

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Board Meeting on June 12, 2014 at 6:00 PM at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, New York.

Present:	Thomas Scozzafava	Supervisor
	Thomas Anderson	Councilman
	Timothy Garrison	Councilman
	Paul Salerno	Councilman
	Luci Carpenter	Councilwoman

Others Present: John Easter; Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent; Ron Boula, CEO ECH; John & Jackie Viestenz; Dianna Stevenson; Sandra Lovell; Sam Gangi; Michelle Gangi; John Hayford; Richard LaPier, Codes Officer; John Hamilton; Elaine Adkins Town Clerk.

Mr. Scozzafava called the meeting to order at 6:00pm by saluting the flag.

ON MOTION by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Garrison, all in favor, carried, **RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

Special Guest: Ron Boula, CEO, Elizabethtown Community Hospital (ECH)

Supervisor Scozzafava introduced Ron Boula, CEO, ECH. Mr. Boula gave an annual update on Elizabethtown Hospital and their clinics. They finished their first year affiliation with Fletcher Allen, Central VT, CVPH and ECH. He reported on all the new lab equipment, the CT scanner and the telemedicine units (which are now in all the clinics). There will be an expansion and renovation of the acute care making all patient room private; this will take place in 2015 – 2016. They've recruited two primary care physicians which will work in the clinics and one of them will work with the nursing home and also on call at the hospital. They've also recruited a nurse practitioner to work at the AuSable Clinic which will be new. Councilman Salerno asked if ECH owns all the clinics or if the towns do to which Mr. Boula replied that ECH owns all but Wilmington which they lease from the town. Westport Health Center expansion is complete; and they completed their first year at the Smith House. They had a good first year with the pulmonary rehab; it is not going as good this year and neither is the cardiac rehab. The new insurance has raised havoc with patients that really need the services; it may have larger copays or decreased amount of visits it pays for. There is a lot of need for pulmonary rehab in Essex County.

Sent a proposal to Congress four years ago for critical access hospital & federally accredited health centers for Veterans to receive good quality primary care at these facilities, but nothing has happened yet. Mr. Gangi asked what he would pay if he went to one of ECH facilities as compared to the Veteran facilities. Mr. Boula said if they were affiliated he would pay the same as he does now. There was discussion on the options.

ECH is deciding if they add another day for the mobile MRI unit or go with a fixed unit. The first year with the transport at the hospital is going well. They received a national award for excellence in the ER. They had to have 95 percent or more of satisfaction by patients for a full year. They financially ended last year in the black. The Supervisor and Board thanked Mr. Boula for coming and Mr. Boula thanked them for their support.

Floor Open to the Public:

Sam Gangi who lives on NYS Rt. 9N heading toward Westport for over 30 years, stated that he hasn't been able to get cable or internet at his place because the cable company won't run the cable and if they do it will cost him over \$20,000. At one time he had Hughes Net, but had to take them to court to get his money back, which he did. Mr. Scozzafava stated that he and Sam have discussed this and the reason is the last mile where cable ends is the issue; if there are not even houses to make it worth their while they won't run cable through there. We are doing everything we can to get more cable in outlying areas and exploring all the options. The Supervisor told Mr. Gangi he should contact Senator Little and Dan Stec.

John Hamilton stated that he met with the Supervisor and would like to help with getting a Little League baseball field in the Town. It should be in a convenient location; he has looked around town and thought the best place would be by the high school field. He asked if this is something that is possible. The Board discussed the options and Mr. Garrison stated that the problem is in the spring when there are two or three baseball teams practicing along with two or three softball teams practicing. Even if we had one more field it wouldn't be enough. The ideal thing would be to have a totally different facility and utilize the school fields also. Mr. Anderson asked about

grant money through the county and Mr. Scozzafava suggested a shared service with the school and utilizing some of the land in back of the school. Mr. Hamilton stated that his whole idea was to help out the Little League; he will get with Tim Garrison and Todd Malbon.

John Hayford stated he lives on King Lane in Mineville and the road is terrible when it rains; he asked what they can do to get it paved. Jamie Wilson, Highway Supt., stated that he is the only one who calls him to complain and he understand that it is just on that one turn that's a problem. He said that they are keeping the dirt roads up and that they won't be paved. It is easier to maintain a dirt road; unfortunately we are trying to maintain the paved roads. Half the problem on that road is the traffic and horseplay. Mr. Wilson stated that they will do their best to keep up the road as best they can; now that they know there is a problem they will do something about it. Mr. Hayford thanked him and told him it is appreciated. The Supervisor stated that they know there is an issue on that road and they are trying to get it (junkyard) cleaned up.

Sandra Lovell gave her thoughts on the problems that were discussed. She suggested Mr. Gangi get everyone that wants cable to write letters every day; the cable company will get sick of it after a while. Mr. Scozzafava suggested the write to the legislature.

Department Head Reports:

Jamie Wilson, highway Supt., reported that his department has finished sweeping, they worked nine days for the County doing a 1.3 mile section of Fisher Hill ditching and replacing culverts. They worked at the beach fixing sites, brought in 120 yards of sand and helped get the docks out. They helped with the playground at Linney Field along with Water & Sewer and Building & Grounds trying to get it finished; the Basketball court is finished.

We will have another brush chipping day on June 28th at the transfer station. The first day we did this we were pretty busy; need two people there to work. Same rules apply, brush must be three inches and under.

We are in the process of looking for a used tandem; found a few. Our truck is too old and dealers won't accept it for a trade in; we do have one buyer lined up. We can't sell it out right , it has to go out to bid. The Board discussed the costs of trucks and the Bans we are paying on and other options such as leasing or buying trucks turned in that had been leased.

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

APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Anderson, Scozzafava, Salerno, Carpenter
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board go to bid for a used tandem for the highway department.

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

APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Carpenter, Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board surplus vehicles from the highway and water and sewer with the bid opening at the July meeting.

The Supervisor reported that the County can't tear down the old buildings by the water plant so the Town will do it themselves.

Councilman Garrison asked Mr. Wilson what roads will be worked on this summer. Mr. Wilson said they will be doing Republic Street because it is in really bad shape and depending on the County work we get he's not sure if they will have enough time to do another road in Grover Hills this year. They are also hoping to do Stone Street. The discussed sidewalks and hope to do Pelfershire Road to Mineville and repair the broken ones from Moriah Center to Moriah Corners.

Councilman Garrison gave the following police report for Officer Stahl who was excused. The Police Department received 167 calls for service in May of which three were violation arrests, three misdemeanor arrests, issued 23 traffic tickets, handled four traffic accidents and fingerprinted three people for job related events.

Richard LaPier, Building Codes Officer reported that he issued two building permits in May, did four annual fire/safety property maintenance inspections and served three violation notices. Have two trailer permit applications that came in too late for the agenda. Jill Harris on Witherbee Road in Witherbee; this is an existing trailer site and she is putting a 1990 refurbished trailer in. The other permit is for Mary Daha to be set on her property on Dugway Road in Moriah; this is a 1979 refurbished trailer. Mr. LaPier has checked these trailers out and recommends approval.

ON MOTION by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Carpenter, Scozzafava, Salerno, Garrison
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board approves the trailer permit applications for Jill Harris on Witherbee Road and Mary Daha on Dugway Road per Mr. LaPier's recommendation.

Councilwoman Carpenter reported that she has gotten complaints and has seen some pictures of unsightly areas in the Mineville area. We need to have more letters going out to have people clean up their properties. Mr. Scozzafava stated that they've had a lot of complaints, but we can't do selective enforcement. It's surprising that most of the junk in these yards is free to get rid of. The Board discussed how to handle the situation and talked about taking an Ad out in the Times of Ti letting people know we will be cracking down. The Supervisor received the Board's permission to put an Ad in the newspaper.

Town Board Committee Reports:

Councilman Salerno reported the Building & Grounds finished the cemeteries, worked on Roe Pond, put docks in at campsite, busy mowing and working on playground. Councilwoman Carpenter stated that she and Mr. Roberts are still working on a large animal law with Ag & Markets.

Mr. Salerno reported that there are 156 seasonals at the campsite; Memorial weekend went well. With help the campsites are looking well. Mr. Scozzafava said he met with AES, Mike Mascarenas from Planning Office and Jamie regarding the beach erosion project; the bid will go out this month and work will start after Labor Day. It was decided the project is small enough they won't need a Clerk of the Works.

Mr. Salerno gave the following dates the water department will be flushing hydrants: June 17th Witherbee, the 18th Mineville, 19th Grover Hills 20th Moriah Center-Moriah Corners, Moriah Corners to top of Port Henry hill. He stated that it is recommended you shut off your boiler or hot water heater and the main valve into your house to prevent water from siphoning out. If you do not have a main valve or know where it is call the water dept. and they will come and find it for you. When the water comes back on run your outside hose till line clears.

Councilman Garrison reported that the Cheney Mountain hike went well; it was a great day, they had over 40 hikers. The Chamber on Main Street has taken pictures from Jackie Viestenz book and has a nice display in their office.

Councilwoman Carpenter reported she and Chris Lobdell went to Ti school and met with their video department about the equipment they have for the school channel. What we have is basically the same; we only need a few upgrades to get where we need to be. She will talk to Time Warner about the upgrades. There is a possibility that Chris will need more training on the system. The only problem is when we upgrade we won't have a hard copy of the tapes; instead of tapes we will use SD cards and they will be erased and re-used.

Mrs. Carpenter reported that C&D is a problem on weekends turning people away because the container can't be compacted and may appear to be full. The Board discussed days to accept C&D; should be specified days for to accept C&D, this is something to consider. The Supervisor stated that we are not losing money on the C&D; we are actually a little ahead. Mrs. Carpenter will talk with Cheyenne and decide on the days to accept C&D.

Councilman Anderson reported that the Youth Commission received 35 applications for the Counselor position; it was a difficult decision, but they reduced the number to hire to 15.

ON MOTION by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Carpenter, Scozzafava, Salerno, Garrison
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize the hiring of the following people for the Counselor positions for the 2014 Summer Youth Program: Caitlyn Pelkey, Paige Lane, Billy Larrow, Victoria Smith, Jarron Boyle, Alexander Lashway, Matt Rice, Joe Rodriguez, Ryan Jaquish, Cory Porter, Thomas Yakalis, Kara Zelinski, Janelle Brassard, Jordon Cheney, and Shonna Provoncha.

Mr. Anderson stated that the program will run from July 7th through August 7th with swimming at the lake four times. Registration forms will be available at the school and the Town Hall.

Supervisor's Report:

- Received a letter from Ethan Snyder; he wants to give up the Acting Assistant Supervisor and go back to his old position in the Water & Sewer Dept. Art Morgan is interested in the position; Mark Maye is the Water Operator which would be too hard to do both positions. The Board needs to decide if we want to go to a Public Works Department or fill the position permanently.

ON MOTION by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Carpenter, Scozzafava, Salerno, Garrison
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board appoint Arthur Morgan as Acting Assistant Water & Sewer Superintendent beginning in July.

- Met Friday with new owner of Republic Steel building and the old hospital. The owner has plans to put Sr. housing in one and convert the old hospital to a summer home.
- Have an issue with property that used to be Millbrook Diner; the mortgage company was going to give to the Town, but there is over \$5,000 in taxes owed. Also an issue with contamination of soil, but that's been taken care of. The mortgage company asked the Town if they would pay the taxes and was told no.
- Copied Board with law regarding new home builders. The Town has an option of giving new home builders (on a vacant lot) a reduction on their taxes for five years. This is something for the Board to consider.
- Received notification from the Teamsters they have a new agent for this area; Rocco Losavio will replace Tom Quackenbush.
- Greg Furness asked permission to go into abandoned cemeteries and fix and reset stones at his expense.

Resolutions:

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

APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava, Carpenter, Anderson
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board advertise for the position of Transfer Station Attendant for 21 hours per week.

2. A resolution supporting a NYS DOS Local Government Efficiency Grant Application to study the feasibility of shared services/consolidation of fire departments and water departments between the Town of Moriah and the Village of Port Henry was offered by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Carpenter, Scozzafava, Garrison, Salerno
Nays 0

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of State has available funds for the 2014-2015 Local Government Efficiency Grant Program, and

WHEREAS, this program can assist Town of Moriah in identifying opportunities to cooperate with other local governments in the area to reduce the cost of providing services, and

WHEREAS, there are three fire departments and two water departments shared between, the Village of Port Henry and the Town of Moriah,

WHEREAS, at a time when the cost to operate is growing rapidly and local budgets are tightly constrained, it is increasingly difficult to maintain water infrastructure and three separate fire districts/protection at a cost that can be supported by local budgets, and

WHEREAS, Town of Moriah and the Village of Port Henry would benefit from reducing the cost running their own water control plant and fire districts, and

WHEREAS, a study to evaluate the Town of Moriah and Village of Port Henry to identify areas where inter-municipal cooperation, shared services/consolidation, or redistributions of responsibilities could result in a more efficient system of providing quality infrastructure services and combining three fire districts, and

WHEREAS, Town of Moriah and Village of Port Henry, on behalf of its citizens supports this effort and grant application for approximately \$35,000, with a required local cash match of 50% that shall be allocated among the participating municipalities.

RESOLVED, that Town of Moriah and Village of Port Henry supports the Local Government Efficiency Grant Program application, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Moriah and Village of Port Henry agrees, if awarded, to participate and assist in all phases of the Local Government Efficiency Grant Study.

3. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Garrison, Scozzafava, Carpenter, Salerno
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board contract for the USDA Summer Food Program at Moriah Central School.

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

APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava, Carpenter, Anderson
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board give authorization to share a joint ad with the Village of Port Henry for the campsites to be placed in Denton Publications; the Town's share is \$250.00.

5. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Anderson, Scozzafava, Carpenter, Salerno
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board submit the Campsite Grant dropping the wording "Best Use" Study and develop a water front plan per approval by the Department of State.

6. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Garrison, Scozzafava, Carpenter, Salerno
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board approve the payment of the warrants.

7. **ON MOTION** by Supervisor Scozzafava, with a Unanimous second, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Carpenter, Anderson, Salerno, Garrison
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board recognizes Jack Waldron for his 65 years of outstanding volunteer service to the Port Henry Fire Department.

8. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Anderson, Scozzafava, Carpenter, Salerno
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board approve the purchase of a computer for the highway garage in the amount of \$1,014.59.

Floor Open to the Public:

Mr. Wilson said the kids fishing tournament went well and the pond area looked great. He thanked Taylor Sprague for helping and donating the money she raised (\$560.00) back to the tournament.

Mr. Scozzafava wanted to recognize Sarah Slattery for her help with roadside pickup . Three other seniors helped paint the posts at the basketball court. Kudos to Cliff Klingenberg, Teacher at MCS, for requiring Seniors to do a Senior Project involving community service.

ON MOTION by Supervisor Scozzafava, with a Unanimous second, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Carpenter, Anderson, Salerno, Garrison
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board congratulate Hailey Snyder on her winning the NYS Champion Division 2 400 meter and Kyle VanBuren on his win in the hurdles.

Councilwoman Carpenter gave an update on the Angel of Hope: the grading work has started and the Angel is ready for delivery. They have coin collection containers around town in businesses, have the brick paver and bench fundraisers going on and will be having a softball tournament. We are looking for committee members and help with fund raising; if anyone is interested they can call Mrs. Carpenter.

Mr. Viestenz reminded people of the informational meeting at the Moriah Firehouse on the 19th.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Abstract Distribution

Claim Nos.:

May 20, 2014

General	\$28,429.46
Fire Protection	78,000.00
Water #1	157.88
Water #2	107.95
Water #4	16.65
Sewer	45,970.20

3603-3623

June 10, 2014

General	\$1,600.00
Highway	3,600.00
Water #1	336.00
Water #2	228.00
Water #4	36.00
Sewer	600.00

3635-3650

June 12, 2014

General	\$26,591.94
Highway	3,441.15
Water #1	5,509.76
Water #2	3,974.15
Water #3	3,833.84
Water #4	446.05
Sewer	919.60

3655-3744

Capital Projects:

Claim Nos.: