

**Village of Fort Edward
Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
Monday, January 5, at 7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Traver called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Trustee Williams, Trustee Carpenter, Trustee Boucher, Trustee Cutler
Absent:

Present: Amanda Durkee, Jessica Donnelly, Therese Gillis, Shannon Gillis, Dave Earsing, Dave Armando, Rob Martin, Matthew Rimkunas

Approval of December minutes

Motion by: Trustee Williams
Seconded by: Trustee Carpenter
Dated: January 5, 2026
All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Approval of Reports - Clerk, Code, Street, Water, Sheriff

Motion by: Trustee Boucher
Seconded by: Trustee Cutler
Dated: January 5, 2026
All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Abstract #8

General Abstract - \$344,329.98 Wash County Police Coverage - \$96,784.00 Rozell – Moon Street - \$121,685.49 (Water lines) \$56,500.00 (Paving)	Water Abstract - \$25,846.88 Moreau Town and County taxes - \$17,179.05
Pay Before - \$11,841.09	Pay before - \$1,162.37

Motioned by: Trustee Carpenter
Seconded by: Trustee Cutler
Dated: January 5, 2026
All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Summary

The meeting addressed approval of previous minutes and financial reports, planning for the 2026 Founders Day event, updates on infrastructure and water line projects, and several community development proposals. Key topics included a proposed cell tower lease, a housing project on the Williams property, and street damage from the Champlain Hudson Power Express project. The board assigned action items to gather more information on the cell tower and housing project, finalize grant applications for property demolition, and coordinate with the IDA on infrastructure improvements. Community events were also discussed, with plans for increased promotion and future celebrations. Decisions were made to move forward with inquiries and preparations for upcoming projects, while public hearings and further community input were considered for development proposals.

Outline

- **Founders Day Event Planning**

A meeting for the Founders Day event in 2026 is scheduled for Wednesday January 7th at 6 PM.

The event will include a parade and entertainment, with a request for funding from the village due to increased costs for fireworks and other expenses.

Approximately \$4,000 was carried over from last year, but additional fundraising efforts will be needed.

- **Water Break Update**

A recent water break was successfully repaired, with commendations for the crew's quick work under challenging conditions.

There are plans to address road conditions following the repair, including potential cold patching.

- **Proposed Cell Tower Lease**

Aerosmith Development is interested in leasing property at the water plant for a cell tower.

The board expressed interest in gathering more information about the proposal before deciding.

- **Discussion on Klute Williams Property Development**

The board discussed a proposal for developing townhomes on the Williams property, currently zoned R1 for single-family homes.

Concerns were raised about increased traffic and the impact on the surrounding residential area.

The board agreed to consider holding a public hearing to gather community input before proceeding.

- **Champlain Hudson Power Express Street Damage**

Updates on street damage caused by the Champlain Hudson Power Express project were discussed with plans to finalize documentation.

A meeting is scheduled to discuss the demolition of properties at 50 East Street and Canal Street, with grant funding concerns noted.

- **Infrastructure Project Updates**

The engineering firm provided a lower-than-expected bid for the project, which may affect grant eligibility.

A meeting is scheduled to discuss options regarding the project and property transfer from Bill Rourke.

The IDA will manage the bid packet for a project affecting village streets, with construction expected to start in late spring.

- **Water Line Construction**

A new water line will be constructed from Wing Street to the industrial park to improve water quality.

The project will be funded by the IDA, alleviating financial burden on the village.

Concerns were raised about the existing water line's condition, which has caused complaints about rusty water.

- **Community Events**

A successful anniversary celebration for the Henry Max trail route was reported, with significant community turnout.

Future events are planned, including a summer celebration at the fairgrounds and an encampment in September.

Efforts will be made to promote events through local newspapers and community boards to reach a wider audience.

- **Development Proposals**

Discussion on potential condo development on village property raised concerns about zoning and public hearings.

The developer has a 70-acre parcel but only intends to build on 50 acres, with the remaining land being wetland.

The board will consider the proposal further, depending on the developer's plans and community feedback.

Respectfully submitted,

Janelle Rose
Village Clerk-Treasurer