

# TOWN OF FLORIDA BOARD MEETING

February 18, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Town of Florida Town Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Eric Mead. Also present for the meeting were Councilman Rackowski, Councilman Alikonis, Councilman Phillips, Attorney Deborah Slezak, Attorney Michael Crowe, and Town Clerk Staley. Councilman Robataille was absent.

Councilman Phillips led the salute to the flag.

**Motion** by Councilman Rackowski and seconded by Councilman Alikonis to amend **RESOLUTION #44**; change the date from January 1, 2019 to February 18, 2019; all in favor and passed.

**Motion** by Councilman Alikonis and seconded by Councilman Rackowski to adopt the Agenda as amended; all in favor and passed.

**Motion** by Councilman Phillips and seconded by Councilman Alikonis to approve and accept minutes of January 21, 2019 Board Meeting; all in favor and passed.

## Committee Reports:

### *Communications & Announcements:*

- Nothing at this time.

### *Legislative:*

- Nothing at this time.

### *Engineering:*

- Salt Shed soil boring test holes have been done.

### *Attorney:*

- Progressing on the Francisco property maintenance issue.
- Cushing Stone and Cranesville Block court proceedings regarding their revaluation cases are moving forward.
- Attorney Slezak received an email asking about the Veteran's Park responsibility regarding the liability of mowing the park and what would happen should a vehicle in the parking lot be damaged or an injury occur due to mowing by a committee member. Supervisor Mead stated that the Veteran's Park is covered under a liability policy through the Town's insurance. Attorney Slezak also said there was a question of accountability regarding finances and was informed that Supervisor Mead and the bookkeeper audit the finance monthly when a report is generated to the committee detailing their expenditures and income.

### *Planning and Zoning:*

- Paul Slansky reached out to the real estate company regarding the box trailer that is currently sitting on the property abandoned on Route 5S and was told that it will be removed when the property is sold.
- The property that Frank Blond was living on is owned by Brian Leffler. He will be contacting Brian to ask him to clean that parcel up also.
- John Sampone informed the Board that Dollar General wants a Temporary CO. There are a multitude of items that need to be completed before that can happen. The biggest being fire safety. He is meeting with the site supervisor to go over all items.
- John also handed out his annual report for 2018 building permits.

### *Building Maintenance:*

- Steve Anderson got a price for tables and chairs through Sam's Club. \$79 per table and \$21 per chair. Need 8 tables and 160 chairs.

### *Highway:*

- Received a quote from Monroe for CASE loaders. These include a 3 year warranty with on-site service when needed at a cost of \$29,308.51. This is approximately \$8,600 less than CAT loaders with a one year warranty and no on-site service at a cost of \$37,949. The exchange of attachments was included in the CASE price and they offered an even trade price for the forks.

Steve informed the Board that Monroe would bring a loader over for a ½ day test run if wanted. The Board suggested he do that and if the CASE loaders will work for what is needed then Steve can put them on order.

**Motion** by Supervisor Mead and seconded by Councilman Rackowski for Steve Anderson and the highway employees to do a test run with a CASE loader and place an order if that goes well and the loaders are what is needed; all in favor and passed.

- Hydraulic hoses in two trucks blew out during plowing today. Steve is going to have the hoses replaced.

*Water and Sewer:*

- Generator at the sewer pump station by Dollar General is fixed.

*Youth:*

- Movie night Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Emerald Cinemas.

*Veterans:*

- Approximately 400 breakfasts were sold at the Veteran’s Breakfast on Sunday. A great turn-out.

*Old Business:*

- Nothing at this time.

*New Business:*

1. **RESOLUTION #42** was sponsored by Supervisor Mead and seconded by Councilman Rackowski to set the Public Hearing date for the amendments to the Town of Florida Solar Ordinance for Monday, March 18, 2019 at 6:30pm. All in favor and passed.  
Mike Crowe worked on the draft of the new ordinance. He thinks it is a strong ordinance and fills in some of the blanks that the previous one did not address. He recommended sending the draft to the Planning Board members for their review and then scheduling another workshop between the Town Board and Planning Board before the public hearing and passage of the new amended ordinance in March. It was decided that the workshop will be Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 6:00pm.
2. **RESOLUTION #43** was sponsored by Councilman Alikonis and seconded by Councilman Rackowski establishing the Town Board for the Town of Florida as the lead agency in the SEQRA review of the proposed annexation petition of Dr. Pervaz M. Choudry.

**Adopted:**           \_\_4\_\_ Ayes \_\_0\_\_ Nays \_\_0\_\_ Abstentions

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

Attorney Michael Crowe explained the Lead Agency duties and what is involved in the SEQRA and EIS process. Final determination for a negative or positive declaration is the Town Board’s decision. There is some information missing from the initial SEQRA application by Attorney McQuire and Attorney Crowe will send a letter asking him to fill in the missing information within 30days.

3. **RESOLUTION #44** was sponsored by Councilman Rackowski and seconded by Supervisor Mead appointing Charles Saul, 606 Langley Road, Amsterdam NY to the Town of Florida Planning Board for a term of 7 years beginning February 18, 2019 and ending December 31, 2025. All in favor and passed.

*Public Comment opened at 7:52pm.*

Ed Berry, 131 West Church Street, Fort Hunter NY stated that he believed public officials should hold themselves and be held to a higher standard. He pointed out that Paul Slansky put in a foundation for a building that had to go before the ZBA before getting all of the proper permits. He also pointed out that if the library shed is too close to the town hall building and needs to be moved then town residents

should not be allowed to place buildings on their own property that do not meet appropriate setbacks and sidelines.

Matt Gogis, 731 Pattersonville Road, Pattersonville NY asked if the Town had received notification of the award of intervenor funds. He also stated that there was a fire call to a large solar site off of Route 5S in Rotterdam and no emergency vehicles could access the site due to it not being cleared of snow. He suggested the Town consider putting a clause in the new solar ordinance regarding cleaning of all access paths to any solar site built in the town.

Scott McKay, 216 Hartley Road, Amsterdam, NY asked if anyone had shown interest in being an alternate ZBA member.

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

**MOTION** by Councilman Phillips 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 Councilman Alikonis; all in favor and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Staley  
Town Clerk