

TOWN OF FLORIDA BOARD MEETING

June 18, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Town of Florida Town Board was called to order at 7:03 pm by Supervisor Mead. Also present for the meeting were Councilman Rackowski, Councilman Alikonis, Councilman Phillips, Councilman Robataille, Attorney Slezak and Town Clerk Staley.

Councilman Rackowski led the salute to the flag.

Motion by Councilman Phillips and seconded by Councilman Rackowski to accept the Public Hearing minutes from May 21, 2018; Local Law #2 Procurement Policy; all in favor and passed.

Motion by Councilman Robataille and seconded by Councilman Rackowski to accept Public Hearing minutes from May 21, 2018; Local Law #3 Opting Out of the Exemption for Solar provided by Real Property Tax Law Section 487; all in favor and passed.

Motion by Councilman Phillips and seconded by Councilman Alikonis to approve and accept minutes of May 21, 2018 Board Meeting; all in favor and passed.

Committee Reports:

Communications & Announcements:

- Clerk Staley announced that the Town's website should be up and running by the July Board Meeting.

Legislative:

- Nothing at this time.

Engineering:

- Nothing at this time.

Attorney:

- Francisco matter is on-going. Had first court hearing. Second hearing is approaching.
- Following up with John Sampone regarding the solar decommissioning contract with the Nadler solar project. Some details need to be changed and the amount of the bond needs to be adjusted.
- A moratorium on solar farms could be enacted as a local law. There is already a solar regulation in place so a moratorium would not necessarily work to stop a large scale project that is coming through the state approval process anyway.
- No word from Bill Lorman regarding the water/sewer contract with Amsterdam.

Planning and Zoning:

- Nothing at this time.

Building Maintenance:

- Library would like to put up a shed to the left of the building that the library is on for the storage of excess books. It will be weather proof. The board agreed.
- Question about if the contract is coming up for renewal. Attorney Slezak said she would look up the contract and get in contact with Supervisor Mead.
- New road signs for the library will be made at the County DPW building and placed by the County DPW. Supervisor Mead will follow-up with this.

Highway:

- 2016 Ford is going to be placed up for auction through Auction's International. The new truck is in.
- Jim Kietzmann has requested the Town to consider reimbursing him for his dental that he pays through the military.
- A sign barricade was stolen from the end of Ft. Hunter Rd. after the 225th Celebration.

Water and Sewer:

- Water tap was done for Dollar General. Sewer has not been done yet.

Youth:

- Nothing at this time.

Veterans:

- Nothing at this time.

Old Business:

- Reading of SEQR and passage of Local Law 3# Opting Out of the Exemption for Solar provided by Real Property Tax Law Section 487.

New Business:

Motion by Councilman Robataille and seconded by Councilman Alikonis to amend the agenda to re-number **RESOLUTION 60** as **RESOLUTION 60a** finding a negative declaration of the SEQR & **RESOLUTION 60b** adoption of Local Law #3: The Opting Out of the Exemption provided by Real Property Tax Law Section 487. All in favor and passed.

1. **RESOLUTION #60a** sponsored by Councilman Robataille and seconded by Councilman Alikonis to allow Supervisor Mead to sign the SEQR with a Negative Declaration; All in favor and passed.
2. **RESOLUTION #60b** sponsored by Councilman Robataille and seconded by Councilman Rackowski to adopt Local Law #3: The Opting Out of the Exemption for Solar provided by Real Property Tax Law Section 487. All in favor and passed.

Adopted: __5__ Ayes __0__ Nays __0__ Abstentions

Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Mead - Aye
 Councilman Alikonis – Aye
 Councilman Rackowski – Aye
 Councilman Robataille – Aye
 Councilman Phillips – Aye

3. **RESOLUTION #61** sponsored by Councilman Alikonis and seconded by Councilman Rackowski to hire attorney firm FtizGerald Morris Baker Firth P.C. as additional counsel for the Town of Florida; All in favor and passed.
4. **RESOLUTION #62** sponsored by Councilman Robataille and seconded by Councilman Rackowski authorizing the transfer of three thousand three hundred dollars (\$3,300) from A1990.4-Contingency Fund to A1410.4-Town Clerk CE Fund; for the payment to BAS for website design and annual support and maintenance fees. All in favor and passed.

Public Comment opened at 7:41pm.

- John Turner, 155 Buhrmaster Road, not at all happy with the solar farm on Route 30. Expressed strong contempt and disgust with the Town Board.
- Vijay Puran, 859 Bullshead Road, is concerned about the visual impact along Bullshead Road and the glare from the solar panels of the 880 acre proposed farm. Suggested that Supervisor Mead put a resident of that specific area near the proposed solar farm site on the committee.
- Jason Downing, 248 Main Street, Fort Hunter, ramp built still no action taken. Supervisor Mead informed him it has been investigated and no code is being violated.
- Ed Berry, Church Street, Fort Hunter, upset with the NYS Rising money being used to build a park instead of building up the berm between the hamlet of Fort Hunter and the Schoharie Creek. Stated it would cost the same amount to build up the berm as install a new park. Wouldn't it be smarter to protect the hamlet and its residents rather than build a park?
- Robert Savoca, 329 Denise Road, questioned the length of the solar farm approval process and when does the Planning Board meet?

Public Comment Closed @ 8:01pm.

MOTION by Councilman Robataille to audit and pay the monthly bills was seconded by Councilman Rackowski; all in favor and passed.

MOTION by Councilman Robataille to approve the Supervisor’s Report was seconded by Councilman Rackowski; all in favor and passed.

MOTION by Councilman Phillips to adjourn was seconded by Supervisor Mead; all in favor and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Staley
Town Clerk