Ann, NY 12827 as the Streetscapes Chairperson for the calendar year 2015.

Councilman Denison had nothing to report out on regarding the cemetery committee as they couldn't meet recently due to illnesses. He read an email received from Gloria Quinlan and stated this needs to be addressed. "We have received the town tax statement which, as expected, includes Dam District tax. We are aware that the information required to eliminate this tax from our statement was not completed prior to the issuing of the statements (through no fault of our own) so have included that amount in our check. However, since as we all know, this tax is for the year 2015 and our property was removed from the Dam District prior to the beginning of the 2015 calendar year, we are hereby requesting to be reimbursed for \$695.91 which is the amount we paid for the Dam District tax. Also, Lorraine Connor has asked me to request a refund for the amount included in her statement for the Dam District tax for the same reason. Although I am not authorized to request a refund for all five of the properties that were removed from the Dam District at the same time, I think you will all agree it would be the proper thing to do." Supervisor Dumas stated she did forward Gloria's email to the Town Attorney.

Councilwoman Witherell distributed a DRAFT copy of the Emergency Preparedness Plan. It had been discussed to mail a questionnaire with the 2015 Town & County tax bills but that didn't happen so perhaps the questionnaire could accompany the School Tax or the 2016 Town & County tax bills so we'd have a better idea of who has special needs, 4 wheelers, etc. Supervisor Dumas thanked Councilwoman Witherell for the excellent job that she did on this project. Councilwoman Witherell thanked Jon Pease, Deputy Director of Emergency Services at Washington County for his major contribution to this project.

Enforcement Officer report given for the month of December 2014. Things were slow being the time of year in the building permit area.

Supervisor Dumas appointed Councilwoman Stark as Deputy Town Supervisor.

Supervisor Dumas appointed Helen Denno as Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor.

Barbara J. Winchell, Town Clerk, appointed Anne S. Wilcox as the Deputy Town Clerk II.

Paul Winchell, Town Highway Superintendent, appointed Matthew Graham as Deputy Highway Superintendent.

No Historian's Report.

No Old Business to report.

No New Business to report:

Correspondence/Miscellaneous: Supervisor Dumas reported that she is on the same Washington County Committee's in 2015 as she was in 2014. She also mentioned that Washington County is looking to raise mortgage tax  $\frac{1}{4}$  %. Councilman Denison stated that he feels this would negatively affect the Town of Fort Ann and is of the opinion that it should be a tax for the sellers. Councilman Denison asked Supervisor Dumas for a resolution requesting her to vote no on the mortgage tax. Supervisor Dumas replied that a resolution in which he was requesting could not be done.

8:50 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilman Varney, seconded by Councilwoman Stark to go into executive session to discuss pending or current litigation.

9:00 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Denison to come out of executive session.

9:00 p.m. open public discussion

9:01 p.m. close of public discussion

9:02 p.m. Motion was introduced by Councilwoman Witherell, seconded by Councilman Varney to adjourn.

Motion was carried.

Total Abstracts:	General:	\$15,834.67
	Highway:	\$11,131.55

Respectfully submitted,

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Barbara J. Winchell, Town Clerk  
Town of Fort Ann, New York

Dated: January 16, 2015

DRAFT