

# TOWN OF FLORIDA BOARD MEETING

April 20, 2020 via Zoom

7:00pm

The regular monthly meeting of the Town of Florida Town Board; held via Zoom, was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Eric Mead. Also present for the meeting were Councilman Harold Alikonis, Councilman Matthew Gogis, Councilman Steve Rackowski, Councilman Guy Robataille, Attorney Deborah Slezak and Town Clerk Emily Staley.

Councilman Harold Alikonis led the salute to the flag.

**Motion** by Councilman Guy Robataille and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to accept the Agenda; all in favor and passed.

**Motion** by Councilman Guy Robataille and seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis to approve and accept minutes of the February 24, 2020 Board Meeting; all in favor and passed.

## Committee Reports:

### *Communications & Announcements:*

- Supervisor Mead announced that the municipal offices will remain closed through May 15, 2020 and hopefully will re-open May 18, 2020.

### *Assessor:*

- The Tentative Roll will be available for inspection on May 1, 2020. Lisa Jablonski said that due to COVID-19 in person inspections will have to be put on hold with the roll being made available for inspection only on-line. She stated that is what the Montgomery County Office of Real Property advised her. Attorney Slezak said she would do some research and get back to the Board and Lisa with her findings.

### *Engineering:*

- Nothing at this time.

### *Attorney:*

- Courts are re-opening to hear cases on a limited basis via conference calls, skype and zoom.
- Attorney Slezak did advise the Board regarding holding meetings virtually and as long as notice is published in the paper and on the website with a way for people to access the link all meetings can continue. She has been working closely with Clerk Emily Staley to make sure these notices are posted and worded correctly.
- A special meeting will need to be set to pass the Zoning Ordinance Amendments.
- Attorney Mike Crowe spoke about the High River Energy project and the work he and Steve LeFevre from Barton and Loguidice have been doing to examine and keep up with the submissions. He informed the board that he and Steve are looking into getting a separate visual impact study done as they do not feel the one submitted by High River Energy is sufficient enough. Councilman Alikonis asked about the Article 23 that was written into the State's 2020 budget. Mike stated that any applicants would have to notify the DPS that they wish to switch to that article process and so far High River Energy has not done that.

### *Planning and Zoning:*

- John Sampone has been working from home. He is moving forward with issues he has spotted around town and came up with a list for Paul Slansky to follow-up on. Supervisor Mead expressed that he has a couple of issues he would like looked into and he will forward those to John.
- Councilman Rackowski asked about the progress on the red schoolhouse on Route 30 and what if any progress has been made. John stated that he has spoken with the Uncle of the owner and he has begun working on cleaning it out.

### *Building Maintenance:*

- The whole building generator installed as part of the Court's grant is up and running. Final testing has been done and the system is operational. Steve Anderson has been involved.

- Patty Gardner has asked that the locks on her storage closet in the basement be changed. She has noticed that supplies are missing and also garbage bags and her mop that was brand new. Supervisor Mead said he would look into getting that done.

#### *Highway:*

- All Highway Department workers have been out due to COVID-19 and are coming back to work as of May 4, 2020. Guys will be able to social distance. Roads need to be swept clear of sand and mowing needs to begin on town properties. Harold asked if the guys could go through the trucks to make sure no maintenance issues are missed.
- County will be paving the inside of the salt shed after Borderline does the final grading.
- The conveyor for salt is on site. Steve Anderson is waiting for the time when he will be able to demo it. He will be using CHIPS money to purchase that. He did not get a chance to test it before the shutdown.

#### *Water and Sewer:*

- Water main broke in front of the Mars property. Santos Construction assisted with the digging and repair of the main. It is fixed now.

#### *Youth:*

- Easter Egg Hunt was cancelled and the bus trip to Mystic, CT will need to be cancelled as well and rescheduled to a later date.

#### *Veterans:*

- No service for the public for Memorial Day. They are also waiting for work to be able to be done for an entry arch to the park.

#### *Old Business:*

- Nothing at this time.

#### *New Business:*

1. **RESOLUTION #43** sponsored by Councilman Harold Alikonis and seconded by Councilman Guy Robataille to set the Public Hearing for the Zoning Ordinance Amendments as recommended to the Town Board from the Planning Board for Friday, May 1, 2020 at 6:50pm. All in favor and passed.
2. **RESOLUTION #44** sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to set a Special Meeting for Friday, May 1, 2020 to begin immediately following the Public Hearing for the approval of the Zoning Ordinance Amendments to the Town of Florida Zoning Code. All in favor and passed.
3. **RESOLUTION #45** sponsored by Councilman Guy Robataille and seconded by Councilman Harold Alikonis to authorize Supervisor Eric Mead to contract with the NYS Department of Public Service for Intervener Funds related to the High River Energy Solar Farm Project. All in favor and passed.
4. **RESOLUTION #46** sponsored by Councilman Guy Robataille and seconded by Councilman Rackowski to appoint Rich List, 321 McDougall Road, Pattersonville, NY as Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals for the Town of Florida for the year 2020. All in favor and passed.
5. **RESOLUTION #47** sponsored by Councilman Guy Robataille and seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis to appoint Scott McKay, 216 Hartley Road, Amsterdam, NY as Deputy Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals for the Town of Florida for the year 2020. All in favor and passed.

*Public Comment: No one present from the public.*

**MOTION** by Councilman Guy Robataille to audit and pay the monthly bills was seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis; all in favor and passed.

**MOTION** by Councilman Harold Alikonis to approve the Supervisor's Report was seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski; all in favor and passed.

**MOTION** by Councilman Matthew Gogis to adjourn was seconded by Councilman Harold Alikonis; all in favor and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted; Emily Staley - Town Clerk