

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

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

Absent: Paul Salerno Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis and Rose French-Town Clerk

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. He gave a brief COVID update. Councilman Salerno has tested positive for it. He asked everyone to stay safe and practice social distancing. He reminded everyone that the vaccines are not up to local governments. He stated he has a zoom meeting tomorrow with the Board of Supervisor's regarding the vaccine issue. Hopefully counties will get involved. He stated scheduling is all done on the computer and some elderly people are struggling with the process. He asked that everyone be patient. He stated it is not up to Essex County Public Health, the Board of Supervisor's or the Town Board; it is all on Albany. Councilman Brassard read a COVID vaccine update from the New York State Association of Counties. He stated that Governor Cuomo has stated that people under 65 with an underlying condition can get the vaccine; not sure what the conditions are. The Supervisor stated that information will be out tomorrow. Councilman Brassard stated if you don't have access to a computer you can call 1-833-697-4829 to get help. The Supervisor stated that the 75 and older people still haven't gotten their shots; he stated it is very difficult for them when you have to sign up on the computer. Now the Governor is adding 65 and under and it is compounding the problem. He asked if you have an elderly family member, please help them make their appointment.

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

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

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

Floor open to the public:

Bill Trybendis stated there were no questions from the public on the Town Facebook page.

Department Head/Town Board Reports:

Councilman Brassard read the Building Codes report: Issued 2 building permits for the month of December. For the year we did 48 permits: 2 houses, 5 additions, 9 alterations, 4 decks, 11 septic systems, 6 garages/storage sheds and 2 pools.

Councilman Anderson will have more information on the Police Department for the February meeting.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor stated he has had some calls regarding the skating rink and when/if it will be open. The plastic is available at Bryant's, however, Dan Bryant has taken another job and not sure if he will be able to do it this year. Building & Grounds and the Highway Department can do it but the Supervisor would like the Boards input on if we should open it this year or not due to COVID. The Board thinks we should look at opening it. Councilman Gilbo said yes, weather permitting. Councilman Anderson stated he will get the baseball equipment out of the skating rink building.

The Supervisor stated he has had some complaints regarding the sidewalks. The Town does not favor one hamlet over another regarding plowing sidewalks. When the Village of Port Henry dissolved; it was agreed that the Town would plow Main Street, Convent Hill and Broad Street. The Highway Garage tries to do Center Road and Plank Road when they have time and the man power to do them. Jamie Wilson, Highway Superintendent needs the proper equipment to do sidewalks. The Supervisor asked the Board if they wanted him to pursue the issue of plowing sidewalks and they all said yes.

Bill Trybendis stated there was a Facebook live question from Jeremy Carpenter regarding the building the Port Henry Fire Department is in, is the Town still going to sell it. The Supervisor said yes, the Town Board decided to pursue it. The Supervisor will be meeting with a new prospective buyer. He stated this Board is committed to selling it.

The Supervisor received a check from Frontier Abstract in the amount of \$5,213.42 for the damage to the traffic circle. They are the insurance company for the truck that hit it. The Supervisor stated this is not the first time it has been hit, it was hit twice this year and he found where it was hit back in 2008. The Village of Port Henry did move it back farther up Broad Street. The Supervisor is worried if it keeps happening somebody is going to end up getting hurt. We will be liable knowing we have had a history of accidents there. The Supervisor thought maybe a triangle shape with flowers in it would be better and maybe lower to the ground so a truck could drive right over the top of it. He stated the Board needs to decide what to do. Councilman Anderson asked who would design it. The Supervisor stated the County would do it. Councilman Gilbo asked if the State would do it and the Supervisor stated they are waiting for us to decide what we want to do before they give any input. The Supervisor stated with Board approval he will talk to the County and the Highway Superintendent and come up with a plan; the Board was in agreement with this.

The Supervisor received another letter from Landmark Dividend regarding the cell tower lease. They would like to buy it. If the Board decides to sell, the Supervisor would like to see the money put in to the campgrounds.

Campsite letters will be going out along with the Rules and Regulations; there is an acknowledgment page the camper will have to sign.

Councilman Gilbo stated he has been working on the website design for both campsites. He said when you search Moriah campgrounds you will be able to see both campsites and you will be able to make reservations. He is hoping the site will be up and running late February or early March.

The Supervisor stated the Board needs to discuss rules, rates and reservations for the cabins. Councilman Anderson asked if they were finished and the Supervisor said yes, they both are. He also asked what the deposit fee would be and the Supervisor stated that is what we need to discuss. Councilman Brassard and Councilman Gilbo will work on this. Councilman Brassard stated you will not be able to rent a cabin for the whole season.

The Supervisor stated he has been busy the last 3 weeks working with the NYS DEC and Albany Engineering on the Hydro Project. They are trying to get the Federal permit. Now the issue is the discharge of water in to the small brook. NYS DEC is wanting a SPDES permit. The water has been running in to the brook for at least 25 years. The Supervisor walked it with Carl Perry and he sent pictures of the discharge pipe to NYS DEC. Councilman Anderson asked if the Governor's office was involved and the Supervisor said yes.

Resolutions:

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

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

RESOLVED a Resolution pursuant to the authority granted by the COVID 19 Emergency Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention Act of 2020 (Chapter 381 of the laws of 2020) was signed in to law by Governor Cuomo on 12/28/2020 paragraph D; This

Resolution authorizes the Board of Assessors of the Town of Moriah to follow normal renewal application procedures for exemptions on the 2021 Assessment Roll.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated this for when a person is filing for an exemption and they have to show proof they are entitled to it.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for the Supervisor to sign contract with Country Road Realty for marketing the beach house at Champ RV Park; \$500.00.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated that he and Councilman Gilbo met with Barbara Supernault and she is putting together a packet; the area she will be advertising in is quite extensive. The rate will be determined by the usage.

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

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

RESOLVED adoption of Town of Moriah plan for COVID 19 exposure prevention, preparedness and response in accordance with Section 27-C of the NYS Labor Law.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the Board has a copy; this was ordered by the Governor.

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

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

RESOLVED a resolution adopting Local Law #1 of 2021 increasing sewer rates in District #1 and District #2; operation and maintenance; from \$236.00 to \$241.00.

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

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

RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

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

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

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

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

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

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

52. **ON MOTION** by Supervisor Scozzafava, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED to amend lease with Port Henry Fire Department to remove section regarding “taxes”.

Floor open to the public:

N/A

The meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

December 31, 2020

General	\$21,416.20
Highway	\$12,566.29
Water #1	\$2,684.28
Water #2	\$1,971.33
Water #3	\$2,312.45
Water #4	\$246.24
Sewer #1	\$11,101.63
Sewer #2	\$6,475.84

2020/1905-1967

January 14, 2021

General	\$1,028.90
Highway	\$499.29
Water #1	\$59.17
Water #2	\$41.58
Water #3	\$127.01
Water #4	\$5.86
Sewer #1	\$62.96
Sewer #2	\$90.48

2020/1637-1653

Capital Projects:

CDBG 1 st & 2 nd Street W & S Main Replacement	Cedarwood Engineering	\$2,202.50	#1
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Town Clerk