

**TOWN OF FORESTPORT**  
**2021 Budget Workshop Minutes**  
**October 5, 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 6:42 PM by Supervisor Entwistle.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Recited.

**3. BUDGET DISCUSSIONS**

This Budget Workshop is to go over the Highway, Fire and Ambulance side of the Budget.

**Wages-** Dorothy, Dawn and Jim will be getting raises.

**Road Repair-** Councilwoman Kardash stated this is low. Supervisor Entwistle said they are trying to use the CHIPS for the stone.

**Equipment-** There is \$1,000 rebate for the plow. This is being reduced to \$3,850.00

**Payroll-** it's up to \$215,000 this year.

**Equipment-** Down \$9,000-\$10,000.

**Personnel for Snow removal-** Start looking into trucks that can be run by one guy. Most new trucks are set up that way. It eliminates the need for a wingman.

**Benefits-** Retirement and social security is staying the same. Unemployment is

down a little. Medical insurance is up a little bit.

**Trucks-** The Highway is due for a new truck in 2021. Supervisor Entwistle stated the truck will have to wait one more year. Supervisor Entwistle said leasing can be considered. There are leasing programs where the truck gets traded every three years automatically and services and warranties are covered.

Mr. Ekeren, from the gallery asked if the plan is to be raise the Highway Budget. Supervisor Entwistle said the Highway has always been a struggle to make the Budget. Every year, the Highway budget has always run 1.1-1.2 million.

**Fire-** Councilwoman Kardash stated Old Forge Ambulance hasn't picked up their check yet. In her opinion, when STaR approached the Board, they asked for \$30,000. She would like to see the Board give a little more to the Fire Departments, who are their first responders and a little less to the Ambulance. Discussion took place. All Fire Departments are getting a 10% increase. Forestport: \$83,759.50 Woodgate: \$68,953.50 Otter Lake: \$67,434.40.

**Ambulance-** Supervisor Entwistle said STaR would've liked the Town to levy taxes to .38 cents/1,000. STaR Ambulance was short \$35,000, which was for insurance, fuel, payroll and expired medical supplies. They didn't have money for new vehicles or upgrades to equipment. If the Town of Forestport goes below \$75,000, Supervisor Entwistle doesn't feel they are helping STaR Ambulance the way they need the help. By Forestport joining STaR Ambulance, someone from Forestport would be on the Board representing Forestport. It is also a 3 -year contract. There would not be an increase on that line for 3 years. Supervisor Entwistle stated the Board needs to consider increasing the Fire Department every couple years, regardless who sits on the Town Board. Discussion took place. The Board agreed to keep it at \$75,000. Last year, Old Forge took approximately 25 calls from Forestport and STaR had approximately 120 calls from Forestport. Councilman Scouten said the Board has to consider Old Forge has to come all the way down and then all the way back for a call. The \$75,000 will be distributed as follows: STaR \$56,250 and Old Forge \$18,750.

Councilwoman Kardash wanted to clarify they are starting the Code Officer out at 20 hours a week instead of 30. Dawn stated Part Time is 20 hours and under. They discussed a salary with 20 hours all year round, with the understanding they will be working more hours in the Summer months.

The Budget Meeting is November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30.

#### **4. ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Kardash and seconded by Councilwoman Abrial 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 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy M. Terry  
Forestport Town Clerk