

*******DRAFT*******

The Town of Forestburgh Town Board held their regular monthly meeting on **Thursday, December 7, 2023**, at the town hall.

Supervisor Hogue called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call – Present – Daniel S. Hogue, Jr., Supervisor
Karen Ellsweig, Councilperson
Steve Budofsky, Councilperson
Susan Parks-Landis, Councilperson
Vincent C. Galligan, Jr., Councilperson

Recording Secretary – Teresa Collins, Town Clerk
Absent - Troy Johnstone, Esq. – Attorney for the town
Others Present – Richard Robbins, Planning Board Chair

PUBLIC COMMENT – No comment on items on the agenda.

The board has agreed to open public comment for an item that is not on the agenda.
Holly and Friends are asking the board to sign a resolution for support to end to end audit on the database. Motion by the town supervisor to review all material on this issue and reconvene at a later time.

MINUTES – November 2, 2023, regular meeting, Minutes

MOTION by Councilperson Budofsky, seconded by Councilperson Ellsweig, to approve minutes.
Vote: 5 ayes – 0 nays. Motion carried.

Minutes – November 2, 2023, Public Hearing on 2024 Budget

MOTION by Councilperson Landis, seconded by Councilperson Budofsky, to approve minutes.
Vote: 5 ayes – 0 nays. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND VOUCHERS - #212-230 in the sum of \$28,606.28 as set forth in abstract #12 were audited for payment. MOTION by Councilperson Landis, seconded by Councilperson Ellsweig, Councilperson Budofsky abstained to pay the General Fund Vouchers. Vote: 4 ayes – 1 nay. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY FUND VOUCHERS - #117-125 in the sum of \$9,115.64 as set forth in abstract #12 were reviewed. MOTION by Councilperson Budofsky, seconded by Councilperson Landis to accept the highway fund vouchers. Vote: 5 ayes - 0 nays. Motion carried.

ESCROW FUND VOUCHERS – None

CORRESPONDENCE - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

EMS Contract - As per Councilperson Landis, she received a copy of Fallsburg contact with Sullivan Paramedicine Inc and will forward the information to the town attorney as an example to draft a contract that the town can use for Empress.

Volunteer Fire department property tax exemption – Motion by the board to have the town attorney draft a resolution and a local law for 2024 that the town will agree to 2 years and 10 percent assessed value of their property.

NEW BUSINESS

Permit application fees – The Board propose the following fee's basis on further research by the board. Determination will be decided at the year-end meeting.

Home Based business - \$500 for every 250 feet \$100 for every 50 additional feet.

Short Term Rentals - \$500 a year

Clear Cutting - \$250 a year

Sign - \$300 a year

SPCA Contract – This will be used as contract #3 for the purpose of a backup, if needed in case other locations have no availability.

MOTION by Supervisor Hogue, seconded by Councilperson Ellsweig to accept the contract with the SPCA. Vote: 5 ayes - 0 nays. Motion carried.

Port Jervis contract – MOTION by Supervisor Hogue, seconded by Councilperson Landis to accept the renewal of contract for 2024 Vote: 5 ayes - 0 nays. Motion carried.

PO System for HWY purchases – To avoid highway from going over budget Supervisor Hogue will approve all purchase orders.

Motion by Councilperson Landis, seconded by Councilperson Budofsky to have Supervisor Hogue approve all highway purchase orders. Vote: 5 ayes - 0 nays. Motion carried.

Set Year End Meeting – December 28, 2023, at 5:30 PM.

REPORTS – BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

VACANCIES – We are currently still looking for a ZBA Secretary

Planning Board – There were two Applications at the meeting, one for Solar Project on route 42. Application was not completed, new information was presented, and it will be scheduled for the January meeting and one for Finnegan Tavern application was not completed.

Fire Department – Christmas run this Sunday.

**Town of Forestburgh Highway Dept.
HIGHWAY REPORT FOR December
Highway Superintendent,**

December 7th 2023

Members of the Town Board

Winter

Winter is approaching we are getting ready with trucks ,plows, maintenance on equipment

There is sand for residents usage at the Town Barn. Also there are people coming into the town and dropping garbage off where ever they want at places where there aren't much traffic and they do it at dark ,someone dropped off 30 bags on the bank by the water on Plank Rd trash got in the water.DEC came out Investigated the problem found info that was in the bags I met with the DEC said we could clean it up ,we did took it to the dump the amount totaled 520LBS. So please be aware .

We will be brushing and ditching while the weather is good.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Highway Department

Thank you,


**Joseph Ruggeri
Highway Superintendent**

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion by Supervisor Hogue to enter executive session for the purpose of litigation at 7:25 p.m.

No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT – MOTION to adjourn by Councilwoman Landis at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Collins,
Town Clerk