

**TOWN OF FORESTPORT
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WOODGATE FIRE HALL
September 18, 2019 @ 6:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilwoman Kardash
Councilman Rockhill
Councilman Scott
Supervisor Entwistle

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councilman Scouten

Tracy Terry, Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM

ABSTRACTS:

GENERAL:

A motion was made by Councilman Scott and seconded by Councilwoman Kardash to pay Abstract #9, Vouchers #516-#561 in the amount of \$35,787.42. Roll call vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scott-yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilman Rockhill-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

HIGHWAY:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Kardash and seconded by Councilman Scott to pay Abstract #9, vouchers #271-#299 in the amount of \$34,776.03. Roll call vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scott-yes
Councilman Scouten-absent
Councilman Rockhill-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

PLANNING:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Kardash and seconded by Councilman Scott to pay Abstract #9, Vouchers #17-#18 in the amount of \$200.00. Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scott-yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilman Rockhill-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

TOWN CLERK MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Kardash and seconded by Councilman Scott to accept the minutes from the:

Regular Town Board Meeting- August 21, 2019

Surace Variance Hearing- August 21, 2019

Special Meeting: Regarding the Possible Purchase of Forestport Elementary School- September 6, 2019

Re-adjourment Minutes from the September 6, 2019 Meeting-
September 10,2019

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash-yes
Councilman Scott-yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilman Rockhill-yes.
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

JUSTICE REPORT:

PLANNING REPORT:

DOG CONTROL OFFICER REPORT:

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Kardash and seconded by Councilman Scott to approve the reports as a whole. Roll call vote:

Councilwoman Kardash-yes
Councilman Scott-yes
Councilman Scouten-absent
Councilman Rockhill-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

Councilwoman Kardash stated there wasn't a Code Officer Report this month and she

would like one.

NOCCOG:

- Annual Dinner September 26th starts at 6pm.

OLD BUSINESS BOARD:

- Beechwood Cemetery: The Cemetery Association has been slowly aging and there are two members instead of five. Both individuals are looking to turn things over. There are a minimum of 7-8 family generations in Beechwood Cemetery. If the Cemetery association dissolves or can't do things financially, the Town is forced to take it over. The Town is willing to lend a hand to get the cemetery Association on it's feet bookkeeping wise and will provide in kind services. Supervisor Entwistle is looking for five individuals to sit on the Board. The Town will help out with mowing and Spring and Fall clean up. Gerry Ritter, from the Gallery stated another cemetery in town gets \$500 a plot. Beechwood is currently charging \$250 a plot.
- Ampersand Hydroelectric: They are currently involved in a pre-trial. Ampersand bought the property 8-10 years ago at 4.5 Million. It is assessed at 2.5 million and Ampersand wants it reduced to 1.5 million. The difference is \$1800 in taxes. Assessor Brown wants to see where Ampersand came up with the numbers. If this goes to Court, it could cost the Town \$15,000. Councilwoman Kardash stated she would like to see where they came up with the numbers as well. The lost tax revenue will have to be made up by the Taxpayers. Councilman Rockhill stated it also sets a precedent. Tony Sege, from the Gallery stated if they do not have the documentation to prove it, the legal fees would be recovered.

A motion was made by Councilman Rockhill and seconded by Councilman Scott to approve the settlement with Ampersand pending the documentation that Tonya is satisfied with how they have come up with the reduction. Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scott-yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilman Rockhill-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

- Bear Creek Lodge Roads: The Town has reached a tentative agreement with the Homeowner's Association of Bear Creek Lodge. It will be a cost to them not to exceed \$25,000. There are a couple housekeeping things the Town needs to take care of with the deeds and the surveys. Supervisor Entwistle doesn't see a problem with the deeds or the survey. The Resolution will be ready for the October meeting. Councilman Rockhill asked if the Bear Creek Lodge Members were going to get stuck plowing their roads this year and it was answered no. The roads include Perch Pond Road, Hemlock Road and Deer Hollow Road.

- Family Burial Plots:

A motion was made by Councilman Scott and seconded by Councilwoman Kardash to approve Local Law #1 of 2019 regarding Family Burial Plots.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes

Councilman Scott-yes

Councilman Scouten- absent

Councilman Rockhill-yes

Supervisor Entwistle-yes

- Forestport Elementary School: The Adirondack Central School Board accepted the Town's offer of \$300,000 as of last Tuesday. The Town is under contract and should close in 30 days. Due to the fact the School District had a Capital Improvement Project this prohibits the Town to limit renting the building in a lot of capacities. The Town would like to have a Community Center. MaryAnne from the gallery asked if the Town found out about the asbestos. Supervisor Entwistle stated there probably is some asbestos, but it should be enclosed. Almost all old buildings have some sort of asbestos. Next Thursday, the Town Employees will get a chance to see their new offices. Discussion took place.

NEW BUSINESS BOARD:

- Sale of the Current Town Hall: The Town has hired a commercial appraiser for the current building and wants to get it on the market. Benn Realty has been hired for the sale of the Current Town Hall and for the purchase of the Forestport Elementary School.
- Resolution for Broadband Access: Supervisor Entwistle spoke with a Representative from the Town of Webb regarding a Consortium reaching out to NYS as well as the internet companies. Our area hasn't been mapped in a while and the internet companies do not want to spend the money doing the GIS mapping. To do the GIS mapping it costs \$2700.

A motion was made by Councilman Rockhill and seconded by Councilwoman Kardash to approve a \$450 contribution to a six Town Consortium for Broadband Internet. Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes

Councilman Scott-yes

Councilman Scouten- absent

Councilman Rockhill-yes

Supervisor Entwistle-yes

Resolution No. 6 of 2019

In Support of Broadband Access for Rural Areas

WHEREAS, Towns within the Adirondack Park are lacking reliable broadband access, and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Forestport, along with five other townships within the Adirondack Park, are petitioning Charter Communication to provide said access, and,

WHEREAS, Charter Communications has requested GIS mapping from said townships, in order to move the process forward, and,

WHEREAS, the initial cost of the process is \$2700.00, and will be split evenly amongst the six townships, and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Forestport has authorized \$450.00 be allocated in pursuit of quality broadband access for the Town of Forestport



Tracy M Terry 9/18/19

- Building Use: The Girl Scouts have requested the use of the Town Hall for Saturday as well as the Halloween Extravaganza. Supervisor Entwistle would like to suspend any further use after October 27th. Councilwoman Kardash suggested having the Girl Scouts clean up and clean out on October 27th when they are taking their Haunted House down. Supervisor Entwistle stated he will speak with Beth to let her know what's going on.
- Apex Solar Energy: They are investigating the possibility of a 800 acre + or- in Boonville and Forestport. If this goes through, it would be the largest project the Town of Forestport has seen. Gerry Ritter, from the Gallery stated at the Planning Board Meeting they said it would be 1,000 acres. She stated some Towns have Moratoriums on Solar farms and Wind Mills. Tyler Terry, from the Gallery stated Apex said they were contacted by a landowner. None of the power will be coming to Forestport. Supervisor Entwistle stated the Town of Forestport does have a Local Law opting out of Payment in Lieu of Taxes. Discussion took place. This is subsidized by New York State, but the Town of Forestport is going to be the lead agency.

NEW BUSINESS PUBLIC:

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Kardash and seconded by Councilman Scott to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote:

Councilwoman Kardash-yes

Councilman Scott-yes

Councilman Scouten-absent

Councilman Rockhill-yes

Supervisor Entwistle-yes

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm by Supervisor Entwistle.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy M. Terry
Forestport Town Clerk