

**TOWN OF FORESTPORT**  
**2021 Budget Workshop Minutes**  
**September 28, 2020 @ 6:30 PM**

**Members Present:**

Supervisor Entwistle  
Councilman Scouten  
Councilwoman Abrial  
Councilwoman Kardash  
Councilman Scott

**Members Absent**

Tracy Terry, Town Clerk  
Dawn Campbell, Bookkeeper to the Supervisor

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The workshop meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Supervisor Entwistle.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Recited.

**3. BUDGET DISCUSSIONS**

**Wages-** This Budget draft reflects a 1.5% increase for all Personnel. Councilwoman Kardash stated the Town Board as elected Officials should not be getting a raise. The Board should pick and choose who gets a raise because quite a few people had time off throughout the whole COVID process. All Board members agreed. Councilwoman Kardash said the Bookkeeper if she is made salary, maybe she could take other days off.

- Jim, Dorothy and Bonnie are the only ones who are hourly. Bonnie is retiring at the end of the year. Supervisor Entwistle said he would say no to a raise for Bonnie as she is leaving. If she decided to stay, they could revisit that. Jim and Dorothy will be getting a 1.5% increase and Supervisor Entwistle will be speaking with Dawn regarding setting up a salary.
- Bill Riley- He is retiring at the end of the year. He suggested having Jessica

Young take over. One thing to consider budget wise is whether to do an hourly rate or a flat fee. Supervisor Entwistle leans towards having a set fee. As an example, if you go with an hourly rate, and you have an Attorney working at \$175/hour for 52 hours, that's \$10,000.

- The Board decided on a flat fee of \$10,000 which is \$5,000 less than Bill's rate. This still has to be discussed with Jessica Young.

**Engineer-** This was cut to \$2,500.

### **Buildings & Grounds**

- **Personal Services-** Jim is getting a 1.5% increase. Matt Benson will get no more than last year. Councilwoman Kardash suggested having Matt do the work inside. She stated at some point, having a college student mow the grass. She knows of High School Graduates who have started Lawn mowing businesses.
- **Equipment-** \$1,000
- **Contractual-** \$50,000. They are still getting a baseline of what it costs to run the building. The new building uses 3,800 less gallons of fuel oil than the other building. The electric is higher at the new building because of the HVAC and the fans always running. The phone bills have been going higher. Supervisor Entwistle has been in contact with them. The internet has stayed stable. The Copier has gone down.

**Liability insurance-** NYMIR. This year Trident bid \$31,000 for the year and NYMIR was at \$33,000 but they are offering a rebate of \$3,500, so the Town is staying with NYMIR.

**Association Dues-** Some Association Dues are necessary, but some aren't. The fees have crept from \$3,000 to \$4,000.

**Demolition of Unsafe Buildings-** going from \$12,000 to \$2,000

**Ambulance-** removed from the Budget. This will be separate on the taxes.

**Superintendent of Highways-** No raise

**Highway Barn-** The furnace is going. They are looking for a grant to switch the heating to pellets.

**Parks-** Everything went down. The parks are all in good shape.

**Camp Nazareth & the Youth Program-** Supervisor Entwistle believes they should match the money that was donated for Camp Nazareth this year. The Town received \$3,000 in donations for campers. When Summer comes, the Board will have to see where the money is. There will be no activities for the Winter. Councilwoman Kardash thinks they should do a lottery for Camp Nazareth because some people don't get the information until later. A lot of children that signed up last year have gone numerous years.

**Senior Recreation-** \$1,500 was taken off the Budget to \$10,200. They can do less trips and have the participants pay \$20 or try to do the same number of trips and

have them put more money in. The trips are generally \$100/person and then the bus. Every trip is \$3,000. Councilwoman Kardash thinks they need to pay half of what the trip is. Supervisor Entwistle said other Towns do not pay for their trips. Forestport is the last Municipality doing this type of thing. Dawn suggested having the Town pay \$50 and the participant pay the rest. The Board agreed.

**Flowers-** Councilwoman Kardash suggested cutting back on the flowers. Supervisor Entwistle stated if they get cut in half, might as well cut them out. He cannot stretch half of the flowers throughout the whole Town. Councilwoman Kardash suggested putting flags up instead. Supervisor Entwistle said he would talk to Matteson's to see what the bill might be.

**Groomer-** This was cut to \$5,000. They should be good on the groomer for a bit. They put \$12,000 in it last year.

**Refuse & Garbage-** \$500 was cut from the Budget. There are approximately 175-195 people who utilize dumpster day. Dawn stated this is the only thing some taxpayers get. There are two loads. It's not meant for construction workers to get rid of their debris. Other Towns do not do dumpster day. The Board tentatively set a \$10 fee per Dump day permit. They can decide to not charge the \$10 fee. There is \$8,500 in the budget.

**Community Beautification-** There will only be two Port-a-johns. There will be a Port-a John at the Woodhull Boat Launch from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The Port-a-john in Otter Lake will be staying. There will not be a port-a-john at the Ball field.

**Codes Enforcement-** Supervisor Entwistle felt for the Codes job to be done appropriately, it needs to be 30 hours per week during the Summer. There is a possibility to hire a deputy for the other 10 hours/week. In the Winter, cut to 15-20 hours/week. He stated the paperwork aspect is simple. Anyone hired must be certified within 18 months. The Town sends them to school for the certification. Supervisor Entwistle suggested an actual punch in and a log and put it as a job requirement. Councilwoman Abrial stated tracking could be set up on the phone as it is a smart phone. It can be printed bi-weekly with mileage and where they were working. This can be put on all Town phones. Supervisor Entwistle asked the Board to think about mileage with the Code Enforcement officer position.

**Health Insurance-** The Gold plan went up \$6 a month and the Platinum went up \$23 a month.

**Computers-** Tracy and Tonya are due for Computers this year. Tracy will be getting hers as her program requires the Windows 10 update. Tonya will be getting hers next year.

**Permits & Fees-** This should double next year with the new fee structure.

**Water-** Everything evens out. Supervisor Entwistle will be checking to see if the inspection needs to be done.

**Sewer-** The grant is moving forward.

There will be a Budget Hearing on November 2, 2020 at 6:30pm.

**4. ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Councilman Scouten – yes  
Councilwoman Kardash – yes  
Councilwoman Abrial – yes  
Councilman Scott – yes  
Supervisor Entwistle – yes

There being no further business, the workshop adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy M. Terry  
Forestport Town Clerk