

TOWN OF FLORIDA PUBLIC HEARING
6:30PM
Fort Hunter Water District & Improvements
Barton & Loguidice Presentation

Public Hearing Opened: 6:30pm

John Frazer from Barton & Loguidice was present to present the project to the public and Town Board. A new water district will be formed. There will be approximately 11,500 feet of 8" water main installed, a pressure reduction station, fire hydrants and an aeration system in the water tank. The water usage will be approximately 16,500 gallons per day. There are 114 properties, with 106 units to be served for a total cost of \$6,675,000. The town has been offered a 0% interest loan to be paid over 30 years and Barton & Loguidice will be applying for a WIAA grant to defray some of the costs, the Town will pay a portion of the balance along with the residents in the new water district. This cost would be added to the Town & County Tax bills at a cost of approximately \$2,098.78 per year per user if no grant funds are applied. That amount would change with additional monies put in from the Town and any grant funds that could be applied for.

John McGlone, 106 Brown Place, Fort Hunter – Asked where will the water come from? Is this a new district or an extension of Districts 1 & 2? How will the debt service impact the homeowners? Will all homeowners in the new district be responsible for the debt incurred from this expansion? Was a survey of residents done to see how many would want water service if it were available? How did the number of gallons used per day come from? Was the number normalized for the current demographic in the Village of Fort Hunter? Part I of SEQRA is incorrect. Multiple errors within the document in regard to the project and zoning.

Councilman Mark Quiri asked will the water require additional treatment with water softeners? How will the water lines be hooked to houses?

Councilman Steve Rackowski asked how many fire hydrants would be added in the village? One every 500'.

Attorney Mike Crowe stated that written public comment would stay open until the June 10th special meeting. Any additional comments from the public can be emailed, mailed or dropped off to the Town Clerk's office. There will also be an opportunity to speak at the special meeting.

TOWN OF FLORIDA BOARD MEETING
May 20, 2024
7:00pm

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 Harold Alikonis, Councilman Matthew Gogis, Councilman Steve Rackowski, Councilman Mark Quiri, Attorney Mike Crowe and Town Clerk Emily Staley.

Councilman Harold Alikonis led the salute to the flag.

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

Motion by Councilman Mark Quiri and seconded by Councilman Harold Alikonis to approve and accept the minutes from the April 15, 2024 Board Meeting; all in favor and passed.

Committee Reports:

Communications & Announcements:

- Jerry Podolec resigned as Building Maintenance worker. Bruce Villa has agreed to come back for the spring and summer. He is unable to do the snow removal in the winter months so Steve and the highway workers will handle that at the Town Office Building.

Assessor:

- Tentative Roll is out and grievance day is scheduled for May 25th.

Engineering:

- Attorney Mike Crowe explained that the Board can accept the map and report and that it can be available for the public to review ahead of the special meeting for public comment.
MOTION by Councilman Harold Alikonis and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to accept the map and report for the Town of Florida Fort Hunter Water District; all in favor and passed.

Attorney:

- Attorney Mike Crowe explained that the Town Board is tasked with determining if the application submitted for a solar array on Route 5s is complete and should be forwarded to the Planning Board for their review.
- Resolution #58 will be done after the June 10th special meeting.
MOTION by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to amend the Agenda to strike Resolution #58 and renumber the other two Resolutions #58 & #59; all in favor and passed.
MOTION by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Harold Alikonis to accept the Agenda as amended; all in favor and passed.

Planning and Zoning:

- Cliff/Tim Oathoat will be the Town's new Zoning Enforcement Officer.
- Carter Powell was present to talk about the application for the solar array on Route 5s. Councilman Gogis pointed out the Town requires fence height to be eight (8) feet not seven (7). The smaller set-back to the property lines needs to be discussed. Will native grasses for pollination be planted? Carter explained that they use a seed mix that is pollinator friendly; this site will not be a pollinator specific site. Chris Bertrand, engineer for Barton & Loguidice, pointed out that much of the site is on a slope greater than the 12% threshold set in the Town's Zoning Ordinance. There is the question of prime soil being used as well and only 5 acres of prime soils can be used. Carter pointed out that this parcel is bordered by the Montgomery County Transfer Station/Dump and a storage facility, the NYS Thruway and a vacant parcel. Attorney Mike Crowe stated that this application can go to the ZBA for variances for the setbacks and the slope.
MOTION by Supervisor Eric Mead and seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis to send the application from Solar Liberty for a solar array on Route 5s to the Zoning Board of Appeals for their review of variances requested; all in favor and passed.

Building Maintenance:

- Steve Anderson received quotes for putting up new gutter at the Highway Garage and Town Hall. \$2,050 from T.J., \$3,000 and \$3,400 from two others. The Board agreed to hire T.J.
- Furnace is still not running right. There is a long line and it keeps losing prime. Need to move a tank closer to that unit. Quote \$5,026 to install a tank and put the line through the wall to the unit. Councilman Alikonis asked if this was going to be a sure fix and Steve Anderson said this was the problem and this will fix it. Board agrees it needs to be done.

Highway:

- Supervisor Eric Mead spoke about the DEC along with Barton & Loguidice met on Power House road to look at the culvert pipe that is part of the old aqueduct. The pipe is starting to collapse at the creek side. A new pipe will need to be put in. There are two options to fix this. The old pipe could be filled in and a new pipe placed without going into the creek. Looking at options now.
- Road stripers will be coming through the Town in the next couple of weeks so the roads will need to be cleaned up as best they can.

Water and Sewer:

- Nothing at this time.

Youth:

- Mohawks game on June 6 at 6:30pm. 30 participants have signed up so far.
- Bus trip survey was sent out and the Bronx Zoo was the top pick. Looking to go July 20th.
- Looking to do a movie night July 6th if the hall is available.
- Will be assisting with the reading program for the summer by providing pop corn and a bounce house.
- Looking to do a day at Tactical Combat in the Riverfront Center.

- Keith Waters thanked the Town for their support of the ball team and the use of the field. He welcomes any questions, and the ball team schedule is available from the Town Clerk.

Veterans:

- Father's Day Breakfast will once again be on Father's Day; June 16
- Working on getting the park cleaned up for the season.

Old Business:

None at this time.

New Business:

1. **RESOLUTION #58** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to authorize the submission of a New York State Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) grant application for the Town of Florida Water System Improvements Project; all in favor and passed.
2. **RESOLUTION #59** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Supervisor Eric Mead to set a Special Meeting and Public Hearing regarding the Bond Resolution for Fort Hunter Water District and Water System Improvements for Monday, June 10, 2024 at 9:00am; all in favor and passed. This meeting needs to be held at this day and time because the submission deadline is June 14.

Public Comment: Opened at 7:32pm

Debbie Oathout, 243 Lost Valley Road asked what the possibility of getting internet service into Lost Valley would be. It is unfortunate that Spectrum ran out of money. She stated that there are Federally Funded infrastructure grants available. Supervisor Mead stated that he would speak with the County and see what is available.

T.J. a student from Fonda-Fultonville was in attendance for his government class and asked about SEQRA. Attorney Mike Crowe gave a brief overview.

Public Comment: Closed at 7:41pm

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 Councilman Mark Quiri and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski to accept the Supervisor's Report; 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 7:58pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Emily Staley - Town Clerk