

**TOWN OF FORESTPORT**  
**2022 Budget Workshop Minutes**  
**September 28, 2021 @ 6:30 PM**

**Members Present:** Supervisor Entwistle  
Councilman Scouten  
Councilwoman Abrial  
Councilwoman Kardash

**Members Absent:** No members were absent.

**Other Town Officials Present:**  
Tracy Terry, Town Clerk  
Dawn Campbell, Bookkeeper to the Supervisor

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Supervisor Entwistle read the legal notice aloud.

**3. BUDGET DISCUSSIONS**

- **Fire:** Woodgate, Otter Lake and Forestport Fire Departments are staying the same as last year.
- **Ambulance:** STaR is under contract for 3 years. Bob Whitehead is the representative from Forestport for the StaR ambulance. He brought a couple instances to Supervisor Entwistle's attention. There have been two times that someone has called for an ambulance and the people had to wait over an hour for someone to come. Bob brought the issue to STaR and said something has to be done. Discussion took place.
- **Highway:** There is \$180,000 in the capital line with CHIPS money. The Town is switching the company for uniforms to t-shirts and jeans. The union representative will be at the highway barn on Monday morning to discuss it

further.

- **Highway Equipment:** The budget has money in it for a sander box, mower and a 2022 truck.
- **Contingency fund:** There is \$130,000 in there for Board approved emergencies.
- **Health insurance:** Bill Gardner, the Highway Superintendent has hired three new guys and has kept Allan on as a full-time worker. Three of the newly hired guys are wanting to leave because they have to pay 50% of their health insurance. The contract states down the road if there are new hires, the 50% could be negotiated. Three guys are on the single plan, and one is on the family plan. Supervisor Entwistle went through the costs of paying 50%, 40% and 35% for the highway employees. The Board agreed to change the Highway Employee health insurance contribution to 40% starting in January. Supervisor Entwistle would like to have a short meeting with the Town Board and Dawn with the union representative for the Highway.
- **General Health Insurance:** There are 7 Town officials and one retiree on the Town insurance. The Town paying \$50 extra a month would be a total of \$4,550 for the year. The board agreed to pay \$600 to 6 employees that do not have the town insurance, except the Town Historian, 5 Planning Board Members, Town Attorney and the Dog Control Officer. The non-participating health insurance employees will get the \$600 taken out of their paychecks with taxes getting taken out. Grand total is approximately \$8,000. Supervisor Entwistle will be having an employee meeting stating they are getting a 3% raise and a \$50/health insurance or \$50 in check if they are not taking the health insurance. Councilwoman Kardash suggested the employees signing a form in case this is a one-time thing. Discussion took place.

#### **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  
Supervisor Entwistle – yes

There being no further business, the workshop adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy M. Terry  
Forestport Town Clerk