

**TOWN OF FORESTPORT
PRELIMINARY 2024 BUDGET HEARING
FORESTPORT TOWN HALL
10275 State Rte. 28, Forestport, N.Y. 13338
November 1, 2023 @6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor Entwistle
Councilwoman Kardash
Councilwoman Abrial
Councilman Scouten
Councilwoman Verschneider

ABSENT: No members of the Town Board were absent.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Tracy Terry, Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Entwistle

LEGAL NOTICE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Forestport will be holding a Public Hearing on November 1, 2023, at 6:30 PM at the Forestport Town Hall, 10275 Rt. 28., Forestport, NY. The Public Hearing is being held to review and accept public comments regarding the 2024 Preliminary Town Budget. The proposed budget is available for inspection in the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours. BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD OF FORESTPORT.

Tracy M. Terry – Forestport Town Clerk

Schedule of Proposed Salaries of Elected Town Offices

Town Board 4 @ 6,235.76	\$26,743.04
Supervisor	\$21,770.35
Town Clerk	\$30,968.97
Tax Collector	\$5,286.18
Superintendent of Highways	\$57,498.92
Justice	\$17,911.71

DATED: October 19, 2023

PUB DATE: WEEK OF OCTOBER 23, 2023

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Supervisor Entwistle read portions of the letter aloud from Laurie Fessler, for public comment and for the record.

To the Town of Forestport

The codes department does not deserve an increase in budget until they are certified according to TOWN and state law. The Town Board has neglected their position by ignoring town law.

Town

Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code Section 3b

B. The Code Enforcement Officer shall be appointed by Town Board of Trustees *Yearly*. The Code Enforcement Officer shall possess background experience related to building construction or fire prevention and shall, within the time prescribed by law, obtain such basic training, in-service training, advanced in-service training, and other training as the State of New York shall require for code enforcement personnel, and the Code Enforcement Officer shall obtain **certification** from the Department of State pursuant to the Executive Law and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

State

The Code Enforcement Basic Training Program is administered by the Educational Services Unit. The Basic Training Program provides initial training and certification to individuals who wish to become a Certified Building Safety Inspector (BSI) or a Certified Code Enforcement Official (CEO).

Certified Building Safety Inspectors are those individuals who are certified pursuant to 19 NYCRR Part 1208 to perform fire safety and/or property maintenance inspections of existing buildings and structures.

Certified Code Enforcement Officials are those individuals who are certified pursuant to 19 NYCRR Part 1208 to perform any code enforcement activity, including but not limited to:

- review and/or approve plans incidental to the issuance of a building permit,
- perform construction inspections, or
- perform fire safety and/or property maintenance inspections of existing buildings and structures.

The Basic Training Program is provided through live webinars. A computer with reliable internet access and an adequate sound system (speakers or headphones) are required to complete the training.

To become a Certified Building Safety Inspector, you must successfully complete basic training Courses 9A, 9B and 9C. To become a Certified Code Enforcement Official, you must successfully complete all six basic training courses Certification as a Code Enforcement Official requires the successful completion of all six courses (9A through 9F). The training must be completed within the shorter of:

- One year of the appointment date of the CEO or

- Supervisor Entwistle stated the Codes Department is running for less than when there was a Clerk. The Codes Department includes Tony, the Codes Clerk and Joe Rowlands, Code Enforcement Officer. Joe is doing the records and the inspections. He stated the NYS Codes Department reviewed some of the records and made suggestions. They are satisfied with the direction the Codes Department is heading. There are 107 permits issued for this year so far and that does not include septic permits. In the years 2018-2020, there were \$6,000 in fines and fees. In the last three years, there has been \$16,000 in fines and fees.
- Councilwoman Verschneider asked if the fees had a certain rate. Supervisor Entwistle answered they can change them. A few years ago, they increased the fee structure.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Kardash and seconded by Councilwoman Abrial to adjourn the meeting.

5 ayes/ 0 nays/0 absent MOTION CARRIED

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm by Supervisor Entwistle.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy M. Terry
Forestport Town Clerk