

TOWN OF FORESTPORT
2016 Budget Workshop Minutes
OCTOBER 14, 2015 @ 6:30 PM

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Members Present:

Supervisor Parker Snead
Councilman Ronald Scouten
Councilwoman Joanne Kwasniewski
Councilwoman Nancy Kardash
Councilman Charles Scott

Also Present:

**Dawn Campbell –Bookkeeper
to the Supervisor**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited.

3. BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

- The tax cap figures were reviewed and found to be slightly understated. The General Fund appropriations were readdressed. All current employees will receive a 3% increase, and newly elected people will be at the 2015 rate.
- The Highway Appropriations Budget presented a difficult challenge with a need to trim approximate \$98,000.00 from the tentative figures. Supervisor Snead reported that Councilwoman Kardash, Highway Superintendent William Gardner, Highway Department Clerk Dorothy Hajdasz, and he met prior to this workshop meeting to review their budget. He stated that it's a particularly difficult situation because of the Union contract. He stated that it is not sustainable as it is and there must be future changes. It was noted that the health insurance costs alone are \$149,000, for seven people.
- The fire department issues were revisited. Art Gleasman stated that he feels they will manage again this year but the funding issues can't go

on forever. There are more and more demands for training and equipment upgrades. They aren't going to be able to keep up with the current level of support.

- The Water District and Sewer District budgets were reviewed. Those district residents are responsible for the costs.

4. TOWN CLERK INFORMATION:

The Town Clerk reminded everyone that budget calendar is as follows: After the Board reviews the Tentative Budget it needs to approve any changes by resolution at a Town Board Meeting, *Oct. 21, 2015*. The tentative budget so adopted by the Town Board becomes the preliminary budget. The preliminary budget is filed with the Town Clerk, and the Town Clerk makes as many copies as the Board directs and they are made available to the public for review. From this point no changes should be made to the Preliminary Budget until the Town Board holds a Public Hearing. This hearing must be held no later than the Thursday following Election Day. This would be Nov. 5, 2015. After the Town Board sets the date at a Town Board meeting notices will be published as required. The final budget must be adopted no later than Nov. 20, 2015.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Councilman Ronald Scouten – yes
Councilwoman Nancy Kardash – yes
Councilwoman Joanne Kwasniewski – yes
Councilman Charles Scott – yes
Supervisor Parker Snead – yes

There being no further business, the workshop adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan M. Ingersoll
Forestport Town Clerk

