

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, July 11, 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
Matt Brassard Councilman

Absent: Luci Carpenter Councilwoman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Chip Perry, Sharon O'Connor, Cecelia Wojciukiewicz, Diana Stevenson, Rich Lapier, Jamie Wilson, Paul Reese, Renee Anderson, Alana Gaddor, Muriel Currier and Daughter and Rose French-Town Clerk.

Supervisor Scozzafava called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

ON MOTION by Councilman Anderson, 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.

Bid Opening: Surplus Bid 2009 Ford Crown Victoria

The Supervisor read the legal notice of bid. One bid was received from David Laing in the amount of \$310.00. The Board accepted the bid.

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

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

RESOLVED to sell one 2009 Ford Crown Victoria in "as is" condition to David Laing for \$310.00.

Discussion: Councilman Anderson asked how many miles were on the car and the Supervisor said 80,000.

Floor Open to the Public:

Renee Anderson from the Chamber thanked Cheyenne and Jason from the Transfer Station for their help with their bottle drive for Labor Day. Letters will be going out this week to businesses for donations. The grant for the Champ Folklore sign is still in the works. Lohrer McKinstry and Andrea will take lead on that. Champ Day is July 21. There will be a BBQ, games, vendors, dunking booth, etc. Renee asked if she could get some help with some cones and barriers and Jamie Wilson said yes. Councilman Anderson asked if they will be doing the cardboard boat race again and Renee said yes. They will have help with parking this year so hopefully there will be no issues.

August 7th there will be ribbon cutting at 11:00am on Main Street for Mountain Weavers Farm Store.

The Hiking Challenge is going great. They have handed out over 100 patches. They have had repeat people doing the challenge; and also people from all over, including Canada.

They are looking for volunteers for the dunking booth for Champ Day. Councilman Salerno asked out of the \$12,000 for fireworks; how much have they raised so far and Renee stated \$3,000. All of the money raised from the coin drops goes towards the fireworks.

Alana Gaddor addressed the Board. She lives on Plank Road. She would like a sidewalk from Grover Hills to Boyeas. She stated it is a busy stretch of road and there are always people walking and kids on bikes. She believes it is less than a mile. She has a petition to give to the Town Board with about 275-300 signatures.

The Supervisor stated that Plank Road is a County road. He feels that a sidewalk is a long shot. The terrain would be difficult. Easements would be involved and it would affect Town water and sewer mains. The Supervisor told Ms. Gaddor that he will speak to the County first regarding this. If they say yes, then the Board will look into funding. Safety is going to be the first concern. The Supervisor stated we have 17 miles of sidewalk in the Town of Moriah right now, the Board would have to discuss it, the Town would have to take care of the sidewalk, it will be expensive.

Councilman Brassard stated that ultimately it will be up to the County. The Supervisor stated there is a short piece by Boyeas already. He also stated then we would have people parking on the sidewalks. He told Ms. Gaddor that he will speak to the County about it.

Sharon O'Connor asked the Supervisor if he asked the Board of Supervisor's about the money that their Fire Department is losing because the elections are all now at the Moriah Fire House and he said no, he hasn't yet, but he will. Councilman Brassard stated they already budgeted for that money.

Department Head Reports:

Rich Lapiere-Building Codes: Issued 4 building permits for the Month of June and responded to 2 complaints and did one (1) fire/safety inspection.

Jamie Wilson addressed the Chamber regarding the hiking challenge; he stated that the old landfill is tamped down to Cheney Mountain and the road into Big Hollow is passable, there was a wash out. The Supervisor asked if the road goes all the way to the cemetery and Mr. Wilson said yes, it is a seasonal road. Councilman Anderson if the Town maintains the cemetery and the Supervisor said yes.

The NYS inspection of the new sidewalk in Port Henry went well, there were no issues. The Supervisor stated that short section of sidewalk cost \$100,000.

Mr. Wilson stated the excavator is still down and it does not look like the insurance is going to cover it. The Supervisor stated that the repairs could cost \$30,000 but the work would be guaranteed. Mr. Wilson stated the machine is 13 years old. The Supervisor stated a used one is at least \$60,000. Councilman Anderson asked if a lease had been looked in to and the Supervisor stated the auditor does not recommend leasing. Councilman Anderson asked if we would be able to trade it in; Mr. Wilson stated if it was running we probably could; might be able to get \$50,000 for it. Mr. Wilson is nervous about getting it repaired. The Supervisor asked what it is worth right now and Mr. Wilson stated probably around \$10,000 to the right person.

142. 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 go to bid for a used excavator.

Discussion: Bid opening will be at August meeting. Mr. Wilson stated he is nervous about getting it repaired because we don't even know why it broke down in the first place. Councilman Salerno asked about getting a new one and the Supervisor stated the Town can't afford it. Councilman Anderson asked if the Town could get a used one, fix the one that is broken and then sell it. Councilman Anderson also asked about the back stop at Pepper Field. He commented on how wet Pepper Field was this year. The Supervisor stated he had information regarding Pepper Field and he will bring it up during his report.

Chip Perry-Wastewater Superintendent had nothing to report.

Town Board Report's:

Councilman Anderson reported that the Summer Program is up and running. 120 registered campers. They are working out the kinks. Counselors are low. They have enough to meet the state threshold. They had a lack of applications and some came in late. The Supervisor stated that the YCC applications were down this year as well. Councilman Anderson stated we are in competition for applicants now, he feels the pay is too low. Alana Gaddor asked if we were actively seeking applicants. Councilman Salerno asked if we had enough Counselors for the amount of kids that were registered and Councilman Anderson said yes, with some juggling.

Councilman Brassard reported there are 60 seasonal campers at Champ RV Park. Had 25 transients over the 4th of July Holiday. Had 35 people do the paddling program. Councilman Anderson stated we moved the paddling program to Port Henry Beach and now people are using them and the Supervisor stated that it helps that it is free now. Rich Lapier stated that the only problem with not charging is we will have no money for repairs now. The Supervisor stated we just wanted to get some interest in it. Councilman Brassard stated at one point there was a waiting line. He also stated that the water has dropped and they had to move the ropes at the beach. The Lifeguards are good. Councilman Brassard also reported that he will meet with Candace next week to finish up the income surveys and see where we are at.

Councilman Salerno reported there are 121 seasonals at Bulwagga Bay Campsite. Boat stakes will be pulled on beach area. Had 20 transients over the 4th of July Holiday. The golf cart has been repaired. Bill and crew have done an excellent job. Connie and Jay (Assistant Managers) will stay on for the rest of the 2019 season. We will have to start looking for assistants for next year.

Councilman Salerno reported that the Water Department has had several water breaks. He wanted to remind everyone that the town is only responsible to the curb stop. The Supervisor stated that if we have a break and it is 12 inches towards the homeowner, we are going to fix it.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor received a letter from Fesette Realty regarding Pepper Field. The Pepper family has decided to sell it. It is 14.2 acres. The Town can't just buy it, it has to be appraised and is subject to permissive referendum, we would have to have a public hearing and then the residents would have to vote on it. The Supervisor stated that the field is always wet. The Pepper family has leased it to the Town for years for \$1.00. They have been very good to the Town. Councilman Brassard asked if we could do a shared services agreement with the school. The Supervisor said no. Councilman Anderson stated the Town needs a little league field. The Supervisor asked the Board if they were interested.

143. 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 get an appraisal on Pepper Field.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated he has reservations regarding this. He does not think it is a good investment for the Town. It is wet, in a residential area and parking is always an issue. Councilman Anderson stated the Town needs a little league field. Councilman Salerno stated that some of the 14.2 acres could be logged off and sold to recoup some money. Cecelia Wojciukiewicz stated the Town should not buy this property, we can't afford to fix an excavator we shouldn't be buying a piece of property for a little league field.

The Supervisor received a letter from the Eddy Foundation regarding the Parch Pond Reserve. It is near Hammond Pond. They want to buy it. It is over 800 acres. It is north of Tub Mill Pond. Councilman Brassard asked if the public can go up there and the Supervisor said yes, to Tub Mill but this is Parch Pond. This would be similar to Tub Mill; they would still pay taxes on the

property. Councilman Anderson asked if it would add to the tax base and the Supervisor said yes, they would pay full taxes.

There will be a Household Hazardous Waste Day, open to Essex County Residents on July 27, 2019-North Hudson Highway Garage, August 10, 2019-Essex County DPW and August 31, 2019-Ticonderoga Highway Garage. Paul Reese asked if it can be posted on the Town website and the Town Clerk said yes. Fliers will be on the Town website and on the Bulletin Board at the Town Hall.

The County is applying for a \$6,000,000 grant to hire more EMT's for Ticonderoga, Crown Point and Moriah. We need more coverage. Deputy Sherriff's have training as well.

The Supervisor received a letter from Landmark Dividend regarding leasing the Verizon cell tower. The Town can't just sell a lease. It would have to go out to bid. He believes there is \$200,000 left on the current lease. Councilman Brassard stated it won't cost anything to look into it. The Supervisor stated the current lease is a good one, there is a 3% yearly escalation clause in it. Councilman Brassard feels we should entertain it. The Supervisor will call them when he gets a chance.

The Supervisor met with Jamie Wilson regarding the Transfer Station. C & D was raised. George Moore has agreed to take one load of refrigerators and see how it goes. Freon will have to be out. The Supervisor will firm up this information and if it is ok with the Board he will post it. Paul Reese reported that National Grid has a program right now where they will come and pick up refrigerators as long as they are working and give you \$50.00 for it. Councilman Brassard asked if you had to be a customer and Paul Reese said yes.

Councilman Anderson stated there is a sign at the Transfer Station where "accept" is spelled wrong, it says "except". He stated "It is embarrassing, we need a new sign, get a dictionary". Mr. Wilson thought the County probably made it. The Supervisor told Councilman Anderson he should look into getting it fixed then, Councilman Anderson said "you get on it". A heated discussion ensued.

Resolutions:

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for Supervisor to invest Town monies into NYCLASS in accordance with General Municipal Law, Article 5-G Section 119-0.

Discussion: The Supervisor met with Glens Falls National Bank regarding this. Rates vary with savings accounts. Councilman Brassard asked if NYCLASS would be making money off of our money. The Supervisor stated we don't get any interest from Glens Falls National Bank.

145. 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 set Water and Sewer Installation Charges: Complete Water Hook Up-\$635.00, Complete Water Hook Up Crossing Road-\$1,400.00, Shut Off Valve-\$100.00, Complete Sewer Hook Up-\$635.00, Complete Sewer/crossing road-\$1,400.00. All charges must be authorized by the Water & Sewer Superintendent and paid in full at Town Hall before installation.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated these charges have been in effect but we needed a Resolution for them. Art Morgan-Water & Sewer Department has to be notified and they have to pay at the Town Hall.

146. 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 set rate for Water shut off/Turn on at \$35.00. Minimum time for water off is 3 months; otherwise no credit will be applied and additional fee of \$35.00 will be charged to turn back on.

Discussion: We get a lot of requests for turn on and shut offs for water. It is very difficult for the billing cycle. Auditor recommended we charge.

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

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

RESOLVED to change water and sewer billing cycle to calendar year effective January 1, 2020. Payments will be due April 3, 2020, July 3, 2020, October 3, 2020 and November 3, 2020.

Discussion: Alana Gaddor asked why we were changing it and the Town Clerk stated it was recommended by the Auditor. You will still be able to pay annually.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for Supervisor to set up Capital Project in Sewer District #1, Tarbell Hill Pump Station at a cost not to exceed \$75,000. Monies to be advanced from Sewer District #1 Fund Balance to Capital Project for Engineering costs and to be reimbursed when DEC Grant Monies are received.

Discussion: The grant is for certain costs like engineering.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization to write off uncollectable receivables for garbage bills; two years or older (July 2012 – July 2017).

Discussion: It would cost the Town \$300.00 for an Attorney to take them to small claims court and we can't leave it laying around.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization to pay Food Service Workers USDA Program 7/8/19 thru 7/19/19 and 7/22/19 thru 8/9/19.

Discussion: It was either this way or make them wait until the Board meeting. Councilman Anderson stated these are the Summer Program cafeteria workers.

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

APPROVED	Ayes	Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard
	Nays	0

Absent Carpenter

RESOLVED authorization for Justices to apply for \$30,000 Grant from Office of Court Administration for improvements at Court House.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for Justice Venne and Court Clerk Kim Kolodzey to attend mandatory training on July 16th and July 17th in Potsdam, NY. For overnight accommodations, total cost of hotel \$376.00.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization to reject bid for Construction of Tarbell Hill Pump Station; \$459,640.00 and to rebid project.

Discussion: There was only one bid and it came in a lot higher than anticipated. Will wait until October to rebid.

154. **ON MOTION** by Supervisor Scozzafava, unanimous second, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED a Resolution to congratulate Mamie Forkas on her 100th Birthday on August 1, 2019.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for Supervisor to accept proposal from Twinstare Technologies in the amount of \$4,480.00 for new phone system at Town Offices (current phones are no longer serviceable).

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for Supervisor to transfer donations from Town Trust & Agency account to Mining Sculpture committee for Mining Sculpture donations.

Discussion: Auditor recommendation. Town can no longer be a community bank. If the money stayed in the Town's hands, the sculpture would have to go out to bid. Councilman Salerno asked how much money has been raised so far and the Supervisor said roughly \$15,000.00.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization payment to Orkin in the amount of \$937.44 for pest control at the Transfer Station for 7/19 – 7/20.

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

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

RESOLVED to approve payment of the warrant.

Floor open to the public:

Sharon O'Connor thanked the Supervisor for checking on the money they lost out of their budget when the County went to one location for voting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

June 19, 2019

General \$4,099.00

2019/925

June 26, 2019

General \$155.80

2019/930-941

Highway \$986.39

(void 930, 934, 935,

Water #1 \$45.36

937, 940 and replaced

Water #2 \$32.24

with 942, 943, 944,

Water #3 \$115.24

945 and 946

Water #4 \$4.39

Sewer #1 \$27.66

Sewer #2 \$56.78

July 11, 2019

General \$58,904.70

2019/949-1082

Highway \$11,514.64

Water #1 \$2,746.99

Water #2 \$2,705.65

Water #3 \$1,425.36

Water #4 \$86.97

Sewer #1 \$5,418.80

Sewer #2 \$2,128.77

Capital Projects:

Port Henry Water & Sewer Main Replacement	Press Republican	#4	\$121.12
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Tarbell Hill Pump Station	Press Republican	#4	\$86.62
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Main Street Sidewalk Project	Lowe's	#3	\$237.45
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Town Clerk