

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

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

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Robert Stevenson, Ed Roberts, Rich Lapier, Jamie Wilson, Andrea Anesi, Kyle Miller, Jack Mudge and Rose French-Town Clerk

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 6:00pm by saluting the flag.

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

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

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

Floor Open to the Public:

Andrea Anesi spoke regarding a grant from the Pomeroy Foundation for a marker commemorating the Bulwagga Bay legend. It will be placed on the beach near the pavilion. She also wanted to thank the Town for their continued support of Champ Day and the use of Port Henry Beach. She also thanked Councilman Brassard and Tammy Wright at Champ RV Park for all their help, putting on Champ Day is a lot of work. The Supervisor stated that the check for the sign has already come and has been deposited. Andrea stated it will be 4-6 weeks before the sign gets here.

Bid Openings:

Used Dump Truck Bid-Water & Sewer Dept.:

The Supervisor read the legal notice of bid. One bid was received from Charlebois Inc. for a 2010 Freightliner; 97,301 miles for \$25,000.00.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for the Supervisor to purchase the dump truck after review of bid by Art Morgan-Water & Sewer Superintendent and Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent.

Discussion: Councilman Salerno asked if the previous bids could be looked at and the Supervisor said yes.

Department Head/Town Board Reports:

Ed Roberts-Building & Grounds/ACO reported there was a rabid fox on Convent Hill. He stated he is going to retire; he will continue on as Animal Control Officer. He will help the new person as much as he can. Councilman Anderson asked how many years he has been with the Town and Mr. Roberts stated 37 years. Mr. Roberts reported that we are able to use the inmates again and the department has been busy mowing.

Rich Lapier-Building Codes reported he issued 3 building permits for the month of July and he has a trailer permit for Luanne Smith and Donna Fish and recommends approval for both. He would like to do a letter of appreciation to Whistlepig for lending the Town their loading dock so we could unload the new honey wagon at Bulwagga Bay Campsite.

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

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

RESOLVED a resolution of appreciation to Whistlepig for use of their loading dock.

Discussion: Rich Lapier stated that both campsites are full.

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent reported that their summer projects are under way. Furnace Road is complete. They will start Fisk Road, Mountain Spring, Curtis and King Lane. They have been busy hauling black top for other towns. They will be helping out the Town of Ticonderoga next week and they have been working with the County also. The Supervisor stated the shed at the old Village Hall has been torn down on advice from our insurance carrier. Mr. Wilson stated they will also help the County on Convent Hill. The Supervisor stated the State is waiting on us to decide what we want to do with the traffic circle. They would like to see something installed that can be driven over. Councilman Anderson asked if we were talking 12 inches or less and the Supervisor said yes. The Supervisor stated we need to clean up the mess that is there, it is an eye sore. Mr. Wilson stated they will clean it up, pave and put some type of delineators down. The Board was in agreement with this. Councilman Brassard asked Mr. Wilson if they could cut the brush back by the speed limit signs; some you can't even see. Mr. Wilson stated it depends on which roads they are on. Ed Roberts stated he would take care of it if you get him a list of the signs. The Supervisor also asked Mr. Wilson if they could straighten some sign posts that have been bent and twisted. Councilman Salerno asked about CHIPS money and Mr. Wilson stated it will be good this year; we will be getting back the 20% reduction and will also be getting the rollover back. The projects on the books for this year will be over \$300,000. Councilman Anderson asked if blacktop has gone up substantially and Mr. Wilson stated it has gone up twice already this year.

Councilman Salerno had nothing to report.

Councilman Brassard reported that both campsites were very busy over the 4th of July weekend. He would like to thank Essex Industries for the quick delivery of the picnic tables. He reported that we have a new honey wagon at Bulwagga Bay Campsite so each campsite has one now and we don't have to keep trucking one back and forth. We got 15 more fire rings. The cabins are doing great. They have been rented at least 30 days so far. Councilman Anderson asked how the cleaning of the cabins was going and Councilman Brassard stated there are no complaints so far. The Supervisor stated the Town will be opening a checking account for the stimulus money. It can be spent on Water & Sewer and internet but he is not sure if we will be able to use it on cabins. We will get half this year and half next year. Councilman Salerno asked Rich Lapier where we could put another cabin and Mr. Lapier stated anywhere if we put a tank in. The Supervisor stated the only problem with getting another is we have to eliminate a seasonal site. Councilman Brassard stated the lack of a toilet and shower has been a deal breaker with some people when they call to reserve a cabin. The Supervisor stated the campsites are the Town's biggest revenue besides property taxes.

Councilman Anderson reported that construction has begun at Moriah Central School; there was no way we could have had the summer program there this year. He stated that next year we will be back and will have new facilities. He stated that the community has been very understanding; we will be ready to go next year. Councilman Anderson stated there is an Amish shed on the upper field at the school for equipment, if you have any, please return it. The Supervisor reported that Ed Roberts and Jamie Wilson and crew have done a lot of work on Pepper Field and it looks great.

Councilman Gilbo had nothing to report. Councilman Brassard asked if we have had any contact with the woman who designed the campsite website. He wanted to know if it has had any traffic. Councilman Gilbo was not sure, he will follow up with her. Councilman Anderson if the stimulus money would be for broadband at the campsite only and the Supervisor stated he can't get anything out of Charter. Our representative has been contacting us now because they know stimulus money will be going out. The Public Service Commission is on to Charter; Charter is paying the fines because it is cheaper to pay them than to expand service. Councilman Salerno stated that it must be very hard for students who don't have access to internet and Councilman Anderson stated it is a challenge for sure.

Supervisor’s Report:

The Supervisor stated he had a conference call on the water and sewer project on 1st and 2nd Street in Port Henry regarding the change order. Councilman Brassard stated the project is moving fast. The Supervisor stated we are going to add 160 feet of 8” main; will use money out of the stimulus funds; cost would be \$27,500, he would like to do it. This is the last bad section. The Supervisor spoke to Art Morgan-Water & Sewer Department and Chip Perry-Wastewater Department about any bad hot spots they might have and we can use the stimulus money to fix them. Councilman Gilbo asked why this section was not put in the original bid, why do we have to add to the grant money to do it and the Supervisor stated it is outside of the target area described in the project.

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

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

RESOLVED to allow Manfred Construction to extend 8” Main on College Street in Port Henry; to be paid from stimulus money.

The Supervisor stated we were supposed to have a representative here tonight to discuss the \$8,995,000 Bond for the Sewer Main Replacement & Improvements project but they are not here so this will be put on hold.

The Supervisor stated there has been an increased presence by the State Police and the Sheriff’s Department. Officer Brassard has been doing an excellent job. The State Police are still considering a substation in Moriah, Crown Point did not work out. The Supervisor asked if the Board wanted to advertise for a police officer. He stated it is going to be hard to find a qualified one; one we don’t have to send to training. Councilman Salerno stated over the last 3 months there has been an increased presence of State Police and the Sheriff’s Department; this is great. Supervisor Scozzafava stated that with bail reform, criminals are walking the streets the next day. He stated the Courts are doing what they can but with State mandates their hands are tied. He saw in the Press Republican a couple were arrested for drugs, they were released and the very next day they murdered a woman in her home. Councilman Gilbo stated it wouldn’t hurt to advertise for a police officer and see what we get for applicants. Councilman Brassard asked if we would put a salary in the ad and is it for a full time or part time position.

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

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

RESOLVED to advertise for a part time/full time police officer.

The Supervisor stated there is a proposal for a Lake Champlain Power Line. Each community that borders the lake would receive payment in the pilot agreement.

The Hydro Project is still moving forward; they are working with the DEC; in negotiations with the Governor’s Office. Councilman Anderson asked if the Governor’s Office wanted this project and the Supervisor said yes. Councilman Salerno asked if the border was open yet and the Supervisor said no.

The Supervisor reported that the Wastewater Treatment Plant inspection passed with flying colors.

The Supervisor reported that the Town’s equalization rate is 94.5%. The Town has filed an appeal. They are basing the rate on sales from 2020 and because of COVID that is not fair. Real Property will be helping the Town do a reevaluation which is desperately needed; it hasn’t been done in 15-20 years.

There is a new employee at the Transfer Station and he is doing well. Andrea Anesi stated he was very helpful and it was a pleasant experience.

There will be a household hazardous waste day:

North Elba Highway Garage July 10, 2021 8am – 1pm

Essex County DPW, Elizabethtown	July 31, 2021	8am – 1pm
North Hudson Highway Garage	August 14, 2021	8am – 1pm
Ticonderoga Highway Garage	August 28, 2021	8am – 1pm

The Supervisor and Jamie Wilson walked all of Millbrook with a representative from the State; they feel dredging isn't the only issue; DEC feels it is the bridge also. The Supervisor stated that NYS DOT is aware of the bridge problem.

The Supervisor reported the Town will be installing several charging stations for electric vehicles; 2 on Main Street and 1 on Church Street. Councilman Brassard stated there will only be 2 stations; both on Main Street, each station has 2 plug ins. The Supervisor stated they are waiting on their permits. Councilman Salerno asked if they could be placed in the parking lot beside the Post Office and the Supervisor said no, not covered by grant. The Supervisor stated NYS DOT is looking at parallel parking on Main Street; would only lose 2 parking spots.

The Supervisor stated the Bulwagga Bay Campsite sign is up and it is big. He reminded everyone that the Town Board agreed on the dimensions. He stated it is huge but beautiful.

The Supervisor stated there is new cannabis legislation now that it is legal. Because we do not have a local law right now anybody can come in and set up a store in Town and sell it. Councilman Brassard stated that one company has already reached out; Curaleaf from Plattsburgh.

The Town has been awarded a sunscreen station for Champ RV Park. Public Health will supply the first year of sunscreen and then we will have to purchase it.

Resolutions:

140. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Brassard, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
Nays 0

RESOLVED authorization for Supervisor to pay off serial bond; Sewer District 1; Tarbell Hill Pump Station; Principle Balance-\$300,000 + \$6,574.17 = \$306,574.17.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated we have received \$225,000 so far from the state, \$70,000 left to come in.

141. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
Nays 0

RESOLVED to hire Joe McGinness Band for September 4th to play at bandstand from 5:30 to dusk; \$1,300.00 to be paid from bed tax revenue.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated this should bring a lot of people in. June 3rd we received \$20,000 in bed tax. Councilman Brassard will reach out to the Chamber to see if they can get in touch with some food vendors.

142. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
Nays 0

RESOLVED authorization to renew contract with Suitebriar for Town Government Email Accounts; \$2,967.99.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated that all Government Officials have to have an email account.

143. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo

Nays 0

RESOLVED approval of Mobile Home Permit for Luanne (should be Melinda) Smith, Mountain Spring Road, Mineville.

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

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

RESOLVED approval for Mobile Home Permit for Donna Fish, Furnace Road, Moriah.

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

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

RESOLVED approval of Change Order #1; Town Hall Project for footer on front stairs entry; \$2,450.00.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the project is moving right along; they found 3 sets of stairs underneath the existing set and no footer, that's why there were 3 sets.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for Supervisor to transfer \$1,140 from Pomeroy Foundation to General Fund for sign of Champ at Bulwagga Bay Campsite.

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

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

RESOLVED to approve Change Order #1 on 1st and 2nd Street Project to extend 8" water main on College Street from 1st Street to 2nd Street; \$16,292.00.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the other section has already been approved by CDBG.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization to advertise to fill Edward Roberts position; current title is General Mechanic.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated a competitive position is provisional until they pass the test and you can't change back to non-competitive if he/she fails the test. The Supervisor suggested staying with General Mechanic and Non-Competitive, the Board was in agreement with this. Wage will be based on experience. Councilman Brassard would like Ed to sit in on the interviews, the Board agreed. Jamie Wilson stated a current employee might be interested and they would transfer. The Supervisor stated that this position will be non-union, we do not have to hire a transferred employee. He also stated one of the workers at the campsite is doing really well, maybe he can be used on Building & Grounds.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for Supervisor to purchase and have installed a tank monitoring system for Bartlett Pond Water Plant Bulk Storage fuel tanks, as per DEC violation.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated that Chip received a couple of quotes and the one for \$20,000 is better but he is going to get a few more quotes.

150. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was
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|----------|------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo |
| | Nays | 0 |

RESOLVED to request a reduction of the speed limit in Grover Hills from NYS DOT.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated it is currently 30mph and he reminded everyone that Towns cannot set speed limits, a Village can. He stated that 30mph is too fast for Grover Hills.

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

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

RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Floor open to the public:

Councilman Brassard reminded everyone there are kayaks, paddle boards and canoes at Bulwagga Bay Beach to use.

The Supervisor stated the roof at the old Village Hall is leaking. We will need somebody with experience with slate to repair it. The Board was in agreement with this.

Ed Roberts reported the Combat Vet Ride is July 17th at Raymond Wright Park.

Rose French-Town Clerk wants to thank Ed Roberts and inmates, Jamie Wilson and crew and Rich Lapier and crew for all there help cleaning out the vault at the Village Hall.

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

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

RESOLVED a resolution of appreciation to Ed Roberts for 37 years of service to the Town of Moriah.

Jack Mudge-Mountain Lake Services would like to thank the Town for their support of the new consignment shop in Port Henry and for always supporting Mountain Lake Services. He offered to write a letter in support of the speed reduction in Grover Hills. The Supervisor stated the Town has always appreciated and supported Mountain Lake Services; they take care of their people. The Supervisor reminded everyone that Mountain Lake Services pays the Town in lieu of taxes. The Board appreciates Stewarts working with Mountain Lake Services on the consignment shop.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

June 23, 2021

General	\$1,750.99	2021/939-952
Highway	\$948.75	
Water #1	\$57.84	
Water #2	\$40.85	
Water #3	\$124.78	
Water #4	\$5.64	
Sewer #1	\$125.89	
Sewer #2	\$38.94	

July 8, 2021

General	\$64,503.92	2021/957-1065
Highway	\$114,273.76	
Water #1	\$3,135.04	
Water #2	\$2,192.75	
Water #3	\$925.66	
Water #4	\$164.76	
Sewer #1	\$3,173.73	
Sewer #2	\$1,174.05	

Capital Projects:

Water & Sewer Main Replacement Phase II	Cedarwood Engineering	\$2,171.40	#7
	Cedarwood Engineering	\$2,611.10	#8

Town Clerk