

# TOWN OF FLORIDA BOARD MEETING

January 16, 2023

7:00pm

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

Councilman Mark Quiri led the salute to the flag.

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

**Motion** by Councilman Mark Quiri and seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis to approve and accept the minutes from the December 18, 2022 Board Meeting; all in favor and passed.

## Committee Reports:

### *Communications & Announcements:*

- Bill Van Gorder from NBT Insurance Agency was present to go over the new insurance policy for the Town for 2023. This is the vehicle and buildings insurance as well as other liability insurance. The Board requested a new quote with lower deductibles for property damage and the vehicle deductibles as well as the Public Officials coverage. Bill said he would have Jeff send over the new quotes.

### *Assessor:*

- Nothing at this time.

### *Engineering:*

- Nothing at this time.

### *Attorney:*

- Attorney Michael Crowe was present. He offered the Board his contact information. He has spoke with the Planning Board chairman and attended the last Planning Board meeting. Mike has not yet received anything from Attorney Deb Slezak regarding open issues and he will reach out.

### *Planning and Zoning:*

- Councilman Matthew Gogis spoke regarding the Planning Board wanting the Town Board to look at the PUD regulations and possibly a moratorium while the PUD regulations are being reviewed. Attorney Crowe state that the Town Board can take the Planning Board's recommendations under advisement and if they choose to review the PUD regulations and set a moratorium while doing it then it could be done under Local Law.
- Councilman Harold Alikonis asked about the moratorium for solar and strengthening the current solar regulations and doing an update as well. Attorney Crowe asked the Town Board to send him their thoughts on what they would like to see updated or strengthened so he has a framework which to start. A moratorium would only be for six (6) months but that should be long enough if all pertinent information is put together ahead of time for public hearing.

### *Building Maintenance:*

- Outside lights at the Broadway pump station needed to be replaced.
- Amsterdam electric may have rebates available for the lights on the poles around the ball field. Steve is meeting with them Tuesday.
- Furnaces for the highway garage need to be replaced this year. Only one is currently working correctly. Councilman Harold Alikonis said he would ask Supervisor Mead to speak with CT Male about next steps. Only one bid was received for the work in 2022 and it was way over the estimate.
- Bruce Villa will start the repair of the "Old" Town Hall walls. He will be gluing the paneling back on.

*Highway:*

- Still no resolution with getting the roads in Mohawk Hills dedicated to the Town. Hodorowski is still responsible for the plowing and salting and sanding until that happens.
- Highway Superintendent Steve Anderson brought two quotes for brush hogs. The ponds around the Mohawk Hills Development need to be maintained and the mowing tractors are too big and heavy to go between the houses to get to the ponds. The Board asked Steve to come back to the February meeting for further discussion.

*Water and Sewer:*

- Should have the quote for the protecting the electrical box inside the water tank this week.

*Youth:*

- Hillary would like to appoint Ryan Kietzmann to the Youth Commission.
- Hillary would also like input from the Town Board on who to appoint as a Deputy Chair of the Youth Commission.
- She is working on bylaws for the commission as well and will have a report on future activities for the February meeting.

*Veterans:*

- The cannon has been set in the park and it looks really good.

*Old Business:*

- Nothing at this time.

*New Business:*

1. **RESOLUTION #41** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Mark Quiri and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to accept the Justice Court audit performed by Rebecca Countermine, of Elma's Tax Service, for the Justice Court records from Town of Florida Justice Stephen M Brown; three present in favor and passed. Councilman Matthew Gogis abstained.
2. **RESOLUTION #42** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski, to appoint Joshua Aupelmyer, 126 Devendorf Road, Amsterdam, NY as Deputy Water and Sewer Administrator for the year 2023; all present in favor and passed.
3. **RESOLUTION #43** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Steve Rackowski and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to authorize the Town of Florida Town Supervisor to sign the Agreement for the Fire Protection District with the Florida Volunteer Fire Department for the year 2023; all present in favor and passed.
4. **RESOLUTION #44** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski, to authorize the Town of Florida Town Supervisor to sign the lease agreement with the Fort Hunter Library, located at 167 Fort Hunter Road, Amsterdam, NY; all present in favor and passed.
5. **RESOLUTION #45** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri that Retention and Disposition Schedule for the New York Local Governments Records (LGS-1), issued pursuant to Article 51-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retentions periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein. FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with Article 51-A: (a) only those records will be disposed of that are described in Retention an Disposition Schedule for New York Local Governments (LGS-1), and they have met the minimum retention periods described therein; (b) only those records will be disposed of that do not have significant administrative, fiscal, legal or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods; all present in favor and passed.

*Public Comment:* Opened at 7:43pm

Ken Moritz, 270 Belldons Road, Amsterdam, NY; encouraged by the Town Board's desire to set a moratorium for the PUD and solar. Would like the wind turbine regulations to also be updated and a moratorium set for those as well. No real benefit to any of the green energy coming to the Town and all of this will change the landscape of the Town forever.

*Public Comment:* Closed at 7:46pm

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

**MOTION** by Deputy Supervisor Harold Alikonis, and seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis to table the acceptance of the Supervisor's Report until the February meeting because the Board has questions regarding some of the final numbers for the year; all present in favor and passed.

**MOTION** by Councilman Matthew Gogis to adjourn was seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski; all in favor and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08pm.

Respectfully Submitted  
Emily Staley - Town Clerk