

TOWN OF FLORIDA BOARD MEETING

November 15, 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 Harold Alikonis led the salute to the flag.

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

Motion by Supervisor Eric Mead and seconded by Councilman Harold Alikonis to accept the minutes from the 2022 Budget Public Hearing held on November 4, 2021; all in favor and passed.

Motion by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to approve and accept minutes of the October 18, 2021 Board Meeting; all in favor and passed.

Committee Reports:

Communications & Announcements:

- Letter of resignation from the Town of Florida Youth Commission from Deb Johnson and Emily Staley.

Assessor:

- Lisa requested a meeting between Tim, Matt, Emily and the Supervisor to go over procedures with building permit applications so that all 4 departments are on the same page.

Engineering:

- Attorney Slezak informed the Board that the first survey from CT Male included a topographical survey and that is not needed. If the Board wanted to get another quote they could but then that would push the surveying out until later in the spring next year and CT Male could do the survey now. Discussion over the cost and the Board agreed it was a reasonable price and agreed to move forward.

Attorney:

- Attorney Slezak spoke to the paralegal who works for the Schafelburg's Attorney. She said that she would look into the matter and email Deb. Attorney Slezak is also drafting another letter to the Attorney informing him the according to reports from resident's and town officials his client is still not in compliance.
- Supervisor Mead received the AIA documents for the HVAC agreement. The cost is three thousand two hundred dollars (\$3,200) for the prep to get the paperwork together for the bidding. If the bid packet is put together and out by January or February then work could start as early as April of 2022.

Planning and Zoning:

- Matt Bearcroft reported to the Board that he met with the resident on Snooks Corners Road whose yard is overrun with garbage and so far there has been no movement. He asked if a summons could be issued for a Court hearing.
- Supervisor Mead told the Board that the broken pipe under the road in Fort Hunter is fixed and a new catch basin will be put in as well. The resident experiencing flooding in his basement may see some relief but he will need to put in a dry well to see any real change.

Building Maintenance:

- 12" pipe is in at the Highway garage. The front doors at the hall needed a new lock. Steve asked that whoever rents or uses the hall cleans the tables after; and that all tables and chairs need to be put away as well. The Town Board said that people should be using tablecloths.

Highway:

- Steve Anderson interviewed Mike Taberski for one of the positions coming available for the Highway Department. One of the applicant's changed their mind. Six (6) more need to be interviewed. Five are from the Town and one is from Gloversville.
- Can the 1964 grader be sold? It has not been used in about four years. Councilman Alikonis said to list it and the Board agreed as well.

Water and Sewer:

- New alarm system that was installed at the pump houses is working. The pumps can be checked on-line instead of having to drive over each time.
- Another vehicle hit a hydrant on Route 5S by Beech Nut. State Police will get the information on the driver to the Town to get restitution.

Youth:

- Visit with Santa is on December 12 from 1 – 4pm. There will be a story and some snacks. This will be done by appointment like last year.
- Halloween Trunk or Treat was successful once again. Over 300 people came out.
- Currently discussion a tubing/ski/snowboarding day.

Veterans:

- Veterans Day service will on November 7th had a very good turn out.

Old Business:

Councilman Harold Alikonis asked for an update regarding the installation of high speed internet for the resident's who did not receive it in the last wave. Supervisor Mead said Kevin Eagan of Charter did a survey and it would be approximately 150 households that are affected. It would cost approximately 2.2 million dollars to do upgrades and installation of cable. Some of the poles that National Grid currently has up would need to be taken out and upgraded to be able to hold the weight of new cable and then there are the lengths of cable that need to be run underground. This would take about two (2) years to design and then implement and not all homeowners would want high speed so this install is not cost effective for Charter/Spectrum to take on 100%. Supervisor Mead will speak to Barton & Loguidice about grants that may be available. If a resident wanted to pay for their own install it would cost about \$40,000 and it would be done in two weeks. There were Resolutions done in the early 2000's for Capital Improvements. Emily will look and see if she can find them.

New Business:

1. **RESOLUTION #62** sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Harold Alikonis approving the passage of the 2022 Town of Florida Operating Budget for which a Public Hearing was held on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 6:00pm; all in favor and passed.
2. **RESOLUTION #63** sponsored by Councilman Steve Rackowski and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to appoint Tim Miller, 36 Stella Lane, Amsterdam to fill the position of Building Inspector for the Town of Florida, which was left vacant by the death of John Sampone, until December 31, 2021; all in favor and passed.
3. **RESOLUTION #64** sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to authorize Deputy Supervisor, Steven Rackowski to sign the Agreement for Control of Snow and Ice on County Highways from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023; all in favor and passed. There will be a 2% increase in payment over the course of the contract. Supervisor Eric Mead abstained.
4. **RESOLUTION #65** sponsored by Councilman Steve Rackowski and seconded by Councilman Harold Alikonis to authorize Supervisor Eric Mead to sign the Agreement for Fire Protection with the Florida Volunteer Fire Department; all in favor and passed. This is a one year contract.
5. **RESOLUTION #66** sponsored by Councilman Harold Alikonis and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri that the Town Board of the Town of Florida, after reviewing SEQRA Parts I, II & III, finds that there will be no significant adverse impacts on the environment and therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared with regard to Introductory Local Law #2 of 2021; all in favor and passed. Supervisor Mead read the SEQRA documents into the minutes and they will be attached.
6. **RESOLUTION #67** sponsored by Supervisor Eric Mead and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski authorizing the passage of Introductory Local Law #2 of 2021; authorizing the purchase of Tax Map Parcel 54.-2-18 from the County of Montgomery; all in favor and passed.

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW #2 (LOCAL LAW #2 OF 2021) - A LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF TAX MAP PARCEL NUMBER 54.-2-18 FROM THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

Resolution Body/Text:

WHEREAS, Resolution Number 298 of 2000 authorized Montgomery County to enter into a Water and Sewer Inter-municipal Agreement with the City of Amsterdam and Town of Florida (hereinafter "IMA"); and
WHEREAS, in the IMA, the parties agreed that after construction was complete that the infrastructure would be conveyed by Montgomery County to the City of Amsterdam and the Town of Florida; and
WHEREAS, a pump station was constructed on land that is now owned by Montgomery County that needs to be purchased by the Town of Florida;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Introductory Local Law #2(Local Law #2) of 2021 hereby is submitted to the Town Board of the Town of Florida for consideration:

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW #2 (LOCAL LAW #2 OF 2021) - A LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF TAX MAP PARCEL NUMBER 54.-2-18 FROM THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

BE IT ENACTED by the Board Town Board of the Town of Florida as follows:

SECTION 1. The purpose of this local law is to authorize purchase of property to the from the County of Montgomery as agreed to in the 2000 Water and Sewer Inter-municipal Agreement between Montgomery County, the City of Amsterdam and Town of Florida.

SECTION 2. That the property to be purchased is Tax Map Parcel No. 54.-2-18.

SECTION 3. That the lands described in Section 2 are not being used by the County for ordinary county purposes.

SECTION 4. The interests of Montgomery County in the lands described in Section 2 were not acquired for highway purposes or through tax sale.

SECTION 5. That the lands described in Section 2 may be purchased by the Town of Florida for \$12,900 without advertising or competitive bidding.

SECTION 6. That the Town Supervisor be, and hereby is, authorized to sign any necessary documents to effectuate this conveyance.

SECTION 8. If any clause, sentence or paragraph of this local law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment, decree or order shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of the local law, which shall as to such remainder remain in effect.

Nature of Request:

A LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF TAX MAP PARCEL NUMBER 54.-2-18 TO THE TOWN OF FLORIDA

Justification:

A pump station was constructed on land that is now owned by Montgomery County that needs to be purchased by the Town of Florida.

7. **RESOLUTION #68** sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri that the Town Board of the Town of Florida, after reviewing SEQRA Parts I, II & III, finds that there will be no significant adverse impacts on the environment and therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared with regard to Introductory Local Law #3 of 2021; all in favor and passed. Supervisor Mead read the SEQRA documents into the minutes and they will be attached.
8. **RESOLUTION #69** sponsored by Councilman Steve Rackowski and seconded by Councilman Harold Alikonis authorizing the passage of Introductory Local Law #3 of 2021; authorizing the Purchase of Tax Map Parcel 54.-1-34.21 from the County of Montgomery; all in favor and passed.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING INTRODUCTORY LAW #3 - A LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF PROPERTY FROM THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

Resolution Body/Text:

WHEREAS, Resolution Number 298 of 2000 authorized Montgomery County to enter into a Water and Sewer Inter-municipal Agreement with the City of Amsterdam and Town of Florida (hereinafter "IMA"); and

WHEREAS, in the IMA, the parties agreed that after construction was complete that the infrastructure would be conveyed by Montgomery County to the City of Amsterdam and to the Town of Florida; and

WHEREAS, a three-million-gallon storage water tank and other appurtenances were constructed on land that is now owned by Montgomery County; such tank and appurtenances need to be purchased by the Town of Florida;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Introductory Local Law #3 of 2021 hereby is submitted to the Town Board of the Town of Florida for consideration:

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW #3 OF 2021) - A LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 54.-1-34.21 FROM THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Florida as follows:

SECTION 1. The purpose of this local law is to authorize purchase of property from the County of Montgomery as agreed to in the 2000 Water and Sewer Inter-municipal Agreement between Montgomery County, the City of Amsterdam and Town of Florida.

SECTION 2. That the property to be purchased is Tax Map Parcel No. 54.-1-34.21.

SECTION 3. That the lands described in Section 2 are not being used by the County for ordinary county purposes.

SECTION 4. The interests of Montgomery County in the lands described in Section 2 were not acquired for highway purposes or through tax sale.

SECTION 5. That the lands described in Section 2 may be purchased by the Town of Florida without advertising or competitive bidding. Consideration for this sale shall be that Town of Florida shall pay the County of Montgomery One Hundred Thousand Dollars and 00/100 Cents (\$100,000.00).

SECTION 6. That the Town Supervisor be, and hereby is, authorized to sign any necessary documents to effectuate this conveyance.

SECTION 8. If any clause, sentence or paragraph of this local law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment, decree or order shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of the local law, which shall as to such remainder remain in effect.

Nature of Request:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF PROPERTY FROM THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

Justification:

This is necessary to finalize actions agreed to in the 2000 Inter-municipal Agreement with the Town of Florida and City of Amsterdam.

9. **RESOLUTION #70** sponsored by Councilman Steve Rackowski and seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis approving the transfer of three thousand two hundred dollars and zero cents (\$3,200) from A1990.4; Contingency Account, to A1220.4; Supervisor Contractual Account, to pay for Stalker Radar from NYS Police Troop T, as requested by Trooper Roger Doyle at October's Board Meeting; all in favor and passed.
10. **RESOLUTION #71** sponsored by Councilman Steve Rackowski and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to authorize Supervisor Eric Mead to sign the HVAC design agreement with C.T. Male for the Highway Garage; all in favor and passed.

Public Comment: Opened at 7:50pm

No one from the public commented.

Public Comment: Closed at 7:51pm

Executive Session: Personnel Discussions

MOTION by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to enter in Executive Session at 7:53pm; all in favor and passed.

MOTION by Supervisor Eric Mead and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to exit Executive Session at 8:03pm; all in favor and passed.

MOTION by Councilman Matthew Gogis to audit and pay the monthly bills was seconded by Supervisor Eric Mead; all in favor and passed.

MOTION by Councilman Harold Alikonis to approve the Supervisor's Report was seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri; 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 8:18pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Emily Staley - Town Clerk