

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, March 14, 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
Luci Carpenter Councilwoman
Matt Brassard Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Sharon O'Connor, Ann Tesar, Jamie Wilson, Ronnie Cunningham, Cathy Sprague, Ed Roberts, Rich Lapier, Mark Davenport, Tim Rowland, Robert Stevenson and Rose French-Town Clerk.

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

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

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

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

Floor Open to the Public:

Ronnie Cunningham from the Chamber reported they will have an Easter Egg Hunt on April 13, 2019 at the Bandstand at the Town Hall at 1:00pm.

Department Head Reports:

Art Morgan and Chip Perry have been excused.

Ed Roberts reported there has been an influx of rabies with skunks and raccoons. Two in Moriah, one in Crown Point and one in Ticonderoga. They will be testing any animal. They will also be doing a bait drop. Please leave all wild animals alone. Three raccoons have been sent away for testing, no results back on them yet. The Supervisor asked what the symptoms were and Mr. Roberts stated maybe being out in the daytime but this time of year is hard to judge because they are coming out of hibernation. He suggests picking up bird seed and clean up any garbage. Don't come in contact with any wild animal.

Councilman Salerno asked if Mr. Roberts and the inmates have been working on Raymond Wright Avenue and he said yes. It is very hard; parts of the sidewalk are still frozen solid with snow. Councilman Salerno asked if they would be doing road side clean up on Dugway Road soon and Mr. Roberts said yes.

Rich Lapier reported that Building Codes issued one building permit for the month of February. Responded to one complaint and did 1 fire/safety inspection.

He also has a 2 lot subdivision for Gary Allen on Joyce Road that he would like the Board to approve.

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

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

RESOLVED to approve a two lot subdivision for Gary Allen on Joyce Road; tax map number 86.82-6-4.100.

Jamie Wilson reported that even though the weather is getting warmer, there is still a lot of snow. There is going to be some flooding and there are still some frozen culverts. Please take precautions when traveling. Pot holes are a daily battle.

The Highway Garage purchased a man cage for the loader to do the banners. It does not meet the specs for our machine. Highway men were not trained for it. The cage was returned. We will rent a bucket truck to do the banners. The Supervisor asked if the County had something that would match our machine and Mr. Wilson said no. The Company that we purchased the cage through is looking into finding us one.

Sweeping season is coming. The County might have to sweep their own roads this year. We will have to rent a broom. The broom we have is 35 years old.

Councilman Salerno asked when the banners would be going up. Ed Roberts stated they are hoping to have them up by Memorial Day and they will be taken down right after Labor Day. It is too hard to leave them up until Veterans Day. Cathy Sprague asked Mr. Roberts to make sure they get back the brackets that the Chamber bought. Mr. Roberts stated there are @140 new banners to go up this year. Councilman Salerno asked how long it would take to put up that many banners. Mr. Roberts stated it depends on the weather and the availability of the bucket truck. The Supervisor stated this is why we wanted our own equipment.

The Supervisor asked Mr. Wilson when he would be posting roads, and Mr. Wilson stated the legal notice will be in The Sun this weekend. The Town Clerk sent a notice to Casella and Ace. Ronnie Cunningham stated the garbage trucks speed on Dugway Road.

The Supervisor stated that we are still waiting on the new Highway Garage truck that was ordered in November 2018.

Councilwoman Carpenter read the Police Report: Handled 138 calls for service. 5 Violations-2 harassment 2nd degree, 2-disorderly conduct, 1-trespass. 4 Misdemeanors-2 aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle 3rd degree, 1-criminal contempt in the 2nd degree, 1-petit larceny. 0 Felonies. Issue 16 traffic tickets. Handled 9 traffic accidents. Conducted 12 pistol permit background investigations.

Town Board Report's:

Councilwoman Carpenter attended a presentation at the Chamber on medical marijuana; it was very informative for the community.

The Waterfront Committee met last week. Still need two new members. James Curran is interested. No update on the investor. The Supervisor stated he received an email from the investor asking if the Town had been successful on securing any grant money, and the Supervisor told him no, we haven't. If we had we wouldn't be looking for an investor. The Exclusivity Agreement ends on April 30, 2019, the Supervisor has a feeling they will ask for an extension.

Councilwoman Carpenter stated that the committee has had a chance to review to the campsite brochure. Sharon O'Connor has made some suggestions on the wording. The Town has no brochure. She asked who had the original pictures. They would like to find out where they are so they can proceed with the brochure. Councilman Brassard stated he took some years ago with his cell phone. The Town Clerk suggested the committee reach out to Barb Brassard, she might know who has the original pictures. The Committee will be visiting local campgrounds and having discussions with them. They would like to continue to work with the Board. Mark Davenport asked if there was a site layout. The Supervisor said yes, there is a site map for each campsite. Cathy Sprague suggested Adirondack Drone; Corey James; he could do some advertising. Councilwoman Carpenter asked who they would contact about health codes if the campgrounds did end up putting in a yurt or cabin. Rich Lapier said to call the NYS Department of Health. The Committee will meet again on April 2, 2019. The Supervisor expressed his concern over "marketing" when both campgrounds are full of seasonals. We should think about that. Sharon O'Connor stated that if the campsites went ahead with a couple of cabins it would be good to advertise for them. The Supervisor stated advertising for the beaches also. Councilwoman Carpenter stated it is marketing for the whole town.

65. ON MOTION by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Carpenter, Brassard

Nays 0
Absent 0

RESOLVED to appoint James Curran to the Waterfront Committee.

66. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED to hire Steve Pelkey as Director, Ronnie Cunningham-Assistant Director, and Cecelia Briggs-Activities Coordinator for the 2019 Summer Youth Program.

Councilman Anderson stated that the Moriah Foreign Language Club would like to hold a coin drop on March 23, 2019. The Supervisor stated that anybody interested in holding a coin drop should contact the Town Clerk, she has the calendar, she can tell if the dates are available or not. The Town Clerk told Mr. Anderson that they are all set for March 23, 2019.

Councilman Anderson stated he will get with the Town Clerk to advertise for the counselor positions for the 2019 Summer Youth Program.

Ronnie Cunningham asked Councilman Anderson if he had the dates yet and he said no, but it would be a five week program again.

Councilman Brassard reported that a 2nd mailing went out for the sewer project. We have received back about 22%, we need 50%. The medium income is \$44,000 which is a little high. We will start going door to door in April. The Supervisor stated that if you are not in the sewer district you will not receive an income survey. We got back a lot for the wrong address and the Town Clerk was able to find all but 2 of the correct addresses.

Councilman Brassard stated that Nan Stolzenberg did a great job with the Local Laws. There will be a Public Hearing on them Thursday, March 21, 2019 starting at 5:30pm at the Court House. The Supervisor stated that the laws are available for review at the Town Clerk's Office. The Supervisor stated that Nan saved us a lot of money by doing them.

Councilman Salerno stated that roughly 180 letters/Rules & Regulations/Fee's went out to campers from both Bulwagga Bay and Champ RV Park. We have had a large response so far. Opening date of the campsites is May 16, 2019. He would like the workers to start either Monday April 13th or Monday April 20th. The Supervisor stated that the 13th would be fine. He also stated that we need to start working on the bathrooms this year. Councilman Salerno stated that he is expecting high water this Spring.

Councilman Anderson stated he will not be at the April Town Board Meeting.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor stated that the Notice to Bidders for the Vacuum System went out. Bid opening will be April 5, 2019 at 2:00pm at the Town Hall. We will be using leftover money from the Manhole 13 Project to pay for this.

Ed Roberts, Rich Lapier and the Supervisor met with Canadian Pacific Railway regarding the condition of the Train Station. This meeting was made possible by Mr. Dupont getting in contact with one of the investors that he knows. They will talk to a contractor regarding the roof and also window replacement. The Supervisor stated that the Town Board has done what they could regarding this building, but the Town does not own it. Amtrak will be putting money into it also, making it handicap accessible and redoing the bathroom.

There will be a Rabies Clinic Monday March 25th at 6:00 at the Moriah Fire Department. Ronnie Cunningham stated you have to preregister but the Town Clerk said you don't have to. The clinic is for cats, dogs and ferrets.

The Supervisor reminded everyone that beginning this year, all districts will vote at the Moriah Fire House.

The Supervisor sent a letter to Transfer Station Operator Cheyenne Morin regarding the revenues at the Transfer Station. He stated it is critical that NO ONE receive a discount of any kind. The Transfer Station takes C & D only two days a week now. Jamie Wilson stated that people are starting to get used to the schedule. Councilman Anderson asked what two days they are open and Mr. Wilson said Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Supervisor stated the Town has four different water districts with approximately 1,550 users. In Water Districts #1, #2 and #4 your water debt is based on your assessment. In Water #3 it is a benefit district and is on your water bill, \$103.00 yearly. The Supervisor thinks we might have to look at this in the near future so everyone is getting charged the same way. He stated we can go through the numbers at a different meeting.

The Supervisor met with the Assessor's and Charli Lewis from Real Property. The Town's equalization rate is 90%. It has been 15-20 years since there was a re-evaluation done. It is up to the Assessor's do it. Councilman Salerno asked if it was mandated from Albany. The Supervisor stated that as long as we don't do it, the Town will not receive any aid from Albany. After the Supervisor met with the Assessor's, they said they are willing to do it; with help from the County. It could take two years to complete it. Councilwoman Carpenter asked if the Town was going to go to a sole assessor. The Supervisor stated that two seats are up this year, both are running. He said it is up to the Board if they want to pursue it. The Supervisor also stated that the Assessor's will be moving up to the old Village Hall.

The Supervisor spoke to Jim Besha regarding the Hydro Project. The Highway Garage is in need of a new roof; the Town can't keep waiting to fix it. Jim Besha said to wait. Things are progressing. Councilman Anderson asked if there was a calendar for the project and the Supervisor said no. Investors are all there. The power was supposed to be going to Canada, now New York State and Vermont want in on it. Ronnie Cunningham asked when the Transfer Station would be moving. The Supervisor stated that Solvay owns land behind the VFW, that might be the site for the Transfer Station. He feels Dugway Road would be a perfect spot for the Highway Garage; it should be centrally located. The entrance could be off Switchback Road.

Resolutions:

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for the Supervisor to renew contract with Adirondack Landfill Services LLC for 2019 for \$1,797.00.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated that this is mandatory testing.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for Supervisor to terminate the Trust Agreement with Reliance Trust, as it pertains to Town of Moriah Deferred Compensation Plan.

Discussion: The Town does not have enough members to stay on current plan, and in order to get on a new plan we have to terminate the old one.

- 69. ON MOTION** by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Brassard, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED to award contract to Breed Hill Wood Products for work at the Iron Center Museum per proposal dated 12/21/18 in the amount of \$7,700.00.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated that the Town will have to provide the lift. Ann Tesar asked what was left to do. The Supervisor stated repair cupelo, prime and paint; repair rot on upper story doors, prime and paint; repair drip edge and crown molding, prime and paint.

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

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

RESOLVED a resolution making a SEQR determination for the Port Henry Sewer/Water Main Replacement Project on 1st/Oak/Ridge Lane in Port Henry.

Resolution

Port Henry Sewer & Water Main Replacement Project
New York State Environmental Quality Review Act Determination
Unlisted Action, Negative Declaration

A Resolution Making Certain Determinations in Relation to the Town of Moriah Port Henry Sewer & Water Main Replacement Project for the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act Pursuant to 6NCRR Sections 617.6 (a)(3), (b)(4) and 617.7 (b)(4);

Whereas, the Town of Moriah owns and operates a municipal water and sewer system in the hamlet of Port Henry in the Town of Moriah; and,

Whereas, the Town of Moriah proposes the replacement and rehabilitation of sewer and water main infrastructure on 1st Street, Oak Lane and Ridge Lane, including the replacement of approximately 715 LF of water main, 770 LF of sewer main, water service improvements, sewer laterals, sanitary sewer main liner installation, manhole repair and installation and pavement restoration.

Whereas, the Town of Moriah has received a NYS Office of Community Renewal Community Development Block Grant to replace and rehabilitate the sewer and water main infrastructure that serves the Port Henry neighborhood of 1st Street, Oak Lane and Ridge Lane.

Whereas, the Town of Moriah will retain Engineering Services through RFP process of an engineering firm duly licensed in the State of New York to develop final design and construction documents; and,

Whereas, the Town is required to comply with the New York State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Act – 6NYCRR Part 617; and,

Whereas, the proposed project has approval from the New York State Historic Preservation Office, Tribal Historic Preservation Office of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, New York State Adirondack Park Agency, New York State Department of Conservation Natural Heritage Program, and United States Fish & Wildlife Service; and,

Whereas, the proposed project improves existing infrastructure in a residential area where no critical habitats exist and it has been determined that proposed project activities shall have no impact on ecologically or historically sensitive areas.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Town of Moriah has determined the Port Henry Sewer and Water Main Replacement Project to be an Unlisted Action under SEQR pursuant to Sections 617.6 (a)(3), (b)(4) and 617.7 (b)(4); and,

Be It Further Resolved, that this Determination of Significance shall be considered a Negative Declaration made pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law; and,

Be It Further Resolved, that that Town Board hereby declares itself to be the lead agency for this action and that a short EAF is sufficient to determine the significance of the action; and,

Be It Further Resolved, that the Town Board of Moriah has herein determined that the proposed action to improve sewer and water main infrastructure in the designated project area is otherwise precluded from additional environmental review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) Environmental Conservation Law Article 8.

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

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

RESOLVED to approve payment of warrant.

72. ON MOTION by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED authorization for LeeAnn Sprague, Account Clerk to attend Basic Accounting School in Malta (Saratoga County) May 21, 2019 – May 23, 2019 at a total cost of \$331.00.

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

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

RESOLVED to approve revised lease agreement with Port Henry Fire District #3 for 2019.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated they had requested a new one due to the fact that the Town does now own the equipment and that they agree to pay for fuel, electric and water and sewer.

Floor open to the public:

Sharon O'Connor asked if we had made a decision regarding the steps at the Town Hall. The Supervisor stated that when Gary Olcott does the sidewalks in Port Henry he is going to look at the them. The Town needs to get the HUD application together. The Supervisor asked Councilwoman Carpenter to get in contact with Fred Keil, Architect to do an assessment on the Town Hall. The Board was in agreement with this. Councilman Brassard asked if there was time frame when the sidewalks in Port Henry will be done. The Supervisor stated that they hope to start the end of April. The Supervisor does not think we will be able to do the lights; it will cost too much. Cathy Sprague was concerned that we are not doing the lights. The Supervisor reminded everyone that if we do the lights, that would mean that the poles would be gone and there would be no place to hang the Christmas lights. Cathy Sprague asked about a bike rack. The Supervisor told her to contact Chrissy at Health Places. Councilman Brassard stated there is a bike rack at the old Village Shop.

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

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

RESOLVED to amend the Town of Moriah Policy Manual and the Union Contract to say "after three (3) days off using sick time" the employee must provide a doctor slip.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the current policy states "may require a doctor slip".

Ed Roberts stated that effective March 16, 2019 there is a burn ban in effect until May 14, 2019.

75. ON MOTION by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Brassard, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED to go into Executive Session at 6:58pm to discuss a personnel matter.

No action was taken during Executive Session.

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

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

RESOLVED to come back out of Executive Session at 7:23pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

February 22, 2019

General	\$4,430.40	2019/270-274
Water #1	\$255.20	
Water #2	\$255.20	
Sewer #1	\$331.76	
Sewer #2	\$178.64	

February 25, 2019

General	\$1,853.08	2019/275-289
Highway	\$790.76	
Water #1	\$92.30	
Water #2	\$64.02	
Water #3	\$150.93	
Water #4	\$9.44	
Sewer #1	\$134.49	
Sewer #2	\$101.30	

March 14, 2019

General	\$36,733.37	2019/294-425
Highway	\$71,722.00	
Water #1	\$4,283.91	
Water #2	\$3,485.89	
Water #3	\$2,747.08	
Water #4	\$259.43	
Sewer #1	\$13,446.72	
Sewer #2	\$6,151.49	

Capital Projects:

Tarbell Hill Pump Station	Environmental Design & Research	\$4,060.00	#1
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Town Clerk