

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

Present:	Matthew Brassard	Supervisor
	Paul Salerno	Councilman
	Tom Anderson	Councilman
	Nate Gilbo	Councilman
	James Curran	Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Cecelia Wojciukiewicz, George Clark, Mark Lashway, John Easter, Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent, Art Morgan-Water & Sewer Superintendent, Fran & Eric Wilhelmson, Peter Gilbo, Collin Mangan-Property Maintenance, Richard Lapier-Building Codes, Ed Tromblee, Eain Tierney, Myka Reeder, Joe Tucker, Josh Gijanto, Dakotah Olcott, Tricia King and Rose French-Town Clerk

The Supervisor opened the meeting at 6:00pm by saluting the flag. He thanked everyone for coming.

**ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran
	Nays	0
	Absent	0

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

**Bid Opening-Police Station Renovations**

The Supervisor read the legal notice. We received two (2) bids.

- 1. AJ Catalfamo \$141,210.00
- 2. Gallo Construction \$361,200.00

The Supervisor stated we received a grant for \$122,000.00. Councilman Gilbo would like to confirm these companies are bidding the same stuff. Councilman Salerno stated in the beginning we did not know we needed an engineer; he would like to table this decision until we have time to look them over before we move forward; we are \$20,000 short. Councilman Anderson asked about local bids and the Supervisor stated Councilman Salerno had brought in local bidders but this was before we knew it needed to be engineered. The Supervisor stated he agrees with Councilman Gilbo; have AEDA look over the bids. Councilman Gilbo asked why the local contractors were not interested anymore and Councilman Salerno stated there is too much paperwork involved when it is engineered. The Supervisor will send bids to AEDA for review.

**Floor Open to the Public:**

Eain Tierney from the Garrison Gym stated the gym flooded last year. The brook needs to be dredged; he would like a straight answer tonight as to who is responsible for it. The Supervisor stated several agencies have looked at this since 2011 and nobody wants to take responsibility for it. The Town knows there is a problem there; everybody is blaming each other; no easy solution to fix it. The Supervisor stated when this brook floods so doesn't the Town campsite. Councilman Salerno asked who is responsible to dredge it, the Town? Myka stated she realizes it is not a Town issue but she feels there has been a lack of communication; lack of a response and it is frustrating; she feels like nobody cares. The Supervisor stated when the County got involved he lost communication. Myka Reeder stated a personal response back from the Supervisor that he hadn't heard anything would have been nice. The Supervisor apologized for that. He stated he has 26 FEMA projects going on right now. He stated the Garrison Gym is an important business. Mr. Tierney stated he is looking for the Town to pressure the County. Councilman Salerno asked if Mr. Tierney wanted the Town Board to reach out to all these agencies again and the Supervisor stated they all know it is an issue. Mr. Tierney asked who would be able to dredge it and the Supervisor stated the County could do the work. Jamie Wilson stated the bridge could be raised 10 feet and it still would not solve the problem; it is a dedicated flood plain. The brook outlet is going in to the lake; it needs to be dredged; no one will own up to it. Ms. Reeder stated there is

still debris under the bridge. The Supervisor stated the Town could take care of that. Councilman Salerno stated we should write a letter to Dan Stec and Elise Stefanik asking for help and also contact the County Manager. Councilman Anderson stated the Army Corps of Engineers is the problem. The Supervisor stated he will work on getting a meeting set up. Fran Wilhelmson stated if the beaches are washed out it is a Town problem also. John Easter stated this has been a problem since 2011; the bridge does not belong to the Town. The Supervisor promised he will try to get a meeting set up.

### **Department Head/Town Board Reports:**

Collin Mangan-Property Maintenance reported he has been here since April. He gave the board a handout. He stated when he first started there was no system in place; he started an excel spreadsheet of current enforcement action. His priority is fire safety inspections; he got a list of nonresidential buildings from the Assessor's; inspections are supposed to be done every 3 years. Mr. Mangan stated the first step is to notify. He would like to get some help budget wise getting information out. Councilman Salerno asked if there was a fee for a fire safety inspection and Mr. Mangan stated there should be; he would need to check the fee schedule. Councilman Salerno asked Mr. Mangan what the protocol was and Mr. Mangan stated first he needs a complaint, then he goes and takes pictures; then a letter is sent stating they have 15-30 days to comply; if they don't then there is a violation letter sent and they have another 30 days to comply; if they don't then it goes to court and is out of his hands. Mr. Mangan stated he is surprised a town this size does not have a full-time code officer; he strongly suggests we put one in the budget. Councilman Salerno asked if other towns were in the same boat and Mr. Mangan stated smaller towns can get away with an 8-hour week code officer. Councilman Salerno asked Mr. Mangan if Rich Lapier current code officer retires would he be interested in the job and Mr. Mangan said yes. Councilman Salerno asked Mr. Mangan if he has been to all 5 hamlets and Mr. Mangan said yes, he is currently working towards Port Henry. Mr. Mangan stated he is available 5 days a week by phone or email.

Art Morgan-Water & Sewer Superintendent had nothing to report.

Rich Lapier-Building Codes reported that July was a busy month; did 7 building permits, 3 property searches, over 40 building code inspections and 2 certificate of occupancy inspections.

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent gave a report on the FEMA projects. Working on Silver Hill right now; may do Greeley Lane this fall. They have been helping out with the ball field on College Street getting it ready for Labor Day. The Supervisor asked Art Morgan to report on the water level. Mr. Morgan stated he is asking people to conserve water the best you can. The Supervisor stated the lake is the lowest it has been in 61 years according to the news.

Tom Cowin-Building & Grounds has been excused.

Chip Perry-Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator has been excused.

Councilman Gilbo continues to work on the design for the event space at Champ RV Park. Late July a grant was submitted for the construction of the building; grants will be awarded in December. He stated that the map plan and report is complete for water and sewer will probably be next week.

Councilman Anderson reported the summer program went well; staff and counselors did a great job; hoping staff come back next year; had between 60-100 kids daily; great program; low cost; budget has never changed. Councilman Anderson will have the list of Youth Commission members for the next meeting.

Councilman Curran would like to thank Chuck French, JP Carrara and Son's, Pat Salerno, Art Morgan, Tom Scozzafava, Jamie Wilson & Crew, Derek Trepanier, Tim Breeyear, Sawyer VanBuren and Dillon Orr for all their help with the BBQ pit at the ball field. Councilman Curran stated one cabin came today at Champ RV Park the other one will come next week.

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent wanted to mention that a permit is needed to do any work to the brook on Dock Lane.

Councilman Salerno reported we have 167 seasonals at Bulwagga Bay Campsite; 31 on the waiting list; the new cabin has been rented 15 nights; 1 cabin has been rented 15 nights and the other cabin has been rented 9 nights. There are 77 seasonals at Champ RV Park. The new cabin came today; will get help from all depts on the location. Councilman Salerno would recommend in the future getting a cabin that is finished. Councilman Curran stated it is on wheels and he suggested listing the cabins on the Air B & B list next year.

### **Supervisor's Report:**

The Supervisor reported on the power line that runs along the lake. The Town and School get money as part of a pilot agreement with Champlain Hudson Power Express. As an example, he stated that the first year the Town will get \$44,196 and the school will get \$91,623 and year 30 the Town will get \$254,961 and the school will get \$528,566. They want to run a 2<sup>nd</sup> line at some point.

The Town Clerk wanted the Supervisor to mention that Senior Citizens (65 yrs and older) are allowed to fish at Roe Pond Monday – Thursday; catch and release only; must get permission from the Town Clerk's Office after showing proof of residency.

Councilman Salerno read the police report: 3 violations for harassment 2<sup>nd</sup> degree, 1 misdemeanor for criminal impersonation 2<sup>nd</sup> degree, 1 dog running at large with Ed Roberts, 4 dog complaints handled, 3 domestic disputes, 2 motor vehicle accidents, issued 5 traffic tickets and handled 42 calls for service.

Councilman Salerno stated 73 students go to BOCES between Moriah, Crown Point and Ticonderoga, what will happen to those students if BOCES leaves Moriah. The Supervisor stated BOCES came to a school board meeting Tuesday night; he understands their need for more space; September 10<sup>th</sup> they will make their final decision on the location. Councilman Salerno thought it was terrible that the Town Supervisor found out that BOCES was attending the school board meeting minutes before the meeting.

The Supervisor stated he feels we have a strong application for the CFA grant because it is shovel ready.

The Supervisor stated we have a \$50,000 DEC grant for Bulwagga Bay Campsite shoreline erosion.

The Supervisor stated that he and LeeAnn have been working on the 2026 budget; they have met with all department heads; should be wrapped up the middle of September.

The Supervisor stated he and LeeAnn have been working on all the FEMA projects; LeeAnn is very good with all the paperwork; 5 projects are not done and 3 we are waiting on payment; state portion has been coming in.

Eric Wilhelmson asked what the CFA grant was for and the Supervisor stated it is for the event space at Champ RV Park. The Supervisor stated he will share the plan design on the Town Facebook page.

### **Resolutions:**

156. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran
	Nays	0
	Absent	0

**RESOLVED** to request NYS DOT lower the speed limit to 40mph on Windy Hill Road.

Discussion: Residents have been complaining; they fly on that road doing 65mph. Mark Lashway stated the State Police need to set up radar traps and the Justices need to put points on licenses. Fran Wilhelmson stated they don't stop at the bottom of Windy Hill either. Councilman Gilbo stated Witherbee Road has the same problem.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** to request NYS DOT lower the speed limit to 40mph on Witherbee Road also.

157. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, unanimous second, the following resolution was  
APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran  
Nays 0  
Absent 0

**RESOLVED** to recognize Moriah EMS EMT Alessia Caputo, Moriah EMS AEMT Noah Seller and Mark Fleury Jr. for their life saving efforts on July 19, 2025 to a resident of the Town of Moriah.

Discussion: Dakotah Olcott stated they are young EMT's; they were administering chest compressions within 6 minutes of the call. Thank you!

158. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, unanimous second, the following resolution was  
APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran  
Nays 0  
Absent 0

**RESOLVED** to recognize all involved in the success of the Roe Pond Children's Fishing Derby.

159. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Curran, unanimous second, the following resolution was  
APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran  
Nays 0  
Absent 0

**RESOLVED** a resolution of appreciation to Joan Daby, Mark Lashway and Crystal Prew for volunteering at the Iron Center Museum; hours are Thursday, Friday and Saturday; Noon – 3pm; through October.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated without volunteers the Town Hall staff are having to unlock the museum and let people do a self-guided tour.

160. **TABLED** (Resolution to award bid for the police station renovations).

161. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran  
Nays 0  
Absent 0

**RESOLVED** to pay Sheri Goodreau \$500.00 for cleaning the Iron Center Museum

Discussion: The Supervisor stated Betty Lamoria and Joan Daby requested a deep cleaning of the Iron Center Museum.

162. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Curran, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran  
Nays 0  
Absent 0

**RESOLVED** to appoint Bernard (Buck) Beebe to the Board of Assessment Review to fill the unexpired term of Terri Northup; term ends 9/30/2028.

163. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran  
Nays 0  
Absent 0

**RESOLVED** to go to bid for fuel oil, kerosene, diesel and propane; October 2025-September 2026.

164. **TABLED** (Appoint Youth Commission members).

165. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** to do transfers in budget as needed.
166. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** to do adjustments in water and sewer as needed.
167. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** payment of end of month and monthly warrants.
168. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, unanimous second, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** that Supervisor Brassard bring a formal vote to the County Board meeting on Monday, August 25, 2025 that they film their weekly meetings.
169. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Curran, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** to pay Kyle Wrisley, Truckin Around LLC \$1,500.00 to deliver one cabin to Champ RV Park.
170. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** to pay Chris Clark; Welding-Fabrication-Repair; \$950.00 for steel grates for the BBQ pit at the College Street Field.
171. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** to apply for a one-day liquor license for the Labor Day Celebration on August 31, 2025.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated Ledge Hill Brewery would like to serve beer from 3pm-8pm at the College Street Field and the Town needs to get a one-day liquor license in order for them to do so. The fee is \$36.00. Councilman Anderson asked who would be serving it and the Supervisor stated Ledge Hill. Peter Gilbo stated it would be a one-day beer license then. Councilman Salerno stated it usually takes 15 days to get one, what if we don't get it and Councilman Curran stated if we don't get it, we don't get it. Councilman Anderson asked who was liable for minors and the Supervisor stated Officer Brassard will be there. Councilman Curran stated the owner; Ledge Hill will be serving the beer.

### **Floor Open to the Public:**

Cecelia Wojciukiewicz asked what was going on with the Ambulance Squad and the Supervisor stated at the end of this meeting the Board will go in to executive session to discuss the ambulance. The Supervisor stated he would like to fund the EMS properly and fully; 24 hrs a day/365 days a year. Ms. Wojciukiewicz asked if it will become a district and the Supervisor stated the Town will have to contract with an EMS service whether we form a district or not. Councilman Gilbo would like to compare the numbers. Ms. Wojciukiewicz stated Ticonderoga formed a district, the Town should reach out to them. The Supervisor stated they just did it last year.

### **Executive Session:**

The Town Board went in to Executive Session at 7:17pm.

The Supervisor stated he asked Moriah EMS to come before the Board tonight. Member Joe Tucker handed out a proposal to the Board. They are asking the Town of Moriah Town Board to loan them \$120,000 to get them through the end of 2025; they only have enough money to get them through the next 2 weeks. Mr. Tucker stated they were under-cutted by a previous member financially. They are proposing a loan which would be paid back to the Town by the squads billing revenues. Councilman Anderson asked if this is even allowed and the Supervisor stated yes; Ticonderoga did the same thing. Councilman Curran asked if the squad has monthly board meetings and Tricia King said yes; Councilman Curran would like a town board member to attend these meetings. Ms. King stated they are meeting with the State Police next week. Councilman Curran asked if the previous member was the only one to do the budget and Ms. King stated it was a battle just to get a schedule and payroll from him. Ms. King stated that Josh Gijanto was the first to suspect there was something going on. He and Ms. King started to keep track. Dakotah Olcott stated as of January 1<sup>st</sup> the County will cease to exist in the ambulance squad. He stated that payroll is now approved by 3 members. Councilman Anderson wants it in writing. Councilman Salerno stated if \$108,000 is for payroll and \$12,000 is for operating expenses what about over time? Ms. King stated there is no more over time. Councilman Salerno stated they want to *borrow* \$120,000 and Ms. King said yes, to get them through the end of the year. Councilman Salerno asked if it could be in \$30,000 increments. Ms. King stated they have no other income. Councilman Salerno stated the squad wants \$325,00 for 2026; \$225,000 would come from the tax levy and Councilman Curran stated \$100,000 would come from the County. Councilman Salerno asked what is the Board going to do when the Port Henry Fire Department comes to them because they are out of money and the Supervisor that can't happen; they are already their own district. Councilman Salerno asked where the Town is going to take the \$120,000 from and the Supervisor stated the general fund. Councilman Anderson asked the squad where they get their revenue and Ms. King stated through billing and begging letters. Councilman Anderson stated at the public meeting at the K of C the squad stated they don't go after people who don't pay and Mr. Olcott stated they do now. Councilman Salerno asked if there was a contract for the \$120,000 and Mr. Tucker handed out the proposed contract to the Board. The Supervisor read it aloud. Councilman Salerno asked if the squad goes bankrupt and still owes the Town \$60,000 what happens then and the Supervisor stated he is going to have Town Attorney Bill Tansey look at the contract and have him add a clause regarding that. Councilman Gilbo stated he is thankful for the squad; he asked why 2025 budget is up and Ms. King stated it is up \$10,000 due to health insurance. The Supervisor stated the County wants out; they will use \$100,000 of bed tax money to give to Moriah EMS, each town will get help percentage wise. Councilman Gilbo asked if there were 2 people on 24/7 and Mr. Olcott stated you have to have 2 people before the ambulance can even run; 1 EMT and 1 driver. Mr. Tucker stated volunteers are a thing of the past. Councilman Gilbo stated he is always looking for creative solutions. Councilman Curran would like to see BOCES offer an EMT class and Mr. Olcott stated you need a master's in education to teach it. The Supervisor would like a clause in the contract that states if we don't get paid the Town gets the equipment. Councilman Anderson stated he would like to discuss it privately with the Board. Moriah EMS took a recess. Councilman Anderson asked the Board if they were going to give the squad the \$120,000; Councilman Gilbo stated he wants to form a district. Councilman Anderson stated this will be a loan and Councilman Gilbo said yes. The Supervisor stated we can add a default in the contract that states the town gets the equipment if Moriah EMS fails to pay off the loan.

**The Board came out of executive session at 8:00pm.**

172. **ON MOTION** by Supervisor Brassard, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran
	Nays	0
	Absent	0

**RESOLVED** to loan Moriah EMS \$120,000 to get them through 12/31/25; to meet payroll and for supplies; in return Moriah EMS will provide access to billing when deposits are made from insurance payments; payable at the end of each month; if Moriah EMS defaults the Town of Moriah gets the squad equipment; after review by Town Attorney.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.

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Town Clerk

**Abstract Distributions:**

July 18, 2025

General	\$250.00
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July 23, 2025

General	\$500.00
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July 28, 2025

General	\$7,951.26
Highway	\$991.88
Water #1	\$33.60
Water #2	\$22.80
Water #4	\$3.59
Sewer #1	\$2,511.03
Sewer #2	\$1,319.78

July 30, 2025

General	\$1,000.00
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August 6, 2025

General	\$500.00
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August 13, 2025

General	\$500.00
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August 21, 2025

General	\$110,813.72
Highway	\$37,346.49
Water #1	\$13,908.07
Water #2	\$9,664.28
Water #3	\$11,742.69
Water #4	\$372.49
Sewer #1	\$19,642.95
Sewer #2	\$12,927.84

Capital Projects

MJ Designs	Sewer District #1 Improvements	\$25,850.00	#9
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**Claim Numbers:**

2025/1128

2025/1134

2025/1129-1143

2025/1196

2025/1204

2025/1260

2025/1144-1320

Stimulus

Miller’s Family Builders	Champ RV Cabins	\$40,825.00	#4
Truckin Around	Champ RV Cabins	\$1,500.00	#5
AES Northeast	Champ Event Space	\$33,206.70	#8