

TOWN OF FLORIDA BOARD MEETING

October 18, 2021

7:00pm

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

Councilman Mark Quiri led the salute to the flag.

Motion by Councilman Harold Alikonis and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to accept the Agenda; all in favor and passed.

Motion by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to approve and accept minutes of the September 20, 2021 Board Meeting; all in favor and passed.

Committee Reports:

Communications & Announcements:

- Supervisor Mead sent out the preliminary budget for Board review. If any Councilman has a question or request for change let Supervisor Mead know.

Assessor:

- Nothing at this time.

Engineering:

- Supervisor Mead shared the proposal from CT Male for the survey and separation of the proposed children's park from the Town Office property and the Veteran's Park. The quote was for \$14,750. The Board thinks this is slightly high. Supervisor Mead said he will reach out to Chris Foss and see if he could give a quote as well. Attorney Deb Slezak stated that the price is slightly high but it is 25 acres that need to be divided. She said she will speak with Ray from CT Male and find out specifically what he is going to do. The cost could also be higher because he is going to expedite the survey.
- Supervisor Mead also spoke to Rich at regarding the work to be done at the Highway building and the Town Office Building. With the inclement weather just around the corner and needing to get the bid specs together it will be March before bid specs can be posted and April meeting to open bids received.

Attorney:

- Supervisor Mead handed out the contract he received from Kim Graff. Deb will review and let him know of any changes that need to be done. It will be brought back to the November meeting and then the Public Hearing will be scheduled.
- Clerk Emily Staley forwarded the library contract as well and Attorney Slezak found no issues except for a few spelling mistakes. Supervisor Mead suggested waiting until they make a decision regarding moving to the basement before signing a contract. He ordered an air quality test for the basement and will notify the Board and the Library Board of the results.
- Attorney Slezak informed the Board that the Schaufelburg matter will be reviewed by the Court in November.
- Attorney Slezak is also still trying to get information on the LaBate septic issue in Fort Hunter and whether or not they are complying with their repair/replacement.
- Drafted the Local Laws for the purchase of the water tank and the land from Montgomery County. Emily will share with the Board for their review and the Public Hearing will be held next month. No issue with assigning the current lease to the Town and the Town will also received 100% of the revenue.

Planning and Zoning:

- An application to the Planning Board for a wind turbine is being referred to the ZBA for a variance.
- Councilman Steve Rackowski is getting phone calls regarding the DiManno property on Snooks Corners Road. Zoning Enforcement is aware of the issue and is working on getting compliance.

MOTION by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Harold Alikonis to declare the Town Board of the Town of Florida as Lead Agent for SEQRA for the purchase of the land and water tower from Montgomery County. All in favor and passed.

Building Maintenance:

- Roof at the pump is station is complete.
- New water coolers have been installed and the contract with Crystal Rock has been terminated.

Highway:

- The Town Clerk has received four (4) applications for the positions that are going to be vacant in the Highway Department in 2022.
- Getting the plow trucks ready for the winter season.
- Quotes were passed out for new tractors. Money is available in the budget for this purpose. Need to get them ordered now because it may take up to six (6) months for them to come in. Councilman Rackowski asked why the mowers are driven back to the garage each day after mowing and Steve Anderson explained that was done for safety reasons and to prevent vandalism. The Town has had no issues with vandalism but surrounding areas experienced some last year and he wants to be proactive. Town Board agreed to the purchase and to put the other tractor up for auction if the Town of Charleston does not want the tractor.

Water and Sewer:

- There was a meeting with the engineer regarding the fixes needed to the water tank. All that is needed is a mixing valve and some touch-up on the paint in a few spots. The whole tank does not need to be painted at this time.
- A new alarm was installed at the sewer pump stations.
- A service call is needed for diagnosis of the issues with the sewer pump motor.

Youth:

- Halloween will be a truck or treat again this year in the Village of Minaville. Working with the Fire Department and church to get people across Route 30 safely. It will take place from 4:30pm to 6:30pm on October 30, 2021.

Veterans:

- The tank is painted and a new cover for the gun barrel is installed. Lights will be wired in as well.
- Veterans Day service will be on November 7th at 1pm.

Old Business:

Nothing at this time

New Business:

1. **RESOLUTION #58** sponsored by Councilman Steve Rackowski and seconded by Councilman Harold Alikonis authorizing Elma's Tax Service to perform the Justice Court Audit for the year 2021 for Justice Stephen M. Brown and Justice Louis Carleo III; all in favor and passed. Councilman Matthew Gogis Abstained.
2. **RESOLUTION #59** sponsored by Supervisor Eric Mead and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to set the Public Hearing for the 2022 Budget for Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 6:00pm in the lower meeting room at 214 Fort Hunter Road; all in favor and passed.
3. **RESOLUTION #60** sponsored by Supervisor Eric Mead and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to set the Public Hearing for Local Law #2 authorizing the purchase of real property from Montgomery County; SBL#54.-2-18, for Monday, November 15, 2021 at 6:50pm; all in favor and passed.
4. **RESOLUTION #61** sponsored by Councilman Steve Rackowski and seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis to set the Public Hearing for Local Law #3 authorizing the purchase of real property from Montgomery County; SBL#54.-1-34.21, for Monday, November 15, 2021 at 6:55pm; all in favor and passed.

Public Comment: Opened at 7:37pm

Al Travis, 552 State Highway 161, Amsterdam, introduced himself as the write-in candidate for Town of Florida Justice Court. Self-employed contractor who served as a Justice in Worcester NY.

NYS Troop Doyle asked if the Town Board would consider paying for a new radar gun for use on the Thruway section that the NYS Police patrol that is part of the Town of Florida. The cost of the gun would be \$3,170. Supervisor Mead said that the Town purchased the last one and that was in the 90's when his father, Ron Mead, was Supervisor. Supervisor Mead stated that he would like to put it on the abstract for November's meeting to be able to purchase one. The Town Board agreed.

Public Comment: Closed at 7:48pm

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

MOTION by Councilman Mark Quiri to approve the Supervisor's Report was seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis; all in favor and passed.

MOTION by Councilman Matthew Gogis to adjourn was seconded by Supervisor Eric Mead; all in favor and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:14pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Emily Staley - Town Clerk