

# MARCH 2024

## **Town of Forestburgh Newsletter**

### **Board and Committee News:**

For a copy of the minutes and/or agendas, please visit our website at [www.forestburgh.net](http://www.forestburgh.net) . While on the website, please check the calendar for upcoming events and meetings. You can also see postings for upcoming meetings at the Forestburgh Firehouse, Forestburgh Town Hall and in the Sullivan County Democrat newspaper.

### **Town Board**

The Town of Forestburgh Town Board monthly meeting is usually held on the first Thursday of the month at 6:00pm located in the Forestburgh Town Hall. The next monthly meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, April 4, 2024**. For the monthly agenda, meeting minutes and updates, please visit the town website at [www.forestburgh.net](http://www.forestburgh.net). You can also see postings for upcoming meetings at the Forestburgh Firehouse, Forestburgh Town Hall and in the Sullivan County Democrat newspaper.

For more information, please call the Town Hall at 845-794-0611 ext. 21.

### **Planning Board**

The Planning Board held its regular February meeting. There were two items on the agenda: Trips to Win being removed at the applicant's request the day before the meeting. This application for a special use permit and site plan approval for a commercial use in a residential zone on Forestburgh Road, near its intersection with Plank Road, on Black Brook will be heard at our March meeting on March 26 at 7pm. At our February meeting, the public hearing on the solar project at 2380 Rt. 42 was completed and then discussion on the application took place. It was adjourned to the March meeting, on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Also on agenda for the February meeting was an application for a lot improvement and boundary adjustment between lots owned by Schumann Trust and its neighbor Kozachuk. This application was granted. Application and pertinent materials for each of these matters are available online at <https://forestburgh.net/boards-and-committees/planning-board/pending-applications/>

### **Announcements:**

#### **Dog Control Officer**

Reminder to all dog owners: by law all dogs must have current RABIES vaccinations and be licensed. Rabies and license tags must be attached to the dog's collar or harness at all times. There has been a significant increase in abandoned dogs, dogs roaming loose and bite incidents. Letting dogs run loose is not only illegal it also creates a safety hazard for the public, the dog and other pets. Please be a responsible dog owner and a good neighbor.

#### **Rabies Clinic**

FREE Rabies Clinic scheduled for Wednesday, April 3, 2024 from 6:00pm-7:30pm at the Livingston Manor Firehouse, 93 Main Street, Livingston Manor, NY. This event is for Sullivan County Residents ONLY! Bring a photo ID as proof of residency. All pet owners must clean up after their pets. Pets must be at least 3 months old, in a secure carrier or on a leash. Aggressive dogs must be muzzled. To receive a 3-year vaccination you must bring proof of prior vaccination, otherwise your pet will receive a 1-year rabies vaccination. Any questions can be directed to the Sullivan County Department of Public Health at (845)292-5910, ext. 0.

## **Our Town** (as submitted by Town Historian, Sabina Toomey)

March is Women's History Month. In 1980 President Carter officially designated this time to honor women. Currently, the Sullivan County Museum in Hurleyville has a display of Sullivan Women of note. Please make an effort to visit this hidden treasure of our county. It's a great kids day out. It's a good time to thank all of the volunteers that make it possible. Please go to our town website for a special tribute to "Women Who Made a Difference in Our Town".

## **Highway Department**

Please keep in mind that winter is still around. Spring clean-up dates are May 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>. Hours are Thursday and Friday 7:00am - 6:00pm and Saturday 7:00am - 5:00pm. Any questions, please call the Highway Dept 845-794 8069.



## **HIRING Summer Pool Staff**

Even though the snow is flying, and the air is freezing we are prepping for the 2024 summer season! The Town of Forestburgh Recreation Department has P/T Lifeguard opportunities available for the upcoming summer season. We are looking for 2 fully certified Lifeguards at least 17 years old and a fully certified Head Lifeguard at least 21 years old. A background clearance check and pre-employment drug test will be issued. **Certification reimbursement at the end of the season, must stay for entire season!** Weekends and Holidays are a must! Head Lifeguard MUST be available to open the pool in May and close the pool after Labor Day. Salary commensurate with experience. If interested, please call the Town Hall at (845)794-0611 ext. 21.

## **Litigation Status**

### **LLH v. Town of Forestburgh, E2022-321 (Supreme Court, Sullivan County, February 2022)**

Lost Lake Holdings, LLC's (LLH) commenced this litigation alleging six separate claims related to escrow funds, the Town Code regarding escrow funds, and a 3-month moratorium the Town had adopted in February 2022. In three separate decisions, the Sullivan County Supreme Court addressed each of LLH's claims, dismissed the case and denied LLH any relief. LLH appealed the decision to the Appellate Division. In a recently issued decision in the Town's favor, the Appellate Division considered LLH's arguments finding them to be unpersuasive and has denied the developer's appeal.

### **LLH v. Town of Forestburgh, E2022-556 (Supreme Court, Sullivan County, April 2022)**

This case related to 15 FOIL requests submitted by LLH in October 2021. The Town largely granted the request but denied certain parts that were exempt from disclosure. LLH commenced an Article 78 / FOIL proceeding challenging the Town's partial denial. The Sullivan County Supreme Court issued a decision and order in April 2023 finding in the Town's favor and dismissing the case. LLH has appealed the decision, which is currently pending before the Appellate Division.

### **LLH v. Town of Forestburgh, E2022-1815 (Supreme Court, Sullivan County, September 2022)**

This case related to 23 FOIL requests submitted by LLH in March and April 2022. The Town found many of the requests to be the same as LLH's October 2021 FOIL requests. The Town sought an advisory opinion from the NYS Committee on Open Government. The Committee issued a written advisory opinion agreeing with the Town. The Town largely denied the March and April FOIL request except those portions that were not duplicative of prior request and not otherwise exempt from disclosure. LLH again commenced an Article 78 / FOIL proceeding challenging the Town's determination. The Sullivan County Supreme Court dismissed the case in April 2023. LLH has also appealed this decision and is currently pending before the Appellate Division.

### **Gold v. Town of Forestburgh, E2023-298 (Supreme Court, Sullivan County February 2023)**

This is LLH's third FOIL litigation related to FOIL requests that the Town largely denied on the basis that the records sought were duplicative of prior request or exempt from FOIL. A decision on the Town's motion to dismiss is currently pending before the Sullivan County Supreme Court.

## **Litigation Cont'd**

### **Town of Forestburgh v. LLH, E2023-186 (Supreme Court, Sullivan County February 2023)**

The Town commenced this suit against LLH to enjoin the developer from continuing with construction due to material changes with the project. LLH made a motion to dismiss the case. A decision on LLH's motion to dismiss is currently pending before the Sullivan County Supreme Court.

### **LLH v. Town of Forestburgh (S.D.N.Y. December 2022)**

LLH commenced federal litigation in the Southern District of NY alleging claims of housing and religious discrimination. After commencing the case, the developer made a motion for a preliminary injunction against the Town in December 2023. The Federal court issued a December 2023 decision in the Town's favor and denying the motion. This case remains pending before the court.

## **Town of Forestburgh Spring Clean Up 2024**

May 9th- May 11th

Residents must separate materials into the following categories prior to bringing it to the town barn.

- A. Appliances and scrap metal (washers, dryers, stoves, water heaters, pipes, etc)
- B. Construction and demolition debris and bulky waste (furniture, mattresses, carpets, etc)
- C. Recyclables

**\*\*\*\*ANY BULKY WASTE SHOULD BE NEAT AND TIED WITH ROPE\*\*\*\***

(For Example: shingles)

## **We cannot accept the following items:**

No tires

No refrigerators or air conditioners

No item greater than 4 feet in length (please cut to proper size)

No fuel tanks, oil drums or large propane tanks

No full or partially full cans of paint, petroleum products, pesticides or any other hazardous waste

No brush, yard waste, bags of leaves, stumps or rocks

No explosives, ammunitions, radioactive material, medical waste, medications or car batteries

No household garbage or commercial waste

No asbestos or liquids

No electronic scrap

## **HOURS OF OPERATON**

**Thursday through Friday 7:00 am to 6:00 pm**

**All day Saturday May 11th from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm**

**Please, no more than one pick-up truck load per family. We are only allocated for 12 tons.**

***IF YOU ARE DISABLED OR A SENIOR AND NEED ASSISTANCE***

***Please call the town barn at 845-794-8069***

***Joe Ruggeri - Highway Superintendent***

## **Women's History Month**

The official website for Women's History Month has a lot of interesting information to commemorate and celebrate the vital roles of women in American history:

[Women's History Month 2024 \(womenshistorymonth.gov\)](https://www.womenshistorymonth.gov)



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