

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Board Meeting Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 6:00pm at the Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

Present:

Thomas Scozzafava	Supervisor
Paul Salerno	Councilman
Timothy Garrison	Councilman
Thomas Anderson	Councilman

Others

Present: John Easter; Diana Stevenson; Ed Roberts, Building & Grounds; Jamie Wilson, Highway Supt; Dwayne Maye, Water & Sewer Supt.; William Trybendis; Richard LaPier, Building & Codes; Paul Mazzotte, Assessor; John & Jackie Viestenz; Chris Maron, Executive Director, Champlain Area Trails,; Elaine Adkins, Town Clerk.

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 6:00pm by saluting the flag.

ON MOTION by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson
	Nays	0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

Special Guest: The Supervisor introduced Chris Maron, Executive Director, Champlain Area Trails (CATS) who gave an update on Cheney Mountain Trail. He gave the Board a copy of the registry from the trail which had 7582 people that signed in through February; 76 from out of state and five of them were from different countries. The trail has had a tremendous amount of use from area people. Mr. Scozzafava stated that he has had calls requesting we put up some type of interpretive signs as to what you are looking at on different parts of the trail. Mr. Maron will check into a grant that the Foundation gives out to support education. Mr. Salerno stated that Mr. Maron doesn't get enough recognition in Essex County and thanked him for his part in the trail. Mr. Maron stated that their goal is to connect Westport to Port Henry through trails. He thanked the Board and the Board thanked him for all he has done.

Floor Open to the Public: No one spoke.

Department Head Reports:

Dwayne Maye, Water & Sewer Supt., reported that his department will be flushing hydrants the third week in April. His department will go on 10 hour days, Tuesday through Friday beginning May 1st. The Supervisor stated that he received a call from DEC and they are okay with our plan for the North Pond Dam.

Richard LaPier, Building Code Officer gave the following report. He issued three building permits for the month of March, completed 24 hours of codes training in Lake Placid, inspected one home for an occupancy permit and started scheduling fire and safety property maintenance inspections.

Paul Mazzotte, Assessor stated that there is new legislature that if you have the Star Exemption and owe State taxes of more than \$4,500 your Star will be removed off your property until the debt is resolved. The State will send notices and if you don't start making payments or resolve a mistake has been made the exemption will be removed; the assessors will not have to send notices that the exemption was removed. The state will take what you would've saved with the exemption until the taxes are satisfied and you will have to re-apply for the Star to get it back. Contact the department of taxation and finance if taxes are owed; the assessors cannot help you. Everyone on Basic Star will have to re-file next year

Mr. Scozzafava stated that Old Chimney has filed a tax suit against the Town; he will talk to the Village and School to share the cost of hiring an appraiser as it will benefit them also. We are trying to get three quotes that specialize in marinas. We want an assessor that can testify in court. The last two suits were settled; we need to go the distance and settle this once and for all. The cost will be around three to four thousand and we will have to hire Joe Brennan as our attorney.

Town Board Committee Reports:

Councilman Garrison had nothing to report as he has been down with a back injury.

Councilman Anderson reported that the Youth Commission had a meeting and they are looking at applications for the top three positions; they will be interviewing April 22nd and 23rd. They will interview for the Counselor positions in June. The Supervisor stated that anyone working with kids needs to be checked with the sex registry along with anyone coaching sports and lifeguards.

Councilman Garrison asked about encompassing the rest of the sports programs under the Youth Commission. The Supervisor stated that these programs are covered under the Town's insurance and not the school's. Mr. Scozzafava asked Mr. Anderson to speak with Mr. Larrow at MCS about unifying the youth sports through the Youth Commission (i.e. Biddy Basketball, grade school soccer and baseball). Mr. Garrison stated that he would be willing to help with this.

Mr. Anderson reported that it may be a problem using the pool at MCS for the summer program; the paint is chipping on work that was just done on the pool last year so they may have the contractor come in to make repairs. They plan on using the beaches one day per week for the program as well.

Mr. Scozzafava had a conversation with Linda Lazzari from Public Health regarding the Town being eligible for a playground grant. The playground must be accessible to the townspeople with sidewalks to get there. The Board discussed the areas and decided Linney Field would be the best spot and an area of need. The Board will check into this.

Councilman Salerno reported that the Town-wide cleanup day will be May 4th and 5th. Residents can also pick up their areas at their convenience. Bags, vest and gloves can be picked up at the Town Hall or the highway garage from 8:30-1:30. Mr. Scozzafava stated that we should consider the free dump day again this year.

Mr. Salerno stated the seasonal workers for the campsite will return to work on April 15th and the inmates are lined up to help clean up the campground. Opening will be the 26th of April; the managers will be here the 18th. There are 166 seasonal sites with 20 on the waiting list and a total of 175 sites. If there is a resident on the waiting list that wants a seasonal site, they are moved to the top of the list so they are next in line; residents get preference for seasonal sites. There are errors on the rules and regulations that need to be changed; sticker price has gone up since last year to \$2.50.

Mr. Salerno stated that the highway department has been sweeping roads the last few weeks; they helped the school and BOCES with their parking lots and have been working on equipment. The department will start their 10 hour days on Monday. The transfer station will begin summer hours Friday, May 10th.

Supervisor's Report:

- Received a thank you from Life Flight for the Town's \$2,000 appropriation.
- The seniors have asked the Board to raise the aged exemption income from \$25,000. The Board discussed this with Mr. Mazzotte and he will get some options for the Board.
- Haven't heard any more on the Verizon tower; the last time Mr. Scozzafava checked work was continuing; they are building on Town/Village property. We did find out that the Town and Village do not own the water tower; the property is owned by Terra Mt.
- Talked with Mike Mascarenas at Planning and the Town has received almost 36 million in grant monies in the last 20 years.
- Received official notification the Town allotment for CHIPS money has increased 27.85 percent and the County increase is 17.65 percent. Mr. Scozzafava would like to see Federal Street done in Grover Hills, but this is the Highway Supt's. call.
- Town received a \$450.00 grant from Stewart's to be used for children 18 years and younger; we will use it toward the YCC program.
- Met with Tony Macey, Bridge Street Communications regarding internet service at the campgrounds.
- Through John Muha Time Warner Cable will be expanding services to areas that do not get it now. Contact the Supervisor if interested in getting service in your area; we will send him a list of areas not receiving service now.
- A new business is opening in Moriah; a bottle redemption center on Tarbell Hill Road.

- State contract price for gas last month was #3.28/gal., we paid \$3.21/gal. through Citgo.

Resolutions:

1. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Anderson, Scozzafava, Salerno
Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize to hire an appraisal firm for the assessment suit filed by “Old Chimney, LLC” aka Van Slooten Marina as per a court order.
2. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Anderson, Scozzafava, Garrison
Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize the Supervisor to sign the contract with Atlantic Testing Labs for the water storage tanks evaluation at an estimated cost of \$1,515.00.
3. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Garrison , the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Garrison, Scozzafava, Salerno
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize the transfer of the 2004 Ford Explorer Police vehicle to the Building and Grounds Department.
4. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Anderson, Scozzafava, Salerno
Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize the payoff of the highway Sharp copy machine using the NYSERDA rebate check in the amount of \$2,237.25 and the final payment in the amount of \$1,234.35.
5. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava, Anderson
Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board re-hire the seasonal campsite personnel to start April 15, 2013. Campsite Personnel: Justin Briggs, Mark Scozzafava, Kenneth Bobbie, Richard LaPier
6. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson
Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board approve the payment of the warrants.
7. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Garrison, Scozzafava, Salerno
Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize to hire Attorney Joseph Brennan for the assessment suit filed by “Old Chimney, LLC” aka Van Slooten Marina.

Floor Open to the Public:

The Supervisor stated that the Town filed for an extension until May 1st from the Comptroller for the Annual Report due to Chris Ida’s illness.

The meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Nos.:

March 27, 2013		1848-1860
General	\$25,976.90	
Highway	482.90	
Water #1	69.19	
Water #2	47.78	
Water #4	7.14	
Sewer	107.61	

April 11, 2013		1867-1967
General	\$74,638.04	
Highway	10,807.60	
Water #1	6,468.15	
Water #2	4,697.26	
Water #4	597.72	
Sewer	1,398.61	

Town Clerk