

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, New York.

Present:	Thomas Scozzafava	Supervisor
	Paul Salerno	Councilman
	Tom Anderson	Councilman (arrived at 6:30pm)
	Luci Carpenter	Councilwoman
	Matt Brassard	Councilman

Others Present: Mark Davenport, Jamie Wilson, Rich Lapier, Bill Trybendis, Cathy Sprague, Robert Stevenson, Renee Anderson, Art Morgan, Ed Roberts, Sharon O'Connor, Ronnie Cunningham, and Rose French-Town Clerk.

Supervisor Scozzafava opened the meeting at 6:00pm by saluting the flag.

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

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

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

Special Guest: Renee Anderson-Chamber of Commerce

She thanked the Board for all their support in 2018. She also thanked Jamie Wilson and his crew with their help decorating the train; also Ed Roberts and his crew with their help with the parade of lights. They are taking orders for Banners for 2019. They are getting more members. Their goals for 2019 are to create a website for the Chamber, increase membership, have informative monthly meetings, and monthly mixers. She believes the Board already has a copy of their report.

Tim Bryant asked her to read a letter to the Board; the Supervisor said to go ahead and read it. In his letter he stated that he has friends and relatives traveling from New York City and their GPS takes them over the Ensign Pond Road and that road is in terrible condition. Jamie Wilson stated that the Ensign Pond Road is a County Road; the Town gets reimbursed from the County to maintain it. He stated that the road gets little sun which makes it impossible for salt to work. Over the last 2 weeks the Town has spent an enormous amount of money on that road. He has heard people saying that the North Hudson side is better and that is because they only have about four roads to take care of. The Supervisor stated it is very difficult to maintain all the roads in the Town of Moriah with the equipment and man power that we have; we can only do so much. He understands Mr. Bryant's concerns. Mr. Wilson will speak to Mr. Bryant.

Floor Open to the Public:

Ronnie Cunningham thanked the Town for buying local in 2018. The Supervisor stated that residents are also starting to buy local.

Department Head Reports:

Art Morgan, Water and Sewer Superintendent stated they have had six sewer main plugs. He expressed his concern over how badly the department needs a vacuum. He has been searching on line for a new and/or used one. New ones are over \$100,000.00. The Supervisor stated he is aware that we need this equipment. We will have to finance it; it is a huge expense for something that we only use five or six times a year. Ronnie Cunningham asked if the Town could borrow one. Mr. Morgan stated that is very hard to do when it is in the middle of the night. The Supervisor feels we should be patient and look for a used one for \$60,000 or \$70,000; something is bound to turn up. Councilwoman Carpenter asked how often it is used. Mr. Morgan said it is hard to tell with the sewer. He stated the one we have is probably 30 years old and it is not working. Councilman Salerno asked what effect this would have on the tax payer. The Supervisor stated it is a benefit district; they are the only ones to pay for it. Mr. Morgan stated he found a brand new one for \$117,000.00 and it was fully loaded. The Highway

Department has a truck that they could use to pull it. The Supervisor feels we should look for a used one. Councilwoman Carpenter asked if it is was a bond payment would the Board vote on the bond. She would like Mr. Morgan to get her the information on how often the vacuum was used last year.

Richard Lapier-Building Codes: Issued no building permits for the month of December. Responded to one complaint. Did one safety inspection. For 2018 did a total of 52 permits. Garages, storage sheds, additions, septic systems, and 3 commercial storage buildings. No house permits were issued for 2018.

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent: They have put in a lot of hours in the last two weeks with all these little storms. They have probably gone through about \$30,000 in salt. The Supervisor stated that when we get one of these weekend storms it cost the town roughly \$60-\$70,000. Mr. Wilson stated there were 3 accidents recently and they all had bald tires. The Supervisor stated it is probably cheaper to buy everybody tires. Mr. Wilson stated they have had a lot of break downs but everything is fixed and back up and running. They have been working on the Senior Van which the transmission went in. We borrowed a van form Westport and the County is going to help the Highway Garage put a new transmission in. Councilman Brassard asked where we got the transmission and Mr. Wilson said from Jerry Brown. The Supervisor stated the van is worth being fixed. Mr. Wilson stated it is in good shape.

Councilwoman Carpenter read the police report: Handled 134 calls for service. 5 Violations: 2-harassment 2nd degree, 2-disorderly conduct, 1-trespass. 5 Misdemeanors: 2-aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle 3rd degree, 3- issuing bad checks. 0 Felonies. Issued 12 traffic tickets. Handled 7 traffic accidents. Conducted 8 pistol permit background investigations. Conducted 11 background investigations for Department of Corrections.

Ed Roberts-Building & Grounds: They have been busy keeping sidewalks clean and keeping up with normal snow removal duties. The Supervisor asked about the brush and stumps and Mr. Wilson stated that they worked on it today.

Town Board Report's:

Councilwoman Carpenter gave a report on the Waterfront Committee Meeting held on January 8, 2019. (Please see attached). The Supervisor said it was a good report. Sharon O'Connor asked about the erosion grant and the Supervisor stated we already got it. He stated that it is for near the point. He has had no contact with the investor so there is nothing to report on the Exclusivity Agreement. He stated he would like to see the Waterfront Committee active in the future for the campsite. The Board is elected; they handle the day to day operations at the campsite. Councilwoman Carpenter would like to see the Waterfront Committee more in tune with the day to day operations at the campsite. Sharon O'Connor stated she would like to see the Board campsite committee stay in touch with the Waterfront Committee. The Supervisor stated that when we have more information he would like to have a public meeting on just the campsite. Sharon O'Connor asked if the Waterfront Committee could get a day to day report on the campsite, the Supervisor said no, that is what the Board campsite committee does. The Supervisor asked the Board how they felt about that. Councilman Brassard thinks it could be an issue if you have campers approaching a waterfront committee member instead of a board member if there is an issue. Councilman Salerno also said no. Councilwoman Carpenter would like to see some communication between the Board and the Waterfront Committee regarding the future plans at the campsite. The Supervisor said the Waterfront Committee can make recommendations to the Board. Councilman Salerno stated the Waterfront Committee wasn't started for that purpose. Councilwoman Carpenter stated it is for future improvements. The Supervisor stated that we will have a \$250,000 bond payment paid off and he would like to do another for improvements at both campsites. Grass seed and pavement alone would be a huge improvement. Jamie Wilson stated the shoreline is the most important thing right now. Councilman Salerno stated we need a campsite meeting.

Councilman Brassard spoke to Nan Stolzenberg regarding the consolidation of local laws. There are roughly 5-8 that the Board will need to adopt. They should be ready by the March meeting. The Supervisor stated that we will need to hold a public hearing on them. Councilman Brassard stated that Nan told him the grant money took her farther then she thought it would. The

Supervisor stated that these are duplicate laws from when the Village of Port Henry dissolved. He told Councilman Brassard good job.

Councilman Salerno reported that he, Jamie Wilson and Cheyenne Morin met regarding the Transfer Station. They would like to recommend to the Board that the Transfer Station take Construction Debris on Tuesdays and Thursdays only. It is impossible to do it all on Fridays and Saturdays. They estimated that 25% – 30% of Construction Debris comes from outside of the Town of Moriah because we are cheaper than surrounding towns. Councilman Salerno feels we need to adjust our rates. The Supervisor agrees, he feels this is a good service we provide. The Town is not looking to make money but the Transfer Station needs to be able to support itself. Every time the C & D container is emptied it is \$850.00. The Supervisor stated we need to warn people of the change; we should put something in the paper. Jamie Wilson stated it takes two weeks to get something in the paper. Councilman Salerno would like to make it effective February 1st. The County has increased the tipping fee by \$28,000.00 so we will need to raise the price of garbage stickers to make up for it. He stated we also need to look at the price of C & D. Councilman Salerno stated the C & D container doesn't always get picked up when we call and sometimes we end up waiting to get it back. Councilman Anderson asked what the price was for a garbage sticker because there was some confusion at the Transfer Station last Saturday. Councilman Salerno asked if it was because of the County increasing the tipping fee and the Supervisor said yes.

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

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

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Transfer Station accept Construction Debris on Tuesdays and Thursdays only effective February 1, 2019.

Councilman Salerno would like to raise money to construct cabins at the Campsites. He will have a proposal for next month's meeting. The Supervisor stated he has already heard from three different businesses in Town and they are not happy that the town might get into the cabin business. Also, if we put cabins in there will be department of health issues. You have to deal with bedding, mattresses, bed bugs, etc.. Ronnie Cunningham asked about Lean-to's. The Supervisor stated we have one. Councilwoman Carpenter stated the future of cabins at the Campsites is what the Waterfront Committee is for.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor reported that the steps going into the Town Hall need to be fixed. He spoke to Chuck French at Carrara's and he said if we could get them fixed for \$60,000 the Town should jump on it. The Supervisor spoke to Tony Fernandez and Gary Olcott regarding the steps. He spoke to the Planning Office to see if there is any grant money out there for them. The Town owns the building so that makes it hard to get any grant money. Wooden steps were suggested. Councilwoman Carpenter said those would look nice. The Supervisor is hoping to get a grant like we did for the Iron Center.

The Witherbee sewer project on Witherbee Road and Lamos Lane is complete. Left \$40,990.85 on the table. This will have to be turned back over. If we tried to do the sidewalks on those roads it would require change orders. Because we left money on the table that will look good for us for future grants. Art Morgan stated that the contractor did a great job; came in under budget.

The Supervisor stated we received our Notice of Violation from the NYS Department of Labor on the burnt out building on Main Street; the Greg Cunningham property. There were no fines issued. We have until May 23, 2019 to comply. The Town has two choices, we can send a letter or go to school. The Supervisor would like to send a few employees to training and the Board was in agreement with this. He will look into the training. Councilman Salerno asked if the fire expenses were on the Town taxes.

The Supervisor reported that there was a chimney fire at 5 Park Place in Port Henry. There was no real fire. The Chief of the Port Henry Fire Department sent an email to the Supervisor and said the hydrant by the road and the one by the town hall did not work. Art Morgan-Water &

Sewer Superintendent checked them both and they both work and work fine. The one on Main Street does turn hard. The Supervisor also stated that all hydrants in the Town are flushed twice a year. Art Morgan said there are 310 hydrants in the Town of Moriah. Art Morgan will get in touch with all three chiefs and see if they can meet with him and watch/learn when they are flushing hydrants. The Supervisor stated we are not lax when it comes to the fire hydrants. Councilman Anderson asked if they all work now. Mr. Morgan said yes; he stated that a hydrant can freeze and we would never know it.

The Supervisor received a letter from Jim LaVigne on 96 Fisk Road regarding the culvert at 107 Fisk Road. He knew there was some talk of moving it and he is concerned about flooding on his property. The Supervisor stated that Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent has already spoken to him.

The Supervisor reported that the Empire State Trail will not use any Town roads, just County Roads.

The Supervisor received a letter from the office of NYS Homes and Community Renewal. The Town received \$750,000 to replace water and sewer mains on Oak Lane, First Street and Ridge Lane and also \$2,500,000 for water and sewer mains outside of Port Henry.

The Supervisor stated that on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 6:00pm at the Court House, there will be a public meeting on the sewer district survey. Councilman Brassard asked if the whole project would be done at once and the Supervisor said no, they will probably break it up into sections.

The Supervisor received a proposal from Jeff Popp regarding work that still needs to be done on the Iron Center; the Cupelo, rot on upper story doors and repair drip edge/crown molding, totaling \$7,700.00. Councilman Brassard stated this would preserve the work that Mr. Popp has already done. The Town would have to supply a lift. Work will depend on the cost of the lift.

The Supervisor copied the Board with the tax bill for 4314 Main Street; Greg Cunningham building that burnt. The tax bill includes the price of demolition. Councilman Salerno asked if Mr. Cunningham could forfeit to the Town, the Supervisor said the Town could not accept it; what would the community do with it. Cathy Sprague asked if we have heard from Mr. Cunningham and the Supervisor said he hasn't heard a word. If the taxes are not paid after three years, the County will take it and offer it to the Town. The Town could have a public auction. Councilman Salerno asked if the County would give it to the Town and then the Town could sell it. The Supervisor stated that NYS said they would help us clean it up first.

The Supervisor received a grant application from the NYS Division of Local Government Services regarding consolidation of the three fire departments. There is no grant money for this study; the Supervisor is sure the fire departments aren't going to pay for the study and the Town cannot use taxpayer money for the study.

Resolutions:

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

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

RESOLVED to renew contract with Wayne & Ruth Plunkett for Managers at Bulwagga Bay Campsite for 2019 Season at \$18,800.00.

Camera shut off briefly.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated that the Town advertised for Managers. He spoke to Wayne and Ruth about coming back; they agreed to come back for one more year. The applicants that we received are from far away and the Supervisor doubts they will travel this distance for the amount of money. Sharon O'Connor asked if Wayne and Ruth will be making more money and the Supervisor said yes; they haven't had a raise in years; they put in a lot of hours. Sharon asked if there was any local interest. The Supervisor

stated that everyone should be aware at this point that we are looking for Managers. Councilman Salerno stated that we have had 1 or 2 responses over the last few years. The Supervisor is hoping that a camper will be interested and can work alongside Wayne and Ruth this season and take over next year. Sharon O'Connor stated that the Waterfront Committee and Wayne and Ruth should work together to find someone. The Supervisor stated that is the Town Boards responsibility; that is the difference between the Board and the Waterfront Committee. The Supervisor will respond to the applicants.

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

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

RESOLVED to renew contract with Tammy & Norm Wright for Port Henry Champ RV Park for 2019 Season at \$17,200.00.

Discussion: This is an increase of \$500.00. They have been here two seasons. The Supervisor received a letter from them, they are interested in coming back this season and the he supports them.

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

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

RESOLVED to set dates for Campground Season for 2019; May 1, 2019 through October 16, 2019; all fees and rates to remain the same.

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

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

RESOLVED to accept and place on file Chamber of Commerce Financial Report for 2018 fiscal year.

Discussion: Copied Town Board with report. The Supervisor said the Chamber did a good job with the funds they had available. Councilman Salerno stated that the song that the band played on Main Street during the parade has been viewed over 5,000 times on YouTube.

46. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED to approve payment of the warrant.

Rich Lapier asked if the Supervisor was going to bring to the Boards attention his training in Lake Placid in March of 2019 for approval.

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

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

RESOLVED to approve Code Enforcement training in Lake Placid March 3, 2019 – March 7, 2019 for Rich Lapier in the amount of \$305.00.

Floor open to the public:

N/A

The meeting adjourned at 7:22pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

December 28, 2018

General	\$17,781.22
Highway	\$35,225.16
Water #1	\$627.48
Water #2	\$468.83
Water #3	\$1,525.66
Water #4	\$38.16
Sewer #1	\$1,888.86
Sewer #2	\$990.30

2018/7522-7602

December 31, 2018

General	\$13,882.34
Highway	\$3,662.10
Water #1	\$2,925.22
Water #2	\$2,190.97
Water #3	\$704.73
Water #4	\$252.16
Sewer #1	\$5,093.45
Sewer #2	\$1,574.45

2018/7605-7662

January 10, 2019

General	\$127,036.37
Highway	\$1,169.31
Water #1	\$1,834.98
Water #2	\$1,367.67
Water #3	\$78.62
Water #4	\$135.94
Sewer #1	\$100,380.86
Sewer #2	\$114,103.10

2019/1-62

Capital Projects:

Wetherbee Sewer (Lamos Lane)	Cedarwood Engineering	\$13,285.25	#11
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Town Clerk