

TOWN OF FLORIDA BOARD MEETING

May 19, 2025

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, and Councilman Mark Quiri, Attorney Mike Crowe and Town Clerk Emily Staley.

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

Motion by Supervisor Eric Mead and seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis to approve and accept the minutes from the April 21, 2025 Board Meeting; all in favor and passed.

Committee Reports:

Communications & Announcements:

- Tuesday, Jun 3rd is Town of Florida night at the Amsterdam Mohawks. Tickets will be in the Town Clerk's Office for pick-up.

Assessor:

- Grievance Day is May 27th.

Engineering:

- Eric reached out to Barton & Loguidice regarding the Powerhouse Road culvert project and has not received a response yet.

Attorney:

- No major issues. There are a couple of court dates coming up to deal with properties that need to clean up junk/garbage/cars. Councilman Steve Rackowski asked about the property on Thayer Road.

Planning and Zoning:

- The MSV1 (Amazon) representatives submitted a full packet for review and public comment is scheduled for next month on June 2nd.

Building Maintenance:

- The courts down at Ron Mead Park are ready to go. Laying down of the new surface will hopefully be able to be started when the Staley's get back from vacation, weather permitting.
- There are two lights out on the ballfield behind the dugouts; will need to look for the voucher from when the lights were put in to see about the warranty and who the lights were bought from.

Highway:

- Steve got a quote from Gabriel Paving to pave the Town Barn yard. The quote was \$42,800 plus \$950 a ton for black top. Supervisor Mead said this project will need to have bids solicited; he will meet with Steve to get this started.
- Need to paint at the park in Fort Hunter.
- A/C units are ordered for the Town Hall.
- The #5 truck is leaking. Called Tracey Road for service.
- The pick-up truck sold at auction for \$30,300.
- Discussion regarding changing the speed limit on Queen Anne Road to 45mph. A Resolution will need to be added. Mr. Bernaski asked for a speed limit to be posted on Bernaski Road as there is not a speed limit posted on the road currently. Councilman Harold Alikonis thinks it should be 30mph. A Resolution for this will need to be added as well.

Water and Sewer:

- Nothing at this time.

Youth:

- Nothing at this time.

Veterans:

- Rudy Horlbeck informed the Town Board that he has stepped down as Chairman and Kim Graff is now Chairman of the Veteran's Park Committee. More people are needed as members. The

mission of the Committee has now become maintenance focused since all goals set for the park have currently been met. The Committee has talked about some changes to the original charter document and Resolution and those will be discussed at the upcoming meeting and brought back to the Town Board in June/July.

- Memorial Day Service will be held at 2pm on Sunday May 25th.
- The new flag poles and flags are up.

Old Business:

- Nothing at this time.

New Business:

1. **RESOLUTION #51** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to adopt the Montgomery County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan 2024; all present in favor and passed.
2. **RESOLUTION #52** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Mark Quiri and seconded by Councilman Steve Rackowski authorizing the Deputy Town Supervisor, Harold Alikonis, to sign the Agreement for the Control of Grass and Brush on County Highways beginning June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026; all present in favor and passed. Supervisor Eric Mead abstained.
3. **RESOLUTION #53** a Resolution sponsored by Supervisor Eric Mead and seconded by Councilman Harold Alikonis to authorize the Supervisor to sign a letter of support for BMG Albany, LLC for a State Building Code Variance to the Department of State regarding NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code; all present in favor and passed.

MOTION by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Mark Quiri to Amend the Agenda to add the following Resolutions: #54 Amend Resolution #47 to say Increase the line not Decrease; Resolution #55 request NYS DOT to conduct a speed study to lower the speed limit on Queen Anne Road to 45mph; Resolution #56 request NYS DOT to conduct a speed study on Berber Road to Sulphur Springs Road to lower the speed limit to 35mph; all present in favor and passed.

4. **RESOLUTION #54** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Matthew Gogis and seconded by Councilman Quiri to Amend **RESOLUTION #47** to say "increase" Revenue account A1120.1, Non-Property Tax Distribution by County, in the amount of forty-nine thousand dollars (\$49,000) to cover the cost of surfacing for the tennis courts at Ron Mead Park; not "decrease"; all present in favor and passed.
5. **RESOLUTION #55** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Mark Quiri and seconded by Councilman Rackowski to request NYS DOT to conduct a speed study to lower the speed limit on Queen Anne Road from the Amsterdam City Line to the Hamlet of Fort Hunter, to 45mph; all present in favor and passed.
6. **RESOLUTION #56** a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Harold Alikonis and seconded by Councilman Matthew Gogis to request NYS DOT to conduct a speed study to lower the speed limit on Berber Road between Sulphur Springs Road and State Highway 30, to 35mph; all present in favor and passed.

Public Comment:

John McGlone, 106 Brown Place, pointed out that traffic studies done in the past do not account for the current growth of traffic going through Fort Hunter. Will any studies be done on the increase in traffic in the Hamlet in general be done? There has been a 35% increase in traffic over the bridge from Tribes Hill to Fort Hunter and vice versa since the opening of the distribution centers on Route 5s. DOT website shows 2024 counts at 24/95 and they are currently doing a traffic study. He also asked if Steve Anderson could take a look at the box maple near the old suspension bridge; it was trimmed and when the wind came through it looks split.

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 Harold Alikonis 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 Supervisor Eric Mead; all in favor and passed. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted
Emily Staley - Town Clerk