

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, January 15, 2026 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
	Chip Perry	WWTP Chief Operator
	Tom Cowin	Building & Grounds Superintendent
	Rose French	Town Clerk
Absent:	Nate Gilbo	Councilman
	James Curran	Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis

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
	Nays	0
	Absent	Gilbo, Curran

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:

Tom Cowin-Building & Grounds Superintendent reported they have been working on the dog kennel and dealing with all the snow and ice.

Chip Perry-WWTP Chief Operator had nothing to report.

The Supervisor stated Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent was out plowing. It has been a rough start to winter; had a lot of break downs. The Supervisor asked that everyone be patient; it snows every day, will get to the sidewalks when they can.

Councilman Salerno read the police report: November 2025 1 violation dog running at large, 1 violation harassment 2nd degree, 7 traffic tickets, assisted fire depts 2 times, assisted ambulance 5 times and had 25 calls of service. December 2025 1 violation trespass, 1 dog running at large, 5 traffic tickets, assisted fire depts 1 time, assisted ambulance 4 times and had 29 calls of service.

Councilman Salerno stated Art Brassard will retire April 30, 2026 and the Town will have to figure out police coverage with the State Police and the Sheriff’s Department. He stated Artie will be missed. He stated a 2-man crew would cost the Town roughly \$250,000.

Councilman Salerno read Rich Lapier Code Enforcement Officer’s report: Issued 2 septic permits for the month of December 2025. For 2025 issued 68 permits: 9 new homes, 2 mobile homes, 2 commercial storage buildings, 1 solar farm, 10 solar arrays, 10 septic systems, 2 garages and the remainder in alterations, additions, decks and demolitions.

Councilman Salerno stated campsite rates are up 3%. He also stated we need to set rates for the new cabin and set the electric rate.

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

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Anderson
	Nays	0

Absent Gilbo, Curran
RESOLVED to raise electric kwh rates at campsite from .25 to .35 for the 2026 Season.

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

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

RESOLVED to raise campsite rates at Bulwagga Bay Campsite and Champ RV Park 3% for the 2026 season.

Discussion: Will watch electric rates in case they need to be increased. Cabin rates will remain the same.

The Town Clerk asked the Board if they want to advertise for campsite managers. Councilman Salerno stated he was very happy with the Managers at Bulwagga Bay Campsite and he feels the Assistants at Champ RV Park will be good Managers. He will talk to them first before we pass a resolution.

The Supervisor stated we need to advertise for a laborer because Sawyer VanBuren will not be coming back this summer.

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

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

RESOLVED to advertise for a full-time seasonal campsite laborer for the 2026 season.

Discussion: Applications will be due March 13, 2026.

Councilman Salerno reported the water department had a massive break on Whitney Street, they were out all night; gives them a lot of credit. He asked home owners when there is a break to please let your water run until it clears and you have to have a back flow preventer. Councilman Salerno gives a lot of credit to building and grounds and also the highway department. The Supervisor stated he has been getting a lot of calls regarding the sidewalks.

Councilman Anderson reported he will talk to the same staff from the Summer Program about returning this year and will have his recommendation for the February meeting.

Supervisor’s Report:

The Supervisor stated at the end of the year he and Chip Perry met with Essex County planning regarding the \$80,000 engineering grant we received for the reject water at the Port Henry water plant; this will help get sewer to the plant from Stone Street; involves 11-12 houses.

The Supervisor reported Rich Redman was in to see him; Ticonderoga has offered the Town their old skating rink; it has 4-foot walls; we can put it at the new ball field or down at Port Henry Beach. The Supervisor thanks the Town of Ticonderoga!

The Supervisor stated we are still waiting to hear on the New York Forward grant and the water front grant.

Councilman Salerno asked the Supervisor if he would give an update on Moriah Shock. The Supervisor stated the only thing he knows is there is a constitutional amendment to remove Moriah Shock from the forest preserve which would open it up to other agencies. The Governor would like to see it used for housing. The Supervisor stated he is concerned because we don’t have the grocery store, transportation or hospitals to support it.

Resolutions:

47. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
- | | | |
|----------|--------|-----------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Gilbo, Curran |
- RESOLVED** to adjust Wanda Harper water bill for \$182.50 (2 quarters) due to the water issue being on the Town side.

Discussion: Councilman Salerno stated they have been having an issue with tailings in the line; plugging it. He discussed the issue with Art Morgan-Water & Sewer Superintendent. The Supervisor asked if it was a plastic line and Councilman Salerno said yes.

48. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
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|----------|--------|-----------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Gilbo, Curran |
- RESOLVED** to adjust the water portion of water/sewer bill for the Port Henry Laundromat in the amount of \$451.50 as they were shut down due to the water ban.

Discussion: The Supervisor sated the owner approached him regarding their bill; the car wash was shut down during the water ban; lost about \$1,000 a week. The Supervisor stated they did the right thing and lost revenue because of it.

49. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, unanimous second, the following resolution was
- | | | |
|----------|--------|-----------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Gilbo, Curran |
- RESOLVED** a resolution of condolences to the family of Tom McDonald.

50. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, unanimous second, the following resolution was
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|----------|--------|-----------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Gilbo, Curran |
- RESOLVED** a resolution of condolences to the family of Les Pepper.

51. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, unanimous second, the following resolution was
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|----------|--------|-----------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Gilbo, Curran |
- RESOLVED** a resolution of condolences to the family of Paul Mazzotte.

52. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, unanimous second, the following resolution was
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|----------|--------|-----------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Gilbo, Curran |
- RESOLVED** a resolution of condolences to the family of Charlie Bryant.

53. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was
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|----------|--------|-----------------------------|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Gilbo, Curran |
- RESOLVED** to discuss letter received from the Back Country Youth Foundation.

BE IT FURHTER RESOLVED to donate \$2,000 to the Back Country Youth Foundation out of the Youth Sports Grant for 2025-2026 ski and snowboard youth program.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated they are looking for financial support from the Town of Moriah for the 2025-2026 Ski and Snowboard Program. The Supervisor stated we have \$2,300 left in the Youth Sports Grant. Councilman Anderson stated he drives the van for the program; school gives gas; it is for Crown Point and Moriah students.

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

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

RESOLVED to pay Adirondack Landfill Services \$2,475 for post closure monitoring of the old landfill.

Discussion: Councilman Salerno stated this is a mandate.

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

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

RESOLVED to contract with the University of Vermont Health Network for pre-employment physicals and pre-employment drug testing for 2026.

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

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

RESOLVED to sign agreement with the Town of Minerva to reimburse them for health insurance for Property Maintenance Code Officer Colin Mangan 1/6 of the cost, on a quarterly basis.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated this cost is split between 6 towns that Colin works for; the Town of Minerva carries the insurance.

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

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

RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES – PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT SLUDGE REMOVAL FROM WATER PLANT EJECTION RESERVOIRS LAKE CHAMPLAIN BASIN PROGRAM GRANT FUNDED PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Town of Moriah owns and operates water treatment facilities that include ejection reservoirs necessary for proper system performance; and

WHEREAS, sludge has accumulated in the water plant ejection reservoirs over time, Reducing effective capacity and impairing system performance; and

WHEREAS, the reduced performance of the reservoirs has resulted in effluent water Quality parameters being at or nearing the regulatory limits established under the Town’s State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit; and

WHEREAS, continued operation under these conditions poses a risk of non-compliance With applicable state and federal regulatory requirements and potential impacts to Lake Champlain water quality; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Moriah has been awarded a 2026 Clean Water Planning and Implementation Project grant through the Lake Champlain Basin Program in the amount Of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000.00), with a required local match of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00); and

WHEREAS, the grant funding is intended to support planning and engineering efforts Necessary to evaluate sludge accumulation, identify appropriate removal and disposal methods, and advance the Town toward regulatory compliance and improved water quality outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that professional engineering services are Required to prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER); and

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to solicit qualified engineering firms through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process in accordance with applicable procurement laws and Professional services requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Moriah Hereby authorizes the issuance of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for professional Engineering services to prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report for the removal and proper disposal of sludge from the Town’s water plant ejection reservoirs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Preliminary Engineering Report shall, at a minimum, evaluate existing conditions, assess sludge volume and characteristics, identify feasible removal and disposal alternatives, address applicable regulatory and permitting requirements, and provide cost estimates and implementation recommendations consistent with the Lake Champlain Basin Program grant objectives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the acceptance and use of the Lake Champlain Basin Program grant funds in the amount of \$80,000.00, together with the required local match of \$6,000.00, for this project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor and/or designee is authorized to Take all actions necessary to implement this resolution, including advertising the RFQ, receiving and evaluating submissions, executing grant-related documents, and presenting a recommendation to the Town Board for selection of a qualified engineering firm.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated this is for RFQ’s for engineering for the sludge at the Port Henry Water Plant, proposals will be due February 19, 2026.

The Supervisor stated that Tuesday at 6pm at the Court House there will be an informational meeting on the micro grant; any business is welcome to attend.

The Town Clerk reported there will be a rabies clinic April 15, 2026 at the VFW, as soon as she has more information she will put it on the Town Facebook page, website and sign board.

Councilman Anderson asked when John Neggia’s birthday part was and the Supervisor stated it is Saturday at the VFW at 1pm. The Supervisor thanked the Highway Department and Building & Grounds for their help setting up.

Floor Open to the Public:

N/A

The meeting adjourned at 6:33pm.

Town Clerk

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

December 31, 2025

General	\$30,144.61
Highway	\$5,569.55
Water #1	\$3,531.87
Water #2	\$2,552.81
Water #3	\$3,512.42
Water #4	\$255.69
Sewer #1	\$1,305.21
Sewer #2	\$625.59

2025/2118-2195

December 31, 2025

General	\$7,874.46
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2025/2155

January 7, 2026

General	\$325,000.00
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2026/0001

January 15, 2026

General	\$148,907.68
Highway	\$2,567.06
Water District #1	\$1,386.83
Water District #2	\$903.95
Water District #3	\$321.24
Water District #4	\$136.45
Sewer District #1	\$111,493.80
Sewer District #2	\$127,227.92

2026/0002-0026