

**TOWN OF FORESTPORT  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
FORESTPORT TOWN HALL  
April 17, 2019 @ 6:30 PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councilwoman Kardash  
Councilman Rockhill  
Councilman Scott  
Councilman Scouten  
Supervisor Entwistle  
William Riley, Town Attorney

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Tracy Northrop, Town Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:44 PM

**ABSTRACTS**

**GENERAL:**

A motion was made by Councilman Scott and seconded by Councilman Rockhill to pay Abstract #4, Vouchers #183-#243 in the amount of \$29,766.53. Roll call vote:

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

**HIGHWAY:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Kardash and seconded by Councilman Scouten to pay Abstract #4, vouchers #102-#145 in the amount of \$65,538.21. Roll call vote:

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

Councilman Rockhill asked how many more years the Town has to pay for plow trucks. Supervisor Entwistle stated they have two trucks. Two trucks will be paid off in one year and the bridge will be paid off by 2020. By 2021, the Town should temporarily be debt free.

**TOWN CLERK MINUTES:**

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

Regular Town Board Meeting- March 20, 2019

Town Board informational Meeting on Horton Road Bridge: March 28, 2019

Councilwoman Kardash-yes

Councilman Scott-yes

Councilman Rockhill-abstain

Councilman Scouten-abstain

Supervisor Entwistle-yes

**TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:**

**JUSTICE REPORT:**

**HIGHWAY:**

**PLANNING REPORT:**

**CODES:**

**ASSESSOR:**

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER'S REPORT:**

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Kardash and seconded by Councilman Scouten to approve the reports as a whole except for the Codes report. Roll call vote:

Councilwoman Kardash-yes

Councilman Scott-yes

Councilman Rockhill-yes

Councilman Scouten-yes

Supervisor Entwistle-yes

Councilwoman Kardash stated she received the report after three months, and the report is unacceptable. Councilman Rockhill asked Councilwoman Kardash what she was looking for as far as the Codes Report. She stated something more in depth. Supervisor Entwistle stated he will be speaking with Lance Hoffert, the Code

Enforcement Officer. Councilman Scott mentioned the report from this month was a quarterly report and not a monthly report.

**NOCCOG:**

- Local Government Archives Workshop is being offered in Boonville.
- June 20<sup>th</sup> in Trenton there will be a second session regarding Amish.

**OLD BUSINESS BOARD:**

- STEM Program: There are two candidates for the Head Teacher position for the Summer Recreation Program this Summer. There is a limit of 30 children.
- Minimum Maintenance Roads: Attorney Riley stated there is a two step process which includes a local Law has to be adopted first and then the Highway Superintendent would provide a list of low volume roads to the Town Board. The board could accept that. If the board chose to take it a step further and create a Local law to deem them Minimum Maintenance Roads would be necessary. He made those two local laws available to the board with the steps that need to be followed.
- Buckhorn: Attorney Riley spoke with Buckhorns attorney the other day. They are supposed to be faxing the deeds in a couple days. They need to write the Town a check for the road work that needs to be done. They needed to provide 25% down which amounts to \$2800 to get started on Antler Road, Deer Run and Buck Lane. He is unsure how far Buck Lane goes. He would like the Board to look at what they are considering is what the Town proposed to take over.
- Bear Creek Lodge: The Board has been working on this over the winter; trying to figure out who owns the roads. They are waiting for the snow to disappear so the membership can have an estimate of what it would cost to bring the roads up to specs. The Board of Directors will have all the information they need to bring to the members attention.
- 12216 Woodhull Street: This house has been abandoned for two years now. School and land taxes, water and sewer have not been paid on this. The Town has been forced to step in to mow lawn, move debris and board up windows for public safety. The Town is looking into demolition of the building. There are several ways to do this:
  1. Send the owners of record a final notice stating the town will tear it down and put the costs on their taxes.
  2. If the property is slated for County auction in August once the county takes possession, there is a possibility of the county deeding it over to the Town of Forestport. Supervisor Entwistle has reached out to one contractor which came back under \$12,000, the Assessor said all cleaned up, the property is worth \$5,000. Councilman Scott asked about fire practice and Art Gleasman stated you would need to get a permit from the state. The Down side is a \$7,000 cost to the Town.

3. Have the owners of record deed the property to the Town.
- Supervisor Entwistle needs to check with Lance to make sure he has followed the codes for the unsafe buildings law. All copies with certified receipts of how many times and what has been said in contact with owner of record. See if the building is slated for auction. Contact two more contractors and the City of Rome, who has a certified asbestos abatement and possess their own equipment for a shared service agreement. By next month, the Board can determine what happens next. Councilwoman Kardash asked if the private contractors have to be certified for asbestos removal. Supervisor Entwistle stated they are all certified for asbestos removal. Attorney Riley stated the Town should check with the insurance company to make sure they are covered in case the property owners decide they want to keep the property.
  - Forestport Elementary has been slated for closure in June of this year. The Town is committed to filling the holes caused by the closing of the school. The Town has already provided for activities, but are always looking on ways to expand and are there to help the children and their families.

#### **NEW BUSINESS BOARD:**

- Highway Department Truck: William Gardner is looking for a new truck. The truck is having issues and when taken to the shop, other issues were found. Gerald Nortz gave a quote for a new truck at \$37,500. The problem is there isn't money budgeted for equipment in the budget. See if Dawn can figure out where to get some money from. If they find \$18,000, they can decide to move forward or not.
- Ria Chase: House burned down a couple weeks ago and lost everything. Shelley Privett is running a benefit June 1<sup>st</sup> at Forestport Fire Hall. Her phone number is on the poster if you're looking to help out with anything,
- The Forestport Senior trip is scheduled for Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. It includes coach transportation to Alexandria Bay with lunch on the Uncle Sam Boat Tours and wine tasting at a winery. The cost is \$20 for Forestport Taxpayers.

#### **NEW BUSINESS PUBLIC:**

- John Furness: Two years ago, NOCATV got shot down because of the SEQR. There is a lot going on in Boonville with the trails. Supervisor Entwistle met with Dennis Davis, member of the Masonic Camp and said he would discuss the options if they opened Buck Lake Road in Masonic Home. Camp Turk isn't interested in running ATVs in the camp. He would discuss opening up a conversation, regarding this with the Board. Supervisor Entwistle will reach out to Dennis Davis. He's pushing for this because he'd like to see it continue to expand. Mr. Furness was interested in opening the TOW path for four-wheeling as well.

**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 Rockhill-yes

Councilman Scouten-yes

Supervisor Entwistle-yes

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm by Supervisor Entwistle.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy M. Northrop  
Forestport Town Clerk