

**TOWN OF FORESTPORT
TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING IN RE:
MAINTAINING AND PLOWING PRIVATE ROADS
FORESTPORT TOWN HALL
October 4, 2018 @ 7:15 PM**

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PLOWING AND MAINTAINING PRIVATE ROADS
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MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilman William Rockhill
Councilwoman Nancy Kardash
Councilman Ronald Scouten
Councilman Charles Scott
Supervisor Harold Entwistle, III
Highway Superintendent William Gardner

MEMBERS ABSENT

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by Supervisor Entwistle followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Entwistle called for a moment of silence for a previous Town Supervisor and the longest serving Sherriff in Oneida County, William Hasenauer.

OPENING REMARKS:

Supervisor Entwistle started the meeting off by stating he appreciates everyone coming out tonight. This has been looked at diligently. It was brought to the attention by late August that the Town of Forestport has been plowing and maintaining private roads. Bill Gardner was the Highway Superintendent for 25 years and these roads were being plowed and maintained before he came. The Board tried seeing if these roads fit into a Highway by Use, which they do not.

Supervisor Entwistle spoke with the Comptroller's Office to see if they can contract with these private roads and have them pay the County rate. The Comptroller stated they cannot. It costs the Town approximately \$2600 a season to plow these private roads. This includes fuel, wages, sand and salt.

Even if the Town takes over the roads, the Town cannot plow these roads until they actually belong to the Town.

QUESTIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

Councilman Scott stated the Town has the authority to plow in the case of an emergency. Councilman Scouten asked if the Town takes the roads over, who is responsible for the survey. Supervisor Entwistle is still in the process of researching this.

Buckhorn Association owns the roads and the shoulder of the road and this simplifies the process if they decide to take it over.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Cindy, from the gallery asked if they were going to have to get a contractor to plow her road. It was answered, yes.

Richard, from the gallery stated there were two right away's that went through Kayuta Terrace. Discussion took place. Supervisor Entwistle called the Adirondack and Remsen schools to see if the buses drove on these roads to pick up and drove off children. These roads have not been serviced by the school system in quite a while. He also called the Postal service to see if mail was delivered.

A gentleman asked if there are rules that apply to a public road that do not apply to a private road? Yes, there are. Katherine, from the gallery stated she wanted to keep her road at 10mph and the dust down on her road. She asked if the Town took the roads over, do they lose control of that? It was answered, yes.

A gentleman asked about the waterline in Buckhorn. Supervisor Entwistle stated Buckhorn would still be responsible for the waterline, whether under the road or not.

A woman from the gallery asked why they are getting the letter now, instead of the end of August. Supervisor Entwistle stated they thought it was in the best interest to get all the information first and see what the Town could do. She asked about the taxes. Supervisor Entwistle stated they cannot lower taxes because it is a private road. He said if they can prove their property value has changed, because they bought the property thinking it was a public road, they can bring it to the grievance board.

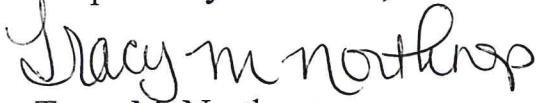
ADJOURNMENT:

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

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

There being no further comments the hearing was adjourned at 8:29 pm by Supervisor Entwistle.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tracy M. Northrop". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Tracy M. Northrop
Forestport Town Clerk