

TOWN OF FORESTPORT
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FORESTPORT TOWN HALL
10275 State Rte. 28, Forestport, N.Y. 13338
April 20, 2022

PRESENT: Supervisor Entwistle
Councilwoman Kardash
Councilwoman Abrial
Councilwoman Verschneider

ABSENT: Councilman Scouten

RECORDING SECRETARY: Tracy Terry, Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:47 PM by Supervisor Entwistle.

ABSTRACTS:

GENERAL:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Abrial and seconded by Councilwoman Kardash to pay Abstract #4, Vouchers #193- # 247 in the amount of \$34,832.58.

Roll call vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilwoman Abrial – yes
Councilwoman Verschneider-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

HIGHWAY:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Verschneider and seconded by Councilwoman Kardash to pay Abstract #4, vouchers #101- # 147 in the amount of \$28,838.26.

Roll call vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilwoman Abrial – yes
Councilwoman Verschneider-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

PLANNING BOARD ESCROW:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Abrial and seconded by Councilwoman Verschneider to pay Abstract #4, Vouchers #1- #2 in the amount of \$200.00.

Roll call vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilwoman Abrial – yes
Councilwoman Verschneider-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

TOWN BOARD ESCROW:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Verschneider and seconded by Councilwoman Abrial to pay Abstract #4, vouchers #1- #2 in the amount of \$100.00

Roll call vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilwoman Abrial – yes
Councilwoman Verschneider-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

TOWN CLERK MINUTES:

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

Town Board Regular Meeting- March 16, 2022
Special Meeting- March 24, 2022

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilwoman Abrial – yes
Councilwoman Verschneider-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

REPORTS

TOWN CLERK REPORT
JUSTICE REPORT
PLANNING REPORT
DOG REPORT
SUPERVISOR REPORT
CODES REPORT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Abrial and seconded by Councilwoman Verschneider to approve the reports as a whole.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilwoman Abrial – yes
Councilwoman Verschneider-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

NOCCOG:

Lisa, from NOCCOG went over the monthly announcements. She stated the Local Government Conference had a good turnout.

OLD BUSINESS BOARD

- **Master Plan Committee:** Supervisor Entwistle, Dave Ultsch, Bob Whitehead and Steven Addison are on the committee. There is another individual that may be joining. The Committee will meet once a month for no more than 90 minutes. Supervisor Entwistle has a Master Plan from another municipality that is very easy to read. The Committee will use this as a tool. Supervisor Entwistle has reached out to a local Municipal Planner for advice. She would know what types of questions to ask for the mailers that will be mailed to taxpayers. The town received a grant for \$30,000 and the Committee will stay within that amount to cover data analysis, in-house staff, and mailings. The committee is all volunteer.
- **Website Design:** Tracy Terry, the Town Clerk has been maintaining the town website since January. The new website should be running by the May meeting.
- **Quarry Update:** The DOT will not move forward with signing off because of the driveway. Large trucks are unable to make a right-hand turn. This is on hold until the May Planning Board meeting.
- **Allison Variance:** Supervisor Entwistle read aloud the five factors considered for a variance.

Factors to consider when reviewing a variance:

1. An undesirable change will be produced in the character of the neighborhood or a detriment to nearby properties will be created by granting the variance.

No. The current property is well kept and is going through renovations currently to improve its functionality and appearance. The initial plan for the second lot is for a small (1000 sf) single family cabin. As a condition of the variance, Mr. Allison would have to match the existing character of the neighborhood should he choose to build on the second parcel. For example; log/wood siding.

Another condition of the variance would prohibit the parking of any RV/camper trailer on the property, whether it is in use or not.

2. The benefit sought by the applicant can be achieved by some method, feasible for the applicant to pursue, other than a variance.

No. The Town of Forestport Site Review Law prohibits two principal structures on the same parcel. Additionally, wastewater treatment and drinking water would be an issue.

3. The requested variance is substantial.

Yes. The current lot is approximately .75 acres, with road frontage of 180'. This lot was originally three 60' lots, which were combined into one 180' lot. The proposed subdivision still leaves the two lots with 30' more frontage than the original three 60' lots, however the proposed lots are substantially smaller and with less frontage than the Forestport SRL allows for.

4. The proposed variance will have an adverse effect or impact on the historical or environmental conditions in the neighborhood.

GV DA

No. Historically speaking, this neighborhood has been a cluster of residential development dating back to the 1800s. There are 36 parcels within a half mile of the location, and of the 36, 17 parcels have frontage of less than 100'. The current Forestport Comprehensive Plan suggests concentrated development in the hamlet areas of town such as Woodgate.

Environmentally speaking, should Mr. Allison choose to build on the proposed second lot, Health department regulations would require his wastewater system be located at least 100' from neighboring wells. This is a condition of the variance- no variance from Health Department regulations will be granted.

Additionally, the development of the second lot will not hinder development on adjoining lots as they have existing water/septic that complies with Health Department regulations.

5. The alleged difficulty was self-created.

No. Mr. Allison did not own the property when it was the original three lots, nor was it he that merged them into one. If he had owned the property, he would have done a parcel line adjustment, making the three lots into two.

Mr. Bagley, from the gallery stated the Site Review Law is to protect future owners and he wouldn't have purchased the lot if he knew the Board would violate their own Site Plan Law. Supervisor Entwistle stated he and the town's Attorney reviewed the letter from Mr. Bagley's Attorney. Discussion took place.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Verschneider and seconded by Councilwoman Abrial to approve the Allison variance.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes

Councilman Scouten- absent

Councilwoman Abrial – yes

Councilwoman Verschneider-yes

Supervisor Entwistle-yes

- **Camp Nazareth:** Registration will open Wednesday, April 27, 2022. Camp Nazareth has raised their rates to \$425 per week and they charge the town \$300 a week. First time campers will be free and campers that have gone before will be \$50. Priority will be given to children who live in Forestport and then it will be open to grandchildren of taxpayers.
- **EZ-Pass:** The Town Clerk has EZ-Pass on the Go available in her office for

\$25.00. There is a website for you to go on and register once purchased.

NEW BUSINESS BOARD:

- **Alder Creek Solar update:** Supervisor Entwistle met with David. He is currently doing wildlife survey, and wetland delineation. He will submit the application to the State in the fourth quarter of this year. They will be discussing tax implications in the Fall as the town has opted out of the PILOT program (payment in lieu of taxes).
- **Area Variance-Steven Eckels-Woodgate Storage:** The business and home are on one lot, and he would like to subdivide because he would like to dedicate on driveway to the business. He has 50' of road frontage so he is looking for an area variance to subdivide.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Kardash and seconded by Councilwoman Abrial to schedule a Public Hearing May 18, 2022, at 6:15PM.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilwoman Abrial – yes
Councilwoman Verschneider-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

- **Electronic Deposit-Town Clerk:** The Town Clerk would be able to deposit checks remotely and not have to go to the bank. Banking would be for cash only.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Verschneider and seconded by Councilwoman Abrial to approve electronic deposit for the Town Clerk's office.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilwoman Abrial – yes
Councilwoman Verschneider-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

- **Old Forestport Days/ Lightning at White Lake Block Party:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Verschneider and seconded by Councilwoman Abrial to schedule a Public Hearing May 18, 2022 @ 6PM for road closures for Old Forestport days and the White Lake Inn Block Party.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes

Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilwoman Abrial – yes
Councilwoman Verschneider-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

- **Local Law-Zoom Voting:** Recently there were meetings that Planning Board members could not make, currently they would not be able to vote. A Local Law would enable a Planning Board/Town Board member to vote outside of the Town of Forestport.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Verschneider and seconded by Councilwoman Abrial to schedule a Public Hearing May 18, 2022, at 6:30PM for a Local Law for videoconferencing.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilwoman Abrial – yes
Councilwoman Verschneider-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

- The Regular Town Board meeting on May 18, 2022, will begin at 6:45PM.
- **May, June, and July meetings:** Meetings in May, June and July will be held in Otter Lake.

NEW BUSINESS PUBLIC:

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Abrial and seconded by Councilman Scouten to adjourn the meeting.

Roll call vote:

Councilwoman Kardash -yes
Councilman Scouten- absent
Councilwoman Abrial – yes
Councilwoman Verschneider-yes
Supervisor Entwistle-yes

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm by Supervisor Entwistle.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy M. Terry
Forestport Town Clerk