

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

Present: Thomas Scozzafava Supervisor
Paul Salerno Councilman
Nathan Gilbo Councilman

Absent: Tom Anderson Councilman
Matt Brassard Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Diana Stevenson, Jamie Wilson, Sharon O'Connor and Rose French-Town Clerk

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

The Supervisor stated Councilman Brassard has been excused; not sure why Councilman Anderson isn't here.

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

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

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

Bid Opening-Sodium Hypochlorite Solution:

2 bids were received: Surpass Chemical Company \$4.95 gallon delivered/500 gal minimum
Slack Chemical Company \$3.479 gallon delivered

Bid Opening-One Ton Pickup Truck/HG:

2 bids were received: Egglefield Bros. Inc. \$63,824.00 2022 Ford F350
Huttig \$84,137.50 2022 Ram 3500

Floor Open to the Public:

N/A

Department Head/Town Board Reports:

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent: Getting ready for snow; getting equipment up and running. The Supervisor asked Mr. Wilson if he wanted to discuss the plow blades. Mr. Wilson stated we do not have a County contract for plow blades; Town get on own; problem is supply & demand. Mr. Wilson stated the problem is a blade might be cheaper but is 6 weeks out; interested in County as sole vendor/provider for blades. Councilman Gilbo asked if this was yearly; Mr. Wilson said yes. The Supervisor stated Mr. Wilson still needs to get a price. Mr. Wilson stated for 4 trucks it is about \$10,000. Councilman Gilbo asked how long they last and Mr. Wilson stated they last about 1/2 to 3/4 of a season. Councilman Gilbo asked if we could order earlier in the year; possibly in May and Mr. Wilson stated a price quote is only good for a certain number of days. Councilman Salerno stated if we knew exactly what we needed we could order a head of time. The Supervisor stated that is what Mr. Wilson is trying to do. The Supervisor stated once we get a price we can do a resolution at the End of Year meeting. Mr. Wilson stated he will continue to try and get 3 quotes. The Supervisor stated it has to be done by resolution anyway.

Councilman Gilbo had nothing to report.

Councilman Salerno stated he has done this for the past 19 years and he will continue to do it for another year; he thanked all Town employees, volunteers, fire departments, etc for all their hard work all year long.

Councilman Salerno stated the Water & Sewer Department has had a lot of breaks; some due to the fire on Rice Street in Port Henry; hydrants getting closed too quickly. He stated that between the Water & Sewer Department, Highway Garage and Building & Grounds; everybody worked together. The Supervisor stated the fire was an extraordinary circumstance; all departments are looking at a solution; when hydrants are opened fully they suck the system dry. The Supervisor stated that both Chip Perry and Art Morgan spoke to the fire departments. The Supervisor stated that all departments did a great job with the fire; saved one house that was 10 feet away. Councilman Salerno asked if hydrants were checked after a fire and the Supervisor stated no, hydrants are flushed twice a year. Sharon O'Connor stated they are checked if there is an issue with them.

Supervisor Reports:

The Supervisor stated the Court House roof needs to be repaired. A couple of other contractors are interested in bidding it. Will wait and see what we get from them.

Phoenix Tailings has been working with Essex County; testing Barton Hill tailings pile. They are interested in the tailings pile across from the Highway Garage. Rare earths are in demand right now. The Supervisor has been in conversations with Jim Basha/Hydro Project; received proposal from Phoenix Tailings but the Supervisor feels we should wait it out; the Board was in agreement with this. The Supervisor stated in March Phoenix Tailings would like to do a presentation to the Board. The Supervisor stated China owns most of the rare earths.

The Supervisor stated Phase 1 of the Sewer Project is underway. \$3.7 million project. He, Chip Perry and Art Morgan have met with the Engineers several times. Will follow route of existing pipe instead of putting in grinder pumps. The sewer infrastructure is very old. It will probably be a 5-6 year project; will have more meetings as we go.

The Supervisor stated we received \$20,000 in 2022 in bed tax money; in 2023 we will receive \$78,984; it has to be spent on tourism related projects. The Supervisor stated the Board will need to come up with a plan on how to spend it. The Supervisor stated Air B & B's is what makes it.

The Supervisor stated he spoke to the Town Attorney regarding updating our Local Animal Control Law to include cats; we can't do it; impossible to hold up in court.

The Supervisor has been in conversations with the Essex County IDA regarding a supermarket; there are a few possible locations for one. Most chains consider a "neighborhood grocery" to have a population of 10,000 people; Moriah does not have that many people. We are trying to convince them to put a smaller store here.

The Supervisor received a notice from National Grid; upcoming pole maintenance in the Town of Moriah. The Supervisor is looking in to getting private area lighting for the parking lot next to the Port Henry Post Office; it is very dark; there is a flat fee for the year; once the Supervisor gets a price he will let the Board know. Sharon O'Connor asked if the Town could get that for the parking area near the Court House for Board meeting nights; it is very dark this time of year. The Supervisor stated he will look in to it.

Councilman Salerno stated that he saw on Facebook that Ames is coming back.

Resolutions:

179. ON MOTION by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED to set date for End of the Year meeting for Thursday, December 29, 2022 at 10:00am at the Town Office Building.

180. ON MOTION by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED to set date for the 2023 Organizational meeting for Thursday, January 5, 2023 at 6:00pm at the Court House.

181. ON MOTION by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED to renew contract with NCSPCA for 2023 for Pound/Shelter Service; \$6,500 for the year.

182. ON MOTION by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED to renew contract with NCSPCA for 2023 for Dangerous Dog Confinement; \$250 retainer upon signing; \$25.00 per day for dogs brought to shelter.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated Dangerous Dog Confinement is completely different then our regular agreement.

183. ON MOTION by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED to set date for Public Hearing for revision of Local Law pertaining to Prior Notice Notification for Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 5:45 prior to the Regular Town Board meeting at the Town of Moriah Court House.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated it is a requirement for our insurance for 2023. The Local Law we have on the books now is very old; 1978; for liability reasons we need to update it.

184. ON MOTION by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED authorization to allow Town of Moriah Snowmobile Club to use Port Henry (Champ RV Park) Beach for races on February 18, 2023 and February 19, 2023; Town will cover Insurance for event from occupancy tax revenue town receives.

Discussion: This was a huge success last year. The Town Clerk will order the porta potty's for the event.

185. ON MOTION by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED a resolution authorizing the Community Resources Department to submit a letter of intent to apply for Restore NY Round 7 Communities Initiative for grant funds for the restoration of the Witherbee Mansion.

Upon the review of a project proposal submitted by Michael Mackin, the owner, he is seeking the Town's approval in his community project proposal.

The application would be for the reconstruction of the Witherbee Mansion, located at 10 Stone Street.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah authorizes the Essex County Office of Community Resources to submit a letter of intent for the purpose to be accepted to apply for the Restore NY Communities Initiative Grant Funds.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated he has had numerous discussions with Michael Mackin; one property per Town is eligible for funding. Mr. Mackin approached the Board; he has to put skin in the game also. War Cannon in Crown Point received some of these funds also.

- 186. ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED to award the Sodium Hypochlorite Solution bid to Slack Chemical Company; \$3.479 per gallon delivered; 1/1/23-12/31/23.

- 187. ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED to award the One Ton Pickup Truck bid after review of bids by Highway Superintendent, Jamie Wilson.

- 188. ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED to reimburse William & Spring Hoskins \$1,596.40; \$1,355.40-Roto Rooter and \$241.00-sewer operation/maintenance; for sewer backup on 6 Second Lane in Port Henry due to not being connected to main.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the town owns it; we missed it.

- 189. ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

- 190. ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED approval to do adjustments in water and sewer as needed.

- 191. ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution

Approved	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson, Brassard

RESOLVED approval of payment of end of month and monthly warrants.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the transfer and adjustment resolutions will be done at the Organizational Meeting at the beginning of the year.

Floor open to the public:

Sharon O'Connor stated she read the minutes from the last meeting regarding security cameras; Councilman Gilbo stated he just received a quote today, has not had a chance to review it yet. Ms. O'Connor asked how many we are getting. The Supervisor stated they cannot go on or point at private property. Councilman Gilbo stated 2 in Port Henry; 2 in Mineville. The Supervisor stated the higher they are the better. Councilman Gilbo stated they have to have WiFi to function.

The Supervisor stated the Town Offices will be closed Friday December 23rd at Noon and will reopen Tuesday the 27th at 8:00am.

The meeting adjourned at 6:43pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

November 17, 2022

General	\$700.00	2022/1779-1780
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November 30, 2022

General	\$10,871.53	2022/1782-1808
Highway	\$3,543.24	
Water #1	\$241.99	
Water #2	\$182.42	
Water #3	\$1,554.08	
Water #4	\$6.24	
Sewer #1	\$480.44	
Sewer #2	\$249.93	

December 8, 2022

General	\$31,665.05	2022/1832-1969
Highway	\$33,441.83	
Water #1	\$4,744.02	
Water #2	\$3,335.52	
Water #3	\$6,498.64	
Water #4	\$213.74	
Sewer #1	\$12,334.88	
Sewer #2	\$6,284.71	

Capital Projects:

MJ Engineering	Sewer #1 Improvements	\$32,690.00	#4
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Town Clerk