

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, March 10, 2022 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, Rich Lapier, Jamie Wilson, Sharon O'Connor, James Sprague, Tom Cowin, and Rose French-Town Clerk

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

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

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

The Supervisor read a brief statement regarding the closure of Moriah Shock (see attached).

He stated that one good thing did come out of this; Anthony Annucci will not be reappointed as Commissioner of NYS Department of Corrections. He also stated that the Governor will be making an announcement on the budget sometime in April. Moriah is the only closure that is considered a "soft closure" meaning there will still be a few maintenance and security staff there. The Supervisor stated that he has been on this every day. The Times Union wants to come up and do a story which he feels is good news because the people in Albany read the Times Union. The Supervisor stated he feels horrible for the people who work there. He stated that people's lives were turned around after doing time at Shock. He stated he just doesn't understand it. He asked the public if they had any questions and they did not. The Supervisor stated that Rich Lapier worked there for 15 years; Jamie Wilson worked there, Councilman Gilbo's Dad works there.

Floor Open to the Public:

N/A

Department Head/Town Board Reports:

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent stated it is pot hole season! He has 1 – 2 crews out every day working on them. They had a lot of breakdowns in February; had a young man working there doing community service and he is a mechanic and he saved the Town a lot of money by doing the repairs in house; the Highway Garage was lucky to have him. Mr. Wilson stated it is a whole new world now since budget season, parts are taking a lot longer to come in; freight charges are more; everything trickles down. The Supervisor stated that the tandem we ordered a year and a half ago is finally in; up in Plattsburgh. The Supervisor stated that the pot hole by the golf course was bad. He reminded everyone that the main roads in Moriah are County roads. The Town gets called out to maintain them. The Town has 52 miles of road and 38 of that is County. The Supervisor stated the County is working on it, we are all doing the best we can. The Supervisor stated that he and Mr. Wilson and Councilman Gilbo need to meet regarding sidewalks/stimulus money. Councilman Gilbo stated he would like to work on a grant match for the \$500,000; the Supervisor asked if there were any restrictions and Councilman Gilbo stated he didn't think so. The Supervisor stated we did budget for a grant writer also. Mr. Wilson stated that Essex County Soil & Water is also working on the culvert problem on Fisk Road. The Supervisor stated we may have to rent a machine. Councilman Gilbo asked Mr. Wilson if we have any grant information on that project and Mr. Wilson stated it has been over a year; he will check with Essex County Soil & Water. Councilman Gilbo stated it all depends on the grants out there; 10%, 25% or 50% match. Councilman Salerno stated this makes sense to try and get a grant match; even if it is only 25%.

Rich Lapier-Building Codes reported he issued one permit for February and he completed 24 hours of training for the year.

Tom Cowin-Building & Grounds reported this will be his first spring here; sounds like he will be busy. The Supervisor stated he met with Tom and went over some projects. Roadside clean-up will be an issue this year because we don't have the inmates anymore. The Supervisor stated we will need to really push adopt a highway this year. Jamie Wilson stated that roadside garbage is an issue; found some names in garbage they picked up and also found a dumping area in the woods. The Supervisor stated that Mr. Wilson did his part, found names, reported it to the police and if they do their job it will be up to the Court. Councilman Gilbo asked what the fine is and the Supervisor stated \$500.

Councilman Gilbo stated he and Rich Lapier did some interviews for Campsite Laborer.

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

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

RESOLVED to hire Neal Larkin as full time campsite laborer for 2022 season; 40 hours per week, hire Robert Clark as full time campsite laborer for 2022 season; 40 hours per week and hire Kenneth Bobbie as part time campsite laborer for 2022 season; 20 hours per week.

Discussion: Councilman Gilbo stated he knows that upkeep of the bathrooms/hygiene was an issue last year. The Supervisor thanked Councilman Gilbo and Rich Lapier for doing all the interviews.

Councilman Gilbo stated he supports having a NYS Police sub-station in the Town of Moriah; he just wants to make sure that we are going to get something out of it; like extra coverage; he would like to look at the lease agreement. The Supervisor stated the only reason we are entertaining the idea of a sub-station is for more coverage. The Supervisor stated they would report here for work; the hours they are here we need to find out. Councilman Salerno asked if they would be for here and Crown Point and the Supervisor stated he assumed they would cover Moriah and Crown Point, he is not positive, they NYS Police will have to answer that. Councilman Brassard stated that question will be asked at the meeting next Wednesday.

Councilman Anderson stated the ski program is winding down; was very successful; was a learning curve; will do a few things differently next year. Councilman Anderson reported we will move forward with the summer program once we get the ok from BOCES. Councilman Gilbo asked if the construction will still be going on next year at MCS. Councilman Anderson stated no, as long as everything comes in it should be finished this year.

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

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

RESOLVED to hire Steve Pelkey as Director of the 2022 Summer Youth Program.

Discussion: Councilman Anderson stated that at next month's meeting will have recommendations for the other 3 administrators. Will hire students in May.

Councilman Brassard met with Bill Cook-Bulwagga Bay Manager and the Supervisor about campsite rules. Bill Cook has had several campers ask him if they can rent an adjacent site to make their site bigger. The Supervisor said no, he feels as long as we have a waiting list, those people should be offered a site first. He also stated that if a local person wants a site and see's one open they will question why it isn't rented. Councilman Gilbo asked how long it has to remain vacant; he feels the more rules we have the more loop holes there will be. The Supervisor reported that Bill Cook said we are talking about 5 sites; it would be to expand an existing site. Councilman Gilbo asked if there was a waiting list and the Supervisor stated we have 41 people

on a waiting list. The board was in agreement that the site should be offered to the next person on the waiting list.

Councilman Brassard reported that we have a camper that has mobility issues; can they use a golf cart. The Supervisor and the Board were in agreement with this as long as they can prove the disability. He also stated that Bill Cook will have to keep a handle on it.

Councilman Brassard also reported that we have 25 transient sites and 41 people on the waiting list. Should we give up some transient sites and make them seasonal. The Supervisor doesn't feel we should give up transient sites in case local people want to camp. Councilman Salerno stated that transient sites are packed over holiday weekends. The Supervisor asked if the Board wanted to reduce the number of transient sites and Councilman Gilbo and Councilman Anderson both stated we need more information on the transient sites; how much we made last year on them etc. Councilman Salerno stated we will have more information at next month's meeting.

Councilman Brassard stated he met with Rich Lapier and Councilman Gilbo regarding Chet Woods; he has expressed interest in cleaning the bathrooms at Bulwagga Bay Campsite and Champ RV Park for additional money; \$3,200 for 20 weeks. The Supervisor stated he is there around the clock. The Board was in agreement with this.

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

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

RESOLVED Assistant Manager will be responsible for cleaning and maintaining the bathrooms and showers at both Bulwagga Bay Campsite and Champ RV Park. There will be an additional **THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$3,250.00)** added to the normal compensation for normal assistant duties for the 2022 season.

Councilman Salerno had nothing to report.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor stated that he and Mr. Wilson met with the County regarding redoing Broad Street. They are reluctant due to the infrastructure in place. The Supervisor reported that Chip Perry stated the water line is fine, it is the sewer and storm main that are an issue. The Supervisor spoke to the County Planning Office regarding CARES Act funding; Port Henry meets the income eligibility requirements; need to get the grant application in by June; need to approve an engineer; maybe the county engineer can do it. The Supervisor stated he is exploring all opportunities.

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

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

RESOLVED to spend up to \$4,000 on engineering services for the replacement of sewer/storm system on Broad Street for CARES Act funding application due in June 2022.

Discussion: Councilman Gilbo asked if it was in the budget for a grant writer and the Supervisor said yes.

The Supervisor stated he spoke to Bruno Mazzotte regarding the sale of the two 9 millimeter glocks the town owns; Mr. Mazzotte doesn't want to do it and we can't just put an ad in the paper to sell them. The Supervisor has a call in to NYS Police Firearms to see what we need to do.

The Supervisor stated we put an ad in The Sun and the Plattsburgh Press regarding bids for a new Senior Citizen Van, bid opening will be at April meeting if we get any.

The Supervisor stated we are trying to get a stand by generator for the Town Hall; we can't find anybody that has one in stock, will have to just order and wait for it to come in.

The Supervisor stated we still haven't heard on the speed reduction in Grover Hills.

The Supervisor reported that we will receive \$30,000 this year in bed tax money.

The Supervisor stated we are running about the same as far as tonnage goes for trash as we were in 2021.

The Supervisor spoke to the police regarding the charging stations; can't get to them because cars are parked there. Councilman Gilbo stated we need to keep at least one open to see if they are going to get used. Councilman Anderson asked what the fee was and Councilman Gilbo thought it was less than \$10.00 for 300 miles.

Resolutions:

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

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

RESOLVED to transfer James Sprague from the Highway Department to the Transfer Station at a rate of \$22.17 per hour; 40 hours per week.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated Jim Cirrincione will be retiring and we have another employee who is out due to an injury. Councilman Anderson asked if this employee will come back and the Supervisor stated he didn't know. Jamie Wilson stated he met with Jim Cirrincione and Steve Hart; we may need Steve for more hours; the Board was ok with that. The Supervisor stated congratulations to Jim Cirrincione.

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

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

RESOLVED a resolution of appreciation to Jim Cirrincione on is retirement and years of service.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization to hire AES Engineers to update the "Town of Moriah Collection Evaluation" as required by EFC to keep our eligibility active for EFC funding.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization to use BOCES for the 2022 Summer Program.

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

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

RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

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

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED approval of payment of End of Month and Monthly warrants.

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

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

RESOLVED a resolution of condolence to the family of Joe Brennan.

Floor open to the public:

The Town Clerk asked the Supervisor to remind everyone that we are now charging interest on any late water and sewer payments, we haven't charged interest for 2 years due to COVID.

Sharon O'Connor asked if there was going to be a public meeting to discuss how the stimulus money is spent. The Supervisor stated we can't use it to reduce debt or for lowering taxes. Ms. O'Connor asked if the public would have input on spending the money on sidewalks. The Supervisor stated this money should be used for a capital improvement project; he said the Board won't make any decisions until there is a public meeting. He also stated we could use it for the NYS Police sub-station but he would rather get a bond for it. Councilman Gilbo stated any ideas from the community would be greatly appreciated.

The Supervisor asked Councilman Salerno where we were with the beach house at Port Henry Beach. Councilman Salerno stated he and Rich Lapier will look at it.

The Supervisor reminded everyone there is a special meeting on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 6:00pm at the Knights of Columbus in Port Henry on the NYS Police sub-station.

Councilman Brassard reminded everyone to turn their clocks ahead this weekend.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

February 25, 2022

General \$11,248.52
Highway \$3,225.66
Water #1 \$1,771.62
Water #2 \$1,287.44
Water #3 \$84.34
Water #4 \$161.38
Sewer #1 \$167.90
Sewer #2 \$106.34

2022/224-262

March 10, 2022

General \$35,220.93
Highway \$40,838.04
Water #1 \$7,114.17
Water #2 \$2,798.61
Water #3 \$3,166.23

2022-265-373

Water #4	\$247.14
Sewer #1	\$6,394.14
Sewer #2	\$4,252.97

Capital Projects

Tarbell Hill Pump Station	Koester Associates	#1	\$20,439.00 (2021 Bill)
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Town Clerk