

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their End of Year Meeting on Wednesday, December 29, 2021 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

Present:	Thomas Scozzafava	Supervisor
	Paul Salerno	Councilman
	Tom Anderson	Councilman
	Matt Brassard	Councilman
	Nathan Gilbo	Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Tom Cowin, Tim Rowland, Rich Lapier and Rose French-Town Clerk

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

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

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

Floor Open to the Public:

N/A

Department Head/Town Board Reports:

Rich Lapier-Building Codes: Issued 55 building permits for 2021 (6 were new homes), 5 Mobile Home Permits, has mobile home application for Eric Munson, 108 Forge Hollow Road, he recommends approval.

223. ON MOTION by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED approval of trailer permit for Eric Munson, 108 Forge Hollow Road; 97.13-2-18.100.

Tom Cowin-Building & Grounds: Everything is good, learning every day as the seasons change. The Supervisor stated Mr. Cowin is doing a great job. The Supervisor stated that Mr. Cowin is working on getting the skating rink open; trying to get the plastic.

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent: Excused. The Supervisor stated he and Mr. Wilson looked at the sidewalk in front of the bank. He stated we will have to address the condition of it in the Spring. Rich Lapier told the bank to get a hold of Jamie Wilson regarding the sidewalk; they want to redo their front steps. The Supervisor stated that the WW1 monument needs to be cleaned and re-calked; he thinks Mike Slattery can do it. Board was in agreement with this. Councilman Salerno asked how far down on Main Street would the sidewalk be repaired and the Supervisor said from Church Street to the Town DPW driveway next to the old Village Hall. Councilman Salerno asked what type of work was to be done and the Supervisor stated all of our sidewalks need extensive work. He has asked Jamie Wilson to identify the worst areas that get the most traffic and address those first. The Supervisor stated we did put money in the budget for repairs. The Supervisor stated we need a sidewalk machine for snow storms; the bobcat is too wide. Councilman Brassard stated the Highway Department is doing a good job with what they have. The Supervisor stated that Highway Law states the sidewalks should be cleaned by the property owner. Very hard for an elderly person to do it.

Councilman Salerno stated we have 280 hydrants and without the inmates to help shovel them out he is hoping between Building & Grounds and the Highway Department they can help clean them out. The Supervisor stated we need to start taking care of them now and not wait for the snow to really pile up; he also stated that the Water Department can help with cleaning them out also.

Councilman Brassard had nothing to report.

Councilman Gilbo stated the electric car charges are complete. Waiting to be inspected by National Grid. Rich Lapier stated he has not gotten any CO's yet. The Supervisor and Councilman Gilbo both stated that the inspections have not been done yet. Councilman Brassard asked how the charging works, is it done through the internet and Councilman Gilbo stated it is all done through a phone App. The Supervisor stated the next issue is the parking. Councilman Brassard stated Art Brassard will have to ask the tenants next door to make sure they are not parking there. The Supervisor stated the concrete wall is in tough shape and he told Jamie Wilson to take it down if he had to.

Councilman Anderson stated that registration for the ski program will be Sunday at Moriah Central School in the cafeteria from 10:00am – 12:00pm. There will be 7 ski days. January 23rd and 30th; February 6th and 13th; March 6th, 13th and 20th. There will be a cost and still need chaperones. The Supervisor asked about busing and Councilman Anderson stated they are still trying to figure out the driver situation. The Supervisor asked Councilman Anderson to get info for contract with the school.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor reported that communications are ongoing regarding Moriah Shock. The Supervisor has not spoken to Governor Hochul yet. Matt Simpson is working hard on it. Offense is the program itself. It is still on the closure list. The Supervisor is optimistic; still talking. Not optimistic still on closure list. The Supervisor stated that if it closes we need to come up with a use for it. Councilman Salerno asked if they pay taxes on the prison and the Supervisor said no, they are tax exempt. They have agreed to pay the \$105,000 in sewer yearly. Worst comes to worst he would like to keep the building running, keep some maintenance staff on so the building does not deteriorate. The Supervisor stated that legislature is looking at changing the criteria of the program. 160 inmates are eligible for Shock right now; we don't know if they are even aware they can take it.

The Supervisor stated he has spoken to Jim Bessa regarding the Hydro Project. Permits should be issued in 2022. They are still working with NYS. They still have to pump the mines down. There is a possibility they will put in a water system; this would help Silver Hill and Witherbee Road area. Movement would happen quicker if they could. Councilman Salerno stated once they pump the mines down, when would the tax payers start seeing any benefits and the Supervisor stated once the project is up and running.

The Supervisor stated that CFA (Consolidated Funding Application) has denied our application for engineering to consolidate water and sewer districts; the Supervisor stated we need to go forward with this anyway.

The Supervisor reported we had our annual inspection of the Port Henry Water District. It was done in June and we are just now getting the report. It was a great report but we do have a few things that need to be addressed. This needs to happen by May of 2022. The new raw water lagoon needs work. Councilman Brassard asked about engineering and the Supervisor stated that Chip Perry said the County will do it.

The Supervisor reported that the Essex County Board of Supervisors received the 7 million Covid relief funds; a percentage will go to each Town in the County. Moriah will be receiving \$53,704.96. The Supervisor stated that the Board of Supervisor's voted to give County employees money as an incentive to get their covid shot; the Supervisor stated he does not support this, there were 3 Supervisors who voted against it. Councilman Salerno stated they are giving us the money and then telling us what to spend it on and the Supervisor said no, we can spend it on what we want. The Supervisor stated we can add it to the money we already got. He is against giving it to employees for an incentive just out of principle, nothing against employees. Councilman Salerno asked when we would get the money and the Supervisor stated probably next week; he wanted to thank the County for it; he said the amount of money is based on population.

The Supervisor reported that he finally heard back from Ellis Construction, the modular company quoting the price for the construction of the NYS Police building; it will be where the skating rink is now. It will cost @ \$300,000. Captain Litardo wants to look at the site again. The Town has requirements also, want one trooper in Moriah full time. NYS Police will pay all utilities. 10-year lease agreement or turn building over to them. The Supervisor would like to see the building

stay in the Town's hands. The Supervisor needs board approval to move forward with negotiations. Councilman Salerno asked if the Town would do all the site work and the Supervisor said yes, Jamie Wilson feels we could handle it. Councilman Anderson asked if \$300,00 was for a full basement and the building and the Supervisor said yes, there are certain specs that the NYS Police want. The Supervisor stated that Art Brassard wants to retire next year and for the Town to run a police department it would cost at least \$250,000. Councilman Gilbo stated if we are going to build them a \$300,000 building, we better have a consistent presence. The Supervisor stated that currently response time is the biggest problem. Councilman Anderson is in agreement with moving forward with negotiations. Councilman Brassard stated let's see what they come back with.

The Supervisor reported that the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project towns estimated total project revenue will be \$3,752,515 over 30 years. Councilman Brassard asked when this project would start and the Supervisor stated he isn't sure; he asked Tim Rowland and Tim stated it is still in the permitting process. Councilman Gilbo stated he thinks they are farther along than that.

The Supervisor stated this is the last meeting of 2021. It's been a heck of a year. He wanted to thank the Board, all the employees and constituents, these are strange days we are in now; hopefully there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Resolutions:

224. ON MOTION by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED authorization for Assessor's to renew exemptions as per RPTL due to Covid to mail applications.

225. ON MOTION by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED authorization for Highway Superintendent to allow the back portion of Tom Phelps way to be maintained by the IDA.

226. ON MOTION by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED authorization for Supervisor to begin negotiation with NYS Police for a substation to be placed in Port Henry.

227. ON MOTION by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Brassard, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED authorization to pay Catalfamo Construction \$39,785.20 for pay request #3; Town Hall; CDBG.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated they still have a few things left to do; they will come in the Spring; materials have been hard to get.

228. ON MOTION by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED to purchase cyber policy for Town at a cost of \$3,800 for 2022.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated that the County and the Auditor stated we absolutely have to have it.

- 229. ON MOTION** by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED to renew insurance policy through NFP for 2022 at a cost of \$84,795.83.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated we budgeted \$90,000.

- 230. ON MOTION** by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED to go out for RFP's to clean the Town of Moriah drinking water plant rejection reservoir.

Discussion: Open bids at February meeting with Board approval; will check with Chip Perry regarding this.

- 231. ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Brassard, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

- 232. ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Brassard, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED approval to do adjustments in water and sewer as needed.

- 233. ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Brassard, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED approval of payment of End of Month and Monthly warrants.

- 234. ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED appoint Brent Ida as Assessor Chairman for 2022.

Discussion: This is due to the fact that Paul Mazzotte is done.

Floor open to the public:

N/A

The Supervisor said Happy New Year!!

The meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.

After adjournment the Tax Collector/Town Clerk and Justice Books will be examined (please see attached).

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

December 10, 2021

General	\$1,037.50
Highway	\$2,125.00
Water #1	\$210.00
Water #2	\$142.50

2021/1745-1764

Water #3	\$375.00
Water #4	\$22.50
Sewer #1	\$618.75
Sewer #2	\$131.25

December 29, 2021

General	\$16,093.11	2021/1903-2004
Highway	\$23,073.16	
Water #1	\$3,533.31	
Water #2	\$2,426.03	
Water #3	\$2,979.92	
Water #4	\$92.42	
Sewer #1	\$7,388.65	
Sewer #2	\$3,983.46	

Capital Projects:

CDBG Town Hall Project	Catalfamo	#3	\$39,785.20
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Town Clerk