

**Village of Fort Edward
Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
Monday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m.**

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

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

Absent:

Present: Therese Gillis, Leonard Gillis, Katherine Reid, Keith Maziejka, Heidi Brownell, Sharon Tasker-Dalton, Dave Earsing, Jim Thatcher, Kenneth Ormsby

Approval of March minutes with changes

Motion by: Trustee **Cutler**
Seconded by: Trustee **Williams**
Dated: **May 4, 2026**
All Ayes. Motion Carried.

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

Motion by: Trustee **Carpenter**
Seconded by: Trustee **Williams**
Dated: **May 4, 2026**
All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Abstract #12

General Abstract total - \$118,124.87	Water Abstract total - \$7,080.43
Pay Before - \$12,863.26	Pay before - \$972.01

Motioned by: Trustee **Carpenter**
Seconded by: Trustee **Cutler**
Dated: **May 4, 2026**
All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Summary

The meeting addressed corrections to previous minutes, water supply and district formation, legal considerations for water association, water management and billing, infrastructure maintenance, communication with authorities, property maintenance permits, flood prevention law adoption, organizational appointments, pickleball court installations, Verizon tower proposal, construction timelines, power startup, traffic safety, zoning changes, surveillance camera installation, subdivision access, water project updates, infrastructure improvements, community initiatives, parking violations, street repairs, and upcoming events. Key decisions included correcting minutes, pursuing legal consultation for water association formation, adopting flood prevention law, approving appointments, budgeting for pickleball courts and surveillance cameras, scheduling a public hearing for zoning changes, negotiating infrastructure contracts, and planning community events.

Outline

Review of April Minutes

April meeting minutes contained inaccuracies regarding water supply and contamination discussions. Participants agreed the minutes should be corrected before acceptance.

Water District Formation Discussion

Consensus that forming a water district could improve supply and infrastructure. Lack of interest from town and residents noted. Previous discussions confirmed no existing violations, contrary to the minutes.

Legal Considerations for Water Association

Legal input sought regarding forming a transportation corporation for water association. Town board approval required for compliance with New York law.

Water Supply Management and Billing

The need for a billing system for water services for water break on East Road to cover chemicals being used while the break is still active. Monthly billing may be preferred over lump sum to ease financial burden on homeowners.

Water Line Location and Maintenance

Concerns about accuracy of water line drawings and need for further investigation. Importance of isolating leaks and maintaining infrastructure acknowledged.

Communication with Canal Corp and Department of Health

Ongoing communication issues with Canal Corp has been highlighted. Frustration expressed over lack of support from Canal Corp. Department of Health's interest in water leak situation noted, emphasizing compliance and proactive management.

Property Maintenance Permits and Water Line Issues

Complications with property maintenance permit due to canal authority's lack of cooperation. Historical review and possible legal considerations needed to resolve permit issues. Concerns about documentation of GPS coordinates for damaged water lines, not properly communicated by Canal Corps. The town may be held responsible if association defaults on water line obligations.

Adoption of Local Law for Flood Damage Prevention

Board reviewed and adopted local law for flood damage prevention. Negative declaration issued, indicating no adverse environmental effects. Clerk directed to file law with relevant state departments.

Resolution 38 of 2025-2026

RESOLUTION ADOPTING LOCAL LAW PROVIDING FOR FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION IN THE VILLAGE OF FORT EDWARD

MOTION BY Trustee **Cutler**
SECONDED BY Trustee **Williams**
DATED May 4, 2026

WHEREAS, the United States Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FMEA") has updated its maps applicable to areas that are subject to flooding and therefore present a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the public; and

WHEREAS, changes to said maps have necessitated amendments to the Village's local law providing for flood damage prevention; and

WHEREAS, an updated local law has been drafted which local law provides for flood damage prevention and references relevant maps and updated law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees set a public hearing for the proposed local law which public hearing was duly noticed and published in accordance with New York law, and which public hearing was held and persons wishing to be heard were provided the opportunity to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees wishes to proceed with the adoption of said draft local law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees has reviewed the environmental assessment form and answered the questions in part 2 thereof, and having taken a hard look at the potential environmental impacts of said local law, hereby finds that the proposed local law does not have the potential to cause or contribute to one or more adverse environmental impacts, and therefore the Board of Trustees hereby issues and adopts a negative declaration thereon, all in accordance with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees finds that the adoption of the local law providing for flood damage prevention is in the best interests of the public, including the residents and taxpayers of the Village; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the proposed local law providing for flood damage prevention in the Village is hereby adopted, and the clerk is directed to number the local law based on adoption, and file same with the New York Secretary of State, the New York Department of Environmental Conservation and such other entities as the clerk may determine; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor is authorized to take any action necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Trustee Williams	Aye
Trustee Boucher	Aye
Trustee Cutler	Aye
Trustee Carpenter	Aye

Organizational Appointments

Annual appointments for attorney, building inspector, and other positions approved. Monthly board meeting schedule established, with dates adjusted for holidays.

Resolution 39 of 2025-2026

ORGANIZATIONAL/ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

Motion by	Trustee Carpenter
Seconded by	Trustee Cutler
Date	May 4, 2026

WHEREAS, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby approve the following appointments for fiscal year 2025-2026

Position	Personnel	Building Law Enforcement Recreation Street Water	Committees	
Attorney	Matthew F. Fuller, Esq.		Williams	Carpenter
Bounced Check Fee	\$35.00 cash/money order		Cutler	Carpenter
Building Inspector	Dave Armando		Boucher	Williams
Code Enforcement	Dave Armando		Williams	Cutler
Crossing Guard	Mike Girard		Carpenter	Boucher
Crossing Guard	Peter Amorosi			
Depository	Arrow Bank			
Deputy Mayor	Peter Williams			
Fair Housing Officer	Janelle Rose			
Historian	R. Paul McCarty			
Mileage Reimbursement	\$0.50/mile			
Newspaper	The Post Star			
Petty Cash, Treasurer	\$ 50.00			
Planning / Zoning Clerk	Janelle Rose			
Planning / Zoning Board Members	\$ 30.00/meeting			
Planning / Zoning Board Site Plan	\$ 65.00			
Recreation Director	James Donahue			
Registrar	Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk			
Tax Search Fee	\$ 25.00			
Village Board Monthly Meeting	First Monday of Month @ 7:00pm			
Water Tap Fee	\$350.00 (+ actual charges)			
Water Tap Fee	\$350.00 (+ actual charges)			

ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 40 of 2025-2026 ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

Motion by Trustee **Williams**
 Seconded by Trustee **Cutler**
 Date May 4, 2026

WHEREAS, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby approve the following meetings for fiscal year 2026-2027

2026-2027 MEETING SCHEDULE

Village Board Meetings- 7:00pm			Planning/Zoning Board of Appeals Meetings- 6:00pm		
June	1	Monday	June	17	Wednesday
July	6	Wednesday	July	15	Wednesday
August	3	Monday	August	19	Wednesday
September	8	Tuesday	September	16	Wednesday
October	5	Monday	October	21	Wednesday
November	2	Monday	November	18	Wednesday
December	7	Monday	December	16	Wednesday
January	4	Monday	January	20	Wednesday

February	1	Monday	February	17	Wednesday
March	1	Monday	March	17	Wednesday
April	5	Monday	April	21	Wednesday
May	3	Monday	May	19	Wednesday

ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 41 of 2025-2026
ANNUAL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Motion by Trustee **Cutler**
 Seconded by Trustee **Boucher**
 Date May 4, 2026

WHEREAS, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby approve the following meetings for fiscal year 2026-2027

2026-2027 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Juneteenth	Friday	June 19 2026
4 th of July	Friday	July 3 2026
Labor Day	Monday	September 7 2026
Columbus Day	Monday	October 12 2026
Veteran's Day	Wednesday	November 11 2026
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 26 2026
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday	November 27 2026
Christmas Day	Friday	December 25 2026
New Year's Day	Friday	January 1 2027
Martin Luther King Day	Monday	January 18 2027
President's Day	Monday	February 15 2027
Good Friday	Friday	March 26 2027

ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 42 of 2025-2026
ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS ZBA

Motion by Trustee **Carpenter**
 Seconded by Trustee **Cutler**
 Date May 4, 2026

WHEREAS, the Fort Edward Village Board of Trustees does hereby appoint the following people to the Zoning Board of Appeals with the term ending dates and;

WHEREAS, three members have a term end date of 4/2026, Bernie Taylor, Doreen Rabine and Tabitha Fish and;

WHEREAS, the Fort Edward Village Board does hereby appoint the following members for 2026-2027 fiscal year, and;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Nasrene Haj, Chairman	01/2024 – 01/2027
Bernie Taylor	04/2026 – 04/2029
Tabitha Fish	04/2026 – 04/2029
Samantha Walker	04/2024 – 04/2027
Doreen Rabine	04/2026 – 04/2029
Dan Boucher (Alternate)	04/2025 – 04/2028
Peter Amorosi (Alternate)	04/2024 – 04/2027

ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Pickleball Court Installations

Permanent poles for pickleball courts to be installed. Budget not to exceed \$1,000 approved for installation. Contractor to be found for installation due to DPW workload.

Verizon Communication Tower Proposal

Location for new Verizon communication tower identified, away from reservoir and road access. Tower to be painted in natural colors to minimize visual impact. Further discussions to be held with board regarding site.

Construction Timeline Update

Construction scheduled to begin in 2027, with tree removal and foundation work possibly starting in late 2026. Concerns about maintaining road access during construction to support business operations.

CMP Hudson Power Startup

CMP Hudson Power expects commercial operations to begin May 2026. Pilot payments to IDA and municipality anticipated by year-end. Payments based on power line length could yield several hundred thousand dollars annually for the village.

Nasrene Haj, Chairman	01/2024	01/2027
Bernard Taylor	04/2023	04/2026
Tabitha Fish	04/2023	04/2026
Samantha Walker	04/2024	04/2027
Doreen Rabine	04/2023	04/2026
Dan Boucher (Alternate)	04/2025	04/2028
Peter Amorosi (Alternate)	04/2024	04/2027

Traffic Safety Concerns

Resident reported near-miss at crosswalk in front of the Village Baptist Church, requesting traffic study and flashing lights. Board discussed automated traffic enforcement cameras for safety. Route 4 is a state highway, requiring state approval for traffic measures. Janelle has reached out to NYS DOT in Albany to start a traffic study.

Zoning Changes Proposal

Letter from Trep Holdings requesting zoning change from residential to commercial light industrial near DPW barn. Public hearing scheduled for June 1st to discuss zoning changes and fence height regulations.

Surveillance Camera Installation

Sheriff's department requested improved surveillance cameras near playground due to vandalism. Board agreed to explore installation options and confirm power requirements. Budget up to \$1,650 approved for project.

Williams Subdivision Access Issues

Larry Clute is seeking a meeting with town to discuss access for proposed 400-unit project. Direct access road needed; cooperation between town and village essential for traffic and emergency services.

Water Project Update

Water project awaiting EFC funding; contractors ready to begin work on water tower. Access road improvements for Canal Side Energy Park are expected by end of June.

Infrastructure Improvements

Concerns about large trailers navigating DNE Street during construction. Water line project divided into two phases: Rogers Street to facility, and boring under railroad tracks to Wing Street. Town cannot turn on water to facility until project completion, which may take years. IDA's prospective tenant negotiating lease and needs assurance of water access, requiring re-wording of map plan and report. Water and sewer line improvements funded by IDA, not village taxpayers.

Community Initiatives

Little League replacing park light bulbs with help from Our Electric. Interest in rehabbing two commercial buildings with apartment space, supported by \$500,000 grant. Need for developer who meets grant requirements and ensures quality renovations.

Parking Violations Update

Parking enforcement officer reported issuing tickets and handling minor violations. Ongoing court cases related to parking violations.

Street Damage and Repairs

Ongoing issues with street damage from construction; \$10,000 escrow in place for repairs. Letter sent to the party responsible for damages; no response received yet.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Budgeting meeting scheduled for May 7th. Plans to finalize details for parade on September 12th. Board encourages to participate in planning and volunteer for event activities.

Respectfully submitted,
Janelle Rose
Village Clerk-Treasurer