

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

Present: Thomas Scozzafava Supervisor
Paul Salerno Councilman
Thomas Anderson Councilman
Matt Brassard Councilman

Absent: Luci Carpenter Councilwoman

Others Present: Jamie Wilson, Bill Trybendis, Tim Rowland, Cathy Sprague and Rose French-Town Clerk

Supervisor Thomas Scozzafava called the meeting to order at 6:00pm by saluting the flag and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

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

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

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:

The Supervisor stated that at the Organizational Meeting the Board agreed that Department Heads do not need to attend every meeting unless requested to do so by the Supervisor; they will provide a written report to the Town Board.

Jamie Wilson had nothing to report.

The Supervisor asked how the highway equipment was holding up and Mr. Wilson said not very good. They had trouble with one piece of equipment that had just been fixed.

The Supervisor stated that he has been getting a lot of complaints about the sidewalks not being plowed/shoveled; the Town does Port Henry but nowhere else. This was an agreement in The Plan when the Village of Port Henry dissolved. Councilman Salerno stated that Ed Roberts and the inmates try to do the sidewalks when they can. Jamie Wilson reminded everyone that it is the responsibility of the homeowner to take care of the sidewalk in front of their house. The Supervisor asked Mr. Wilson how much a sidewalk machine was and Mr. Wilson stated he wasn't sure; the Supervisor thought another Town just bought one for @\$30,000. The Supervisor stated we already have a lot of sidewalk to maintain and we need to address the parking issue on Main Street; traffic is backing through crosswalks. Jamie Wilson stated that is a State job.

Councilman Brassard read the Police Report: Handled 126 calls for service. 3 Violations-1 permitting a dog rot un at large and 2 harassment 2nd degree. 3 Misdemeanors-2 aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle 3rd degree and 1 bad check. 0 Felonies. Issued 9 traffic tickets. Handled 7 traffic accidents. Conducted 4 pistol permit background investigations. Conducted 4 background investigations for employment purposes.

Councilman Salerno reported on the Waterfront Committee: Will keep campsite issues brief at Regular Town Board Meetings. They discussed the website and managers. Will meet again in 2 weeks. They will be ready to bring a name to the Board in February. Councilman Brassard stated they have decided on a company for the website. He also stated that he and Councilman Salerno will look at a cabin next week. Councilman Brassard asked if we would be advertising for the Transfer Station position and Jamie Wilson said no. The Supervisor stated that Mr. Morin has said he is going to retire but has not given a date yet. He stated that James Cirrinicione has been

working there and has been doing a great job. If he wants the position when Mr. Morin retires he will support it.

Councilman Salerno reported that Building and Grounds have cleaned the Court House and Town Hall basements; put up Christmas lights; assisted the water department in some water breaks; moved the assessors; rebuilt water heater at the train station; and they will begin looking into street lights that are out. The Supervisor stated he will meet with National Grid next week about converting street lights to LED. We have 700+ street lights in the Town. We will probably start converting them by zip code. The cost savings will be significant.

Councilman Salerno stated next month he would like to discuss the 2020 Camping Season and the rates. The Supervisor stated we already raised the rates by 2%.

Councilman Anderson read the Animal Control report for 2019: 2 Dangerous Dogs; 12 tickets issued; many complaints handled via phone; many dogs returned to owners; verbal warnings given to first offenders; 13 dogs were brought to the NCSPCA; Developed Lost and Found Dogs in Moriah, Mineville, Port Henry Facebook page; Assisted by law enforcement on multiple occasions; assisted NYS Encon Police with multiple skunks, fox and raccoon issues. Please license your dogs. Call Ed Roberts with complaints at 518-572-3816; if Mr. Roberts can't be reached call NYS Police 518-873-2750 or Essex County Dispatch 518-873-6321.

Supervisor Scozzafava stated that the Animal Control position is a thankless job. He also stated that the Facebook page was a good idea. Mr. Roberts is working with the Town Clerk to figure out how to find owners on the weekends. Councilman Brassard asked if the USDA ever did the bait drop and the Supervisor said no, the Board of Supervisors is looking in to it, we need it.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor stated he received another letter from Landmark Dividend regarding the cell tower lease. We are not losing money as is because the escalation clause. He would like to put out RFP's to sell the cell tower lease; if the Board is interested in doing that. He also stated that if we did sell the lease he would like to use that money for improvements at the campsites. The Board was in agreement with this. The Supervisor will call the Comptroller.

The Supervisor reported that the work at the Train Station has begun. The Nutrition Site will move to the K of C until work is done and also the Seniors if the Board is in agreement; the Board was in agreement. Councilman Salerno asked if the Town pays for the oil at the Train Station and the Supervisor said no. The Supervisor stated he would like to see the Chamber Office down there. Cathy Sprague does not think it would work out with the Seniors down there. The Supervisor asked Cathy to call Patsy McCaughin about volunteering, people that get off the train come up to the Town Hall all the time because the train station is closed.

Resolutions:

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for Supervisor to sign Grant Agreement for Community Renewal Grants: \$750,000 for Water & Sewer and \$300,000 for Town hall ADA improvements.

Discussion: The Supervisor reported that we were notified two weeks ago that we got it. The \$750,000 is for water and sewer upgrades in Port Henry; hope to go out to bid this Fall. The \$300,000 is for a new ramp/restroom at the Town Hall. Everything that is done at the Town Hall needs to be approved by Historic Preservation.

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

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

RESOLVED to appoint Jack Armstrong, Kris Allen, Jessica Bosarge, Megan Smith and Tom Anderson as Liaison to Town Board to the 2020 Youth Commission Board.

Discussion: There is one vacancy on the Youth Commission Board. Councilman Anderson will try to recruit someone.

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

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

RESOLVED RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO ACT AS LEAD AGENCY

WHEREAS, the Town of Moriah proposes to implement a Town Hall Accessibility Improvement Project for the purpose of removing architectural barriers to safe and adequate access for the disabled and elderly (hereafter referred to as “said Actions”), and;

WHEREAS said Actions require review under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), per 6NYCRR Part 617, and;

WHEREAS said Actions are defined as a Type I Action under SEQR pursuant to 6NYCRR Part 617.4(9), and;

WHEREAS multiple agencies have approval or funding authority over said Actions, and;

WHEREAS 6NYCRR Part 617.6(b)(2)(i) requires that a Lead Agency for a coordinated review of all Type I Actions be established prior to a determination of significance, and;

WHEREAS 6NYCRR Part 617.2(u) defines “Lead Agency” as, “an involved agency principally responsible for undertaking funding or approving an action, and therefore responsible for determining whether an environmental impact statement is required in connection with the action, and for the preparation and filing of the statement if one is Required”, and;

WHEREAS the Town of Moriah intends to act as Lead Agency in the coordinated review of said Actions as a Type I Action under SEQRA and further intends to implement and complete all responsibilities of that office,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Moriah Town Board that the Town of Moriah intends to act as Lead Agency, as defined in 6NYCRR Part 617.2(u), for the coordinated review of said Actions as a Type I Action under SEQRA.

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

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

RESOLVED RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO ACT AS LEAD AGENCY

WHEREAS, the Town of Moriah proposes to implement a Wastewater Collection System Improvement Project to include waste water main replacement, pump station and siphon upgrades (hereafter referred to as “said Actions”), and;

WHEREAS said Actions require review under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), per 6NYCRR Part 617, and;

WHEREAS said Actions are defined as a Type II Action under SEQR pursuant to 6NYCRR Part 617.4 and 617.5, and;

WHEREAS multiple agencies have approval or funding authority over said Actions, and;

WHEREAS 6NYCRR Part 617.2(u) defines “Lead Agency” as, “an involved agency

principally responsible for undertaking funding or approving an action, and therefore responsible for determining whether an environmental impact statement is required in connection with the action, and for the preparation and filing of the statement if one is required,” and;

WHEREAS the Town of Moriah intends to act as Lead Agency in the coordinated review of said Actions as a Type II Action under SEQRA and further intends to implement and complete all responsibilities of that office,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Moriah Town Board that the Town of Moriah intends to act as Lead Agency, as defined in 6NYCRR Part 617.2(u), for the coordinated review of said Actions as a Type II Action under SEQRA.

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

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

RESOLVED RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO ACT AS LEAD AGENCY

WHEREAS, the Town of Moriah proposes to implement a Sewer and Water Main Replacement Project in the vicinity of 1st Street and 2nd Street to include:

- Replacement of approximately 880 LF of water line
- Replacement of water main buried gate valves
- Water Service Improvements, including curb stops and trench repairs
- Replacement of approximately 880 LF of sewer line
- Rehabilitation of 2 manholes, installation of 4 new manholes
- Installation of sanitary bypass pumping
- Sewer laterals and cleanouts
- Pavement Restoration

(hereafter referred to as “said Actions”), and;

WHEREAS said Actions require review under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), per 6NYCRR Part 617, and;

WHEREAS said Actions are defined as a Type II Action under SEQR pursuant to 6NYCRR Part 617.4 and 617.5, and;

WHEREAS multiple agencies have approval or funding authority over said Actions, and;

WHEREAS 6NYCRR Part 617.2(u) defines “Lead Agency” as, “an involved agency principally responsible for undertaking funding or approving an action, and therefore responsible for determining whether an environmental impact statement is required in connection with the action, and for the preparation and filing of the statement if one is required”, and;

WHEREAS the Town of Moriah intends to act as Lead Agency in the coordinated review of said Actions as a Type II Action under SEQRA and further intends to implement and complete all responsibilities of that office,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Moriah Town Board that the Town of Moriah intends to act as Lead Agency, as defined in 6NYCRR Part 617.2(u), for the coordinated review of said Actions under SEQRA.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for Rich Lapier to attend Codes Conference in Lake Placid

March 2, 2020 – March 5, 2020; \$325.00 registration fee.

Discussion: This is mandatory training.

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

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

RESOLVED Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Moriah, New York Authorizing the issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Professional Design and Engineering Services:

Project Number P-1005-2019 for the preparation of a Map, Plan & Report for sewer district 1 & 2 consolidation and provide engineering services for repair and replacement of the Town sewer mains.

WHEREAS, the Town of Moriah has received \$2,500,000 in NYS WQIP funding from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and is pursuing supplemental funding from NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) for the purpose of a sewer main repair and replacement project in sewer districts 1 & 2, and

WHEREAS, a Request for Proposal has been prepared to identify the best available consultant to provide professional design, engineering services and construction management, and

THEREFORE, be it Resolved by the Town Supervisor and Town Board of the Town of Moriah, Approves the public Request for Proposal and its advertisement for solicitation of proposals.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the \$700,000 is for sewer mains in sewer district #1.

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

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

RESOLVED to accept and place on file Chamber of Commerce Annual Report for 2019.

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

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

RESOLVED to contract with William Cook for 2020 Camping Season as Manager for Bulwagga Bay Campsite at a rate of \$17,510.00.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated this is a 3% increase from last year. This may increase if the Waterfront Committee recommends him for the Website manager.

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

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

RESOLVED to contract with Tammy Wright for 2020 Camping Season as Manager for Champ RV Park at a rate pf \$16,995.00.

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

APPROVED	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard
	Nays	0

Absent Carpenter
RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

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

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

RESOLVED approval of payment of End of Month and Monthly warrants.

Floor open to the Public:

The Town Clerk explained the new water and sewer bill. The Supervisor stated they are due to our recent audit.

Councilman Salerno asked about the Hydro Project. The Supervisor stated he hasn't heard anything since before Christmas. Still waiting on the FERK permit. Councilman Salerno asked who FERK was run by the and the Supervisor stated it is run by the Federal Government. The bats are no longer an issue. Councilman Salerno stated he heard a rumor that the Supervisor will resign once the Hydro Project goes through. The Supervisor said he will be the last to know.

Cathy Sprague asked the Chamber if they had any questions on the Chamber's annual report, they did not.

Tim Rowland asked if the \$750,000 was for water or sewer and the Supervisor stated it is for both.

Cathy Sprague asked how many meetings a councilman can be absent from before they are no longer a councilman. The Supervisor stated that no one can remove an elected official from office; there are only two (2) reasons why one would be removed: by the Governor or if they are convicted of a felony. He stated we could never see an elected official again and they would still get paid. The Supervisor stated this is why he does not support four (4) year terms.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

December 31, 2020

General	\$15,823.24
Highway	\$29,675.49
Water #1	\$1,532.00
Water #2	\$1,188.87
Water #3	\$3,509.64
Water #4	\$107.86
Sewer #1	\$2,792.98
Sewer #2	\$1,269.11

2019/2030-2101

January 9, 2020

General	\$128,150.74
Highway	\$1,252.66
Water #1	\$2,131.39
Water #2	\$1,449.68
Water #3	\$30.57
Water #4	\$205.97
Sewer #1	\$101,002.39
Sewer #2	\$115,539.66

2020/1-50

Town Clerk