

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

Present: Matthew Brassard Supervisor
Paul Salerno Councilman
Tom Anderson Councilman
Nathan Gilbo Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent, Diana Stevenson, Rich Lapier, Robert Stevenson and Rose French-Town Clerk

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

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

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 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:

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent reported they have been dealing with all the storms; trying to open up the sidewalks and more roads. They have been working on broken equipment. Hutchins has started the work on the box culvert on Golf Course Way, doing ok.

Richard Lapier-Code Enforcement Officer reported he issued 3 building permits for the month of December 2023; did 3 fire safety inspections. Did 50 permits for 2023; 5 new homes, storage buildings and garages; 2 septic permits, 4 solar panel and generator permits, 5 additions, 5 demolition permits; remainder in pools, decks and alterations. Supervisor Brassard asked Mr. Lapier if the solar projects had start dates and Mr. Lapier stated they would be starting soon.

Jamie Wilson reminded everyone the parking ban is still on during storms; it is the same people and it is very frustrating; he is going to have vehicles towed from now on. Councilman Salerno stated he is on the police committee now and he spoke to Art Brassard-police officer regarding this, will try to get point across again. He stated we should put the parking ban on Facebook again. He thinks we should issue a warning, ticket and then tow. Mr. Wilson stated they are constantly back pedaling. Councilman Anderson asked if it was the same people all the time and Mr. Wilson said yes.

Councilman Gilbo asked about the box culvert on Golf Course Way and when they expected to be finished and Mr. Wilson said in February; weather permitting. Councilman Gilbo asked if FEMA was still involved and Supervisor Brassard said yes. Councilman Gilbo asked if there was sewer involved and Mr. Wilson said yes; they have a whole plan for it.

Supervisor Brassard stated Tom Cowin-Building & Grounds Superintendent has been excused. The furnace at the Town Hall has been down a lot; parts have been ordered. Building & Grounds will start the skating rink tomorrow, should be able to skate on it Sunday. The Supervisor reported that Building & Grounds has been busy plowing and cleaning up snow as well.

Councilman Gilbo reported on the Economic Development Plan; the smart growth grant is due January 31st. He would like to apply for the grant.

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

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|----------|------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |

Absent 0

RESOLVED to submit a smart growth grant application to pay for an Economic Development Plan.

Councilman Gilbo stated he is going to reach out to some architects regarding the beach house at Champ RV Park; see if we can shake out some pricing and pursue some contractors. Supervisor Brassard stated he is surprised nobody is interested in it; would be a good winter project.

Councilman Anderson reported the ski club will start Sunday; 40 people are signed up; 7-week program.

Councilman Salerno had nothing to report.

Supervisor’s Report:

The Supervisor stated he spoke to Jim Besha regarding the hydro project. The project is still moving forward. Councilman Anderson asked which delay we are on now. Supervisor Brassard stated Mr. Besha did not go in to any details. Councilman Gilbo stated he thought it was about finding a purchaser for the power.

Supervisor Brassard spoke to Matt Simpson regarding the State of the State address. There is money in the state budget for the 3 prisons that were closed; no plans have been released yet; possible psychiatric hospital or something to do with the Veteran’s Administration. Councilman Salerno stated Assemblyman Billy Jones is not happy about the Governor possibly closing 5 more prisons; he stated Dan Stec is not happy about it either. Supervisor Brassard stated Great Meadows is on the list. He stated when Moriah Shock closed a lot of people went there, this is a terrible situation. Councilman Salerno stated it is devastating.

The Supervisor stated Viking Lane is complete; covered 75% by FEMA; the State normally covers 12 1/2 % but they won’t this time. The Town’s share will be @\$32,000; will come out of general repairs budget.

Supervisor Brassard has met with MJ Engineering, Rob Wick-Essex County and Chip Perry regarding the sewer project; we have a \$90,000 BAN due in April; EFC should have had this closed the end of 2023; meeting next Tuesday; we did not budget for \$90,000.

The Supervisor stated that Building & Grounds will start working on the back of the police station to gut the room and get it ready for renovations; the Town received @\$120,00 for the renovations.

Councilman Salerno stated the Town received @\$120,000 for the addition on the police station and the Supervisor said yes; Matt Ball, Tom Cowin and Tim Breeyear are comfortable stripping it to the bare walls. Councilman Salerno asked Rich Lapier if the Town will need to get a permit for this and Mr. Lapier said yes.

Supervisor Brassard stated the Town is accepting applications for Campground Managers at both campsites.

The Supervisor thanked the Highway Department and Building & Grounds for all their hard work during the recent storms.

Councilman Salerno feels we should put a deadline on accepting applications for Campground Managers.

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

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|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

RESOLVED to set date for accepting campground manager applications for February 15, 2024.

Resolutions:

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

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

RESOLVED to remove Thomas Scozzafava from the Town credit card and change the card from a personal guarantor business account to a company/corporate liability account.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the credit card company wanted his social security number and address; should not affect him personally; will be card with Town of Moriah; no names.

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

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

RESOLVED to pay the Supervisor's cell phone bill; \$45.00/month; the Supervisor will be using his personal phone instead of the Town having to buy a new phone.

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

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

RESOLVED to adopt Moriah Fire District #1 choice to opt in to the new real property tax law section 466-a that provides a 10% property tax exemption to volunteer firefighter and ambulance workers.

Discussion: Councilman Salerno stated it is up to the Department to let the Assessor's know who is eligible. The Supervisor stated he has a message out to the other 2 departments; they have to adopt by March if they are going to; this is up to each department; not a Town decision.

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

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

RESOLVED to pay Adirondack Landfill Services LLC \$1,902.00 for yearly landfill post closure monitoring report.

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

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

RESOLVED to let Stop Domestic Violence hold a polar plunge at Port Henry Beach on March 9, 2024 at 1:00pm (they will name the Town as additional insured on their policy).

Discussion: Councilman Anderson asked if they would need first aid available and the Supervisor said yes, they have taken care of all of that.

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

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

RESOLVED to refund Carol Coryea; 449 Witherbee Road; \$470.00 for electric roter service on 12/14/23; Town issue.

Discussion: Councilman Salerno stated he was called to this residence for sewer in the cellar. Their main is only 8 feet; he went over 100 feet; knew he was in the road when he found the blockage; contacted Art Morgan.

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

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

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

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

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

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

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

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

56. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, unanimous second, the following resolution was

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

RESOLVED a resolution of congratulations to Thomas Scozzafava on his retirement.

57. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, unanimous second, the following resolution was

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

RESOLVED a resolution of condolences to the family of Daniel "Digger" Laing.

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

| | | |
|----------|--------|------------------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | 0 |

RESOLVED to appoint Anna Reynolds Fair Housing Officer for the Town of Moriah for the year 2024.

Discussion: This is something the Town needs to do because of a HUD audit; no payment is involved; Bruce Misarski retired.

Councilman Salerno stated we need to come up with a plan on how to spend the stimulus money. Councilman Gilbo stated he would really like to look at event space on the water front. Councilman Salerno asked Rich Lapier if he thought they would have time to get the beach house ready for a contractor. Councilman Gilbo stated if we have the man power and the time to do it, we should. Councilman Salerno stated then we could do the electric and water and sewer. Rich Lapier stated he will look in to it.

Floor Open to the Public:

Robert Stevenson asked why his family was denied doing anything to their property on Wall Street by the APA when a neighbor has brought load after load of fill in and made a trailer park. Doesn't the Town Board have any say in that. Supervisor Brassard stated the Town has no zoning. Councilman Salerno asked how the APA got involved back in the day; he feels it is an

APA question not a Town question. Mr. Stevenson stated he has called the APA and he has letters to his father and brother in law. The Supervisor told Mr. Stevenson he would look in to it and he would get him a map of the APA jurisdictions.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

December 31, 2023

2023/2114-2198

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| General | \$11,606.23 |
| Highway | \$30,350.36 |
| Water District #1 | \$3,864.66 |
| Water District #2 | \$2,757.91 |
| Water District #3 | \$2,577.44 |
| Water District #4 | \$214.49 |
| Sewer District #1 | \$6,728.43 |
| Sewer District #2 | \$3,258.79 |

January 18, 2024

2024/1-69

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| General | \$76,880.23 |
| Water District #1 | \$1,279.17 |
| Water District #2 | \$830.53 |
| Water District #3 | \$80,270.84 |
| Water District #4 | \$152.85 |
| Sewer District #1 | \$107,023.09 |
| Sewer District #2 | \$42,933.79 |

Capital Project:

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|--------------------------------|----------------|------------|-----|
| Sewer District #1 Improvements | MJ Engineering | \$4,705.00 | #15 |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------------|-----|

Town Clerk