

**\*\*\*\*\*DRAFT\*\*\*\*\***

The Town of Forestburgh Town Board held their regular monthly meeting on **Thursday, April 2, 2026**, at the town hall.

Supervisor Hogue called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Present – Daniel S. Hogue, Jr., Supervisor  
Steven Budofsky, Councilperson  
Vincent Galligan, Councilperson  
Susan Parks Landis, Councilperson

Absent Robert Sipos, Councilperson

Recording Secretary Teresa Collins, Town Clerk

**MINUTES** – March 5, 2026, regular town board meeting minutes are acknowledged receipt.

**MOTION** by Councilperson Budofsky, seconded by Councilperson Galligan. Councilperson Landis abstains. Vote: 3 ayes – 0 nays- 1 abstain. Motion carried.

**GENERAL FUND VOUCHERS** - #62-80 in the sum of \$6,793.15 as set forth in abstract #5 of 2026 were audited for payment. **MOTION** by Councilperson Landis, seconded by Councilperson Budofsky to pay for the General Fund Vouchers 2026. Vote: 4 ayes – 0 nay. Motion carried.

**HIGHWAY FUND VOUCHERS** - #33-44 in the sum of \$30,200.78 as set forth in abstract #3 of 2026 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Councilperson Budofsky, seconded by Councilperson Landis, to accept the Highway Fund Vouchers 2026. Vote: 4 ayes - 0 nays. Motion carried.

**ESCROW VOUCHERS** – None

**CORRESPONDENCE** –

04/01/2026

**Town Board**

Town of Forestburgh  
322 King Rd, Forestburgh, NY 12777  
By: Electronic Mail

Dear Members of the Town Board:

In my March letter to the Board, I provided an example of the consequences of failing to govern lawfully. I urged the Board to reverse course, fulfill its responsibility to govern in strict compliance with the Open Meetings Law, and reminded the Board, as I have previously, that any record, resolution, or policy scheduled for discussion or vote at a public meeting must be made available online and to the public before and at the meeting<sup>1</sup> and that failing to do so continues the Town's apparent disregard for the law.

In that regard, I ask the Board to note the following:

First, FOIL<sup>2</sup> § 89(8) provides that “[a]ny person who, with intent to prevent the public inspection of a record pursuant to this article, willfully conceals or destroys any such record shall be guilty of a violation.” **NYS Penal Law also contains a parallel section deeming this conduct to be a violation.**

Second, many records were not disclosed prior to or at the meeting, in violation of the Open Meetings Law, including: (1) correspondence; (2) the MHE engineering proposal (provided to Richard Robbins); (3) the Computer Doctor proposal; (4) the PNN alarm camera proposal; (5) the bid packet for fuel; (6) the insurance audit; (7) the contractor proposal; (8) the retainer agreement with Harris Beach; and (9) the Joint Defense Agreement.

Third, although copies of the correspondence had been placed on the table and made available to the public, the Town Supervisor directed the Town Clerk, who also serves as the Records Access Officer, to discard those copies into the garbage. The Town Clerk complied, thereby apparently willfully and directly denying the public access to a record that is expressly required by law to be disclosed prior to the meeting. This action apparently undertaken for the specific purpose of concealing information to which the public is legally entitled, aggravates the underlying violation of the law.

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<sup>1</sup> The full text of the Open Meetings Law is available at the following link:  
<https://opengovernment.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2024/06/oml-text-05052023.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> The full text of the Freedom of Information Law is available at the following link:  
[https://opengovernment.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2026/01/foil-law-text-011326\\_0.pdf](https://opengovernment.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2026/01/foil-law-text-011326_0.pdf)

Fourth, given the foregoing, perhaps unsurprisingly, despite the Supervisor assuring the undersigned that no vote would be taken following the executive session of the March meeting, votes were taken following the session, as reflected in the minutes<sup>3</sup>.

Fifth, despite two New York State Court Appellate Division decisions and multiple opinions from the Committee on Open Government indicating that the Town's conduct is inconsistent with its obligations under FOIL, the Town continues its current troubling practices. Additionally, two FOIL appeals concerning repeated constructive denials remain pending and have not been decided, despite the statutory requirement that such appeals be determined within ten business days.

On a related note, given that records that clearly existed have been certified as not in the town's possession in response to FOIL requests, this constitutes formal notice to the Town that I intend to submit a FOIL request seeking the (i) exterior video footage of Town Hall on the date of the March Town Board meeting, and (ii) the findings and resolutions adopted to approve the Grand Luxury Retreat. The Town is hereby formally requested to immediately suspend any automatic deletion or destruction of such records and to preserve them in full, in order to ensure compliance with FOIL and other applicable provisions of the Law.

Finally, while the Town has previously rescheduled meetings that conflicted with significant dates, the more recent practice of holding or scheduling meetings on major Jewish religious holidays<sup>4</sup> including the forthcoming meeting on Passover, is deeply disappointing.

I hope that consistently raising these issues will ultimately motivate the Board to take the necessary steps to ensure full transparency and compliance with the law.

Sincerely,

*Yehuda Miller*

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<sup>3</sup> The full minutes is available at the following link: <https://forestburgh.net/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/TB-3-5-2026.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Such as Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Simchat Torah.

March 23, 2026

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing as a follow-up to our prior discussions regarding the need to revise the Town of Forestburgh's existing noise ordinance and to ensure enforcement of applicable zoning laws.

At the August 2025 meeting, it was acknowledged that excessive noise is a persistent issue. Ongoing disturbances have included loud, amplified music, singing, chanting, and speaking originating from a neighboring property near Forestburgh Pond (Lot 20, accessed via Hartwood Road). This noise has been an ongoing issue since July 2023.

As discussed, the current local laws are written in a manner that makes enforcement of permitted hours and acceptable noise levels extremely difficult, particularly in situations involving amplified sound. During incidents in July 2025, responding sheriff's deputies indicated they were unable to shut down the activity or issue violations due to the vagueness of the existing ordinance. At the August 2025 meeting, the Board noted that it would consult with code enforcement and legal counsel and conduct further research to clarify and strengthen the law.

On behalf of the Hartwood Road Concerned Neighbors, we respectfully request an update on the status of these efforts. Specifically, we are seeking information on whether revisions are underway to address the following:

- Clearly defined hours and conditions for the use of amplified sound
- Establishment of enforceable decibel limits and duration restrictions
- Updates to local laws that enable effective enforcement and appropriate penalties

Additionally, we request clarification regarding the current use of the property. Our understanding is that it is zoned for residential use. If so, do advertised "large gatherings" of up to 300 people (see attached) comply with local zoning regulations? We ask that the Town enforce applicable zoning laws to protect all residents.

I have copied the Forestburgh Pond HOA on this letter to ensure awareness of these concerns.

With warmer weather approaching, it is important for residents to understand what is permissible and to ensure that existing laws adequately protect the community. Residents have a right to the quiet enjoyment of their homes, and we are hopeful the Town will take the necessary steps to provide clarity and enforceability moving forward.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We respectfully request that this letter be read at the April 2, 2026 Town Board meeting. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,  
Joan Toomey Grund  
Elizabeth Grund

cc: Hartwood Road Concerned Neighbors  
New York Land & Lakes Development, LLC (Hartwood Pond HOA)

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Attachments: screen grabs from Instagram, [www.perfectionmountain.com](http://www.perfectionmountain.com), letter to Town dated May 27, 2025

May 27, 2025 Forestburgh Town Board

Dear Board,

This letter is to raise the ongoing issue with the Town regarding previous events of loud, amplified music, singing, chanting and speaking from an adjacent property of Forestburgh Pond. Over the past few years, the noise rattled the windows and was completely disruptive for the entire 3-day weekends. Use of an amplifier was constant all day long.

As previously discussed in Town meetings last year, the source is either lot 20 or 21 with a driveway entrance on Hartwood Road.

The property will be hosting an event this year, the weekend of July 11-13. Advertised as a "3- day Revive-All Retreat" at Perfection Prayer Mountain, 20 Hartwood Road, Forestburgh, NY, per the groups Instagram page, they have already "registered 115 people and have room for up to 200".

As you know, over the last few years this property has hosted multi-day events with ongoing activity and noise, in violation of Town Ordinance Chapter 110 Noise. Last May 15-18, 2024, a "Revive-All Conference" took place and was promoted on [www.perfectmountain.com](http://www.perfectmountain.com) and indicated the event could allow for 300 attendees.

Given the promotion for this event, the same concerns remain:

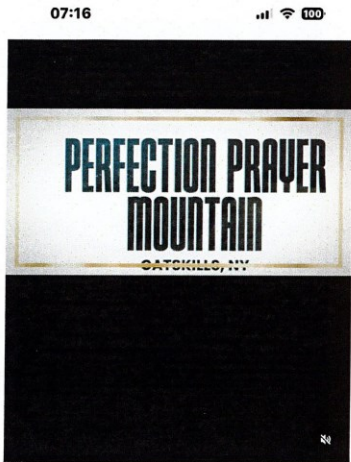
1. Is this activity in violation of Town Ordinance 110 Noise?
2. Is the property zoned for such ongoing activities and are permits required?
3. Is a permit issued by the town for this three-day event?
4. Is the property owner aware of the activity and the disruption being caused?
5. With the potential of 200 attendees, what is allowable given the lack of a water source, sewage or parking, as well as rubbish removal?

Attached please find screen grabs I captured in mid-April representing the advertising and promotion for the event.

As always, we appreciate your attention to this matter and request this situation be dealt with ***in advance, given we know the dates for the 2025 event.***

Elizabeth may be contacted at 917-573-3940 or via [elizabeth.Grund@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.Grund@gmail.com) with questions or comments.

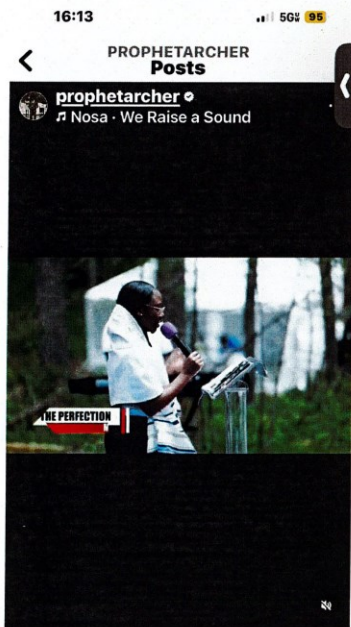
Regards,  
Joan Toomey Grund Elizabeth Grund



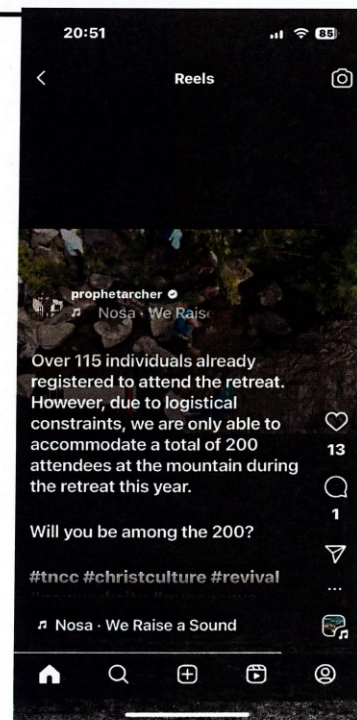
prophetarcher The much-anticipated Revive-All Retreat at Perfection Prayer Mountain is quickly approaching. You want to join us, click on the pre registration form at <https://form.jotform.com/250184546673159>



18 1 3



18 1 3



Nosa - We Raise a Sound

Olga Orisek

[2488 State Route 42](#)

[Forestburg, NY 12777](#)

845-866-5146

[Eurorallyol@aol.com](mailto:Eurorallyol@aol.com)

Honorable Daniel S. Hogue, Jr., Supervisor

Forestburgh, NY 12777

Request to bestow the highest praise on Mr. Todd Petrowski, Forestburg Fire Department Chief

Dear Mr. Hogue,

In light of my husband's disparaging letter writing campaign, please read this letter at the next Town board meeting and retain it in the Forestburgh archives.

Mr. Todd Petrowski extended his help beyond and above what is normally expected during my difficult time these past months.

As I am a 90 year old woman and my husband was hospitalized, I pleaded with him to look after the

house during my absence. He did it in an outstanding manner and not only that, he provided help

with transportation, groceries, secured that the heat operated, driveway was cleaned etc.

When my husband attacked me after his discharge, Mr. Petrowski and Mr. Bob Johnston were there to render the aid I so desperately needed.

Mr. Todd Petrowski is therefore an outstanding citizen of the town of Forestburgh.

My thanks are extended to his father Mr. A. Petrowski, who always accompanied him.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Olga Orisek

P.S. My thanks go also to Mr. Bob Johnston and his wife Maria who are always willing to help me. They were those who helped me in the most difficult time in my life,

Cc: Mr. Todd and Mr. A Petrowski

Mr. Bob Johnston and his wife Maria

Assistant District Attorney Howard Block, Sullivan County NY

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Planning Board Engineer – Supervisor Hogue-** asked if the board wish to invite MHE Engineering to next month board meeting and give a presentation. The board agreed.

**Planning Board Member Vacancy- Supervisor Hogue-** We have interviewed 2 planning board candidates and have one more to set up for interview.

**Board of assessments Review –** Looking for two board members for the board of assessment review.

**Server for Town Computers - Teresa Town Clerk/Councilperson Galligan -** received a second proposal which we are reviewing. **Motion** by Supervisor Hogue, second by Councilperson Landis to open the floor to Karen Ellsweig. Has anybody called the other town to see if they use a cloud or server based. Yes, we have been reaching out to other towns. We will table it for next month and see if we can get more information/input or another proposal before we can decide on how to proceed.

**Camera system for Highway Department- Supervisor Hogue-** I have not got a second proposal. Councilperson Landis may have another company which she will call for a proposal.

**Petroleum products bid- Supervisor Hogue –** Last month we bid out petroleum which is gas, diesel and heating oil. We received back a bid from County Petroleum Co for #2, fuel oil and gasoline and low sulfur diesel. Fuel oil is 0.45 cents list over posted, ultra-low sulfur diesel was 0.29 cents over listed, and gasoline is 0.29 cents over listed as well.

**MOTION** by Councilperson Budofsky, seconded by Councilperson Landis to accept the bid from County Petroleum. Vote: 4 ayes – 0 nay.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Town Line Solar Update – Supervisor Hogue –** Townline Solar Project which is in the Melody Lake area of town over on Cold Spring Road. It is a huge solar development. They anticipated

filing their notice with the state. Sullivan County, Town of Thompson and Town of Forestburgh jointly pooling their resources, which is \$200,000 that the solar company puts up for funds to host the municipalities. So, this town board and the County and Town Thompson have agreed to jointly sign a contract with Harris Beach Murtha to represent us. I would ask the board for authorization to sign the memorandum of agreement between Sullivan County, Town of Thompson and Forestburgh joint representation.

**MOTION by** Councilperson Budofsky, seconded by Councilperson Landis to authorize Supervisor Hogue to sign the memorandum of agreement. Vote: 4 ayes – 0 nay.

## **Town Cleanup-**

### **Town of Forestburgh Spring Clean Up 2026**

May 7th- May 9th

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 5:00 pm  
Saturday May 9th from 7:00 am to 1:00 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***

**MOTION** by Councilperson Budofsky, seconded by Councilperson Landis to authorize Town of Forestburgh to participate in Sullivan County cleanup week. Vote: 4 ayes – 0 nay.

**Monticello Central School District Annual Election-**



Ann-Marie Foss  
District Clerk  
afoss@k12mcsd.net

**Monticello Central School District**

60 Jefferson Street, Suite 3, Monticello, NY 12701  
TEL: 845-794-7700 FAX: 845-794-7710  
[www.monticelloschools.net](http://www.monticelloschools.net)

Matthew T. Evans, Ed. D., *Superintendent of Schools*  
Timothy Crumley, *President - Board of Education*  
Lisa Failla, *Asst. Superintendent for Business*  
Theresa Carlin, *Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction*

March 10, 2026

Ms. Teresa Collins  
Town of Forestburgh, Town Hall  
P.O. Box 114  
Forestburgh, NY 12777

Dear Ms. Collins:

The Monticello Central School District requests the use of the Town Hall for our upcoming Annual Meeting and Election, which will be held on May 19, 2026. The polls will be open from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM. In addition, we request the use of the Town Hall for personal registration on Thursday, May 7, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please inform me if the Town Hall is available. I can be reached at 845-794-7700, ext. 70523.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Ann-Marie Foss  
District Clerk

**MOTION** by Councilperson Galligan, seconded by Councilperson Budofsky to authorize Monticello Central School District to use the town hall for the upcoming annual elections. Vote: 4 ayes – 0 nay.

**Log Cabin Roof – Supervisor Hogue** – The town clerk received a second proposal for the log cabin roof from Rory Mckean for \$8,580 for architectural shingles or \$11,940 for red cedar wood shingles. Supervisor Hogue will ask the town engineer to draft specs and put it out for bid.



**TOWN OF FORESTBURGH**  
332 King Road  
Forestburgh, New York 12777

Tel. (845) 794-0  
Fax (845) 794-0

Forestburgh Town Board

April 1, 2026

Supervisor Daniel Hogue III

As the town historian I would like to propose a plan which will show “our town” to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup>. Forestburgh day theme should be the Semiquincentennial.

I have been in frequent contact with Peter Lebrecht, a childhood resident and historian who has offered to speak on Forestburgh day. A reading of the names of Forestburgh revolutionary war hero’s and Taps. Also have a display of names at Forestburgh Day.

Establish a Forestburgh committee – ask those who participant last year.

During the year we should invite other historians on Joseph Brant to discuss the battle of *Minisink* Ford and how Forestburgh was involved.

Ask Mr. Hogue about the possibility of having a reenactment group of the revolutionary era.

We should alert the residents in the newsletter regarding the story and plan on how our town will celebrate.

Respectively submitted for your consideration.

*Sabrina Toomey*

Sabrina Toomey

Our Town Historian

**Noise Ordinance -Supervisor Hogue** -in part of the correspondence we received about the noise by the four corners on Hardwood Road. Every year there is a religious group that

set up a weekend where they have speakers and singing. One of the questions was is the event allowed in that zoning. I don't know and I would ask the attorney to look into it.

## **REPORTS – BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**PLANNING BOARD-** regular March meeting took place with three agenda items. Eagle creek Renewable Energy application for site plan approval for the replacement of the failed penstock, a sketch plan review for a training school at 1945 rt 42, Kaiser-on the lot that formerly was Baron's sawmill and a sketch plan review of a 29 lot subdivision on road and Gun Club Rd across from Birchwood Estates.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT- Todd Petrowski-** Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup> pancake breakfast 7am to 11am. Received four new members over the last two months and they are already actively going into training.

## **Town of Forestburgh Highway Dept. HIGHWAY REPORT Highway Superintendent,**

April 2026

### **Spring Clean - Up**

**Hours of Operation Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup> and Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 5:00 pm and Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup> 7:00 till 1:00pm if you are disabled or a senior and need assistance call the highway dept 845-794-8069**

### **Maintenance of grounds / building**

**Making progress on grounds clean up sending tires that have been at the town barn for at least 20 yrs to the dump, also decals for fuel tanks are in going to pick up paint for those tanks this week and will be starting that project soon**

### **Seasonal roads**

**Burns road will be open on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April and seasonal roads will also be open**

### **Roads**

**Now that the weather is getting warmer we will be checking roads ,checking ditches and prepping Plank Road A to get ready to pave**

Highway Department

**ADJOURNMENT** – MOTION By Supervisor Hogue to adjourn at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Collins,  
Town Clerk