

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, March 19, 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
	Nate Gilbo	Councilman
	James Curran	Councilman
	Jamie Wilson	Highway Superintendent
	Tom Cowin	Building & Grounds Superintendent
	Rose French	Town Clerk

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Mark Lashway, Michael Crane, Patty Gallagher, Cecelia Wojciukiewicz

The Supervisor opened the meeting at 6:00pm by saluting the flag. He thanked everyone for coming.

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

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

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

**Bid Opening:**

Police Department Renovations: One bid was received from AJ Catalfamo Construction in the amount of \$118,850.00. Alternate add on's: Bathroom \$5,000.00, Sidewalk/ramp \$6,500.00, mini split \$11,000.00.

Councilman Gilbo asked how much the grant was for and the Supervisor stated \$122,000 and we have @\$90,000 left. Councilman Salerno stated if we don't use the money we will lose it. He also stated with Art Brassard retiring hopefully the renovations will entice the NYS Police and Sheriff's Department to utilize it. The Supervisor stated the Police and Sheriff's Department will be here more regardless. Councilman Salerno stated he was in favor of Catalfamo's bid. The Supervisor stated it would be an additional \$24,000.00. Councilman Gilbo asked if we could purchase the material and the Supervisor stated that is not in the bid. Jamie Wilson stated that would have had to be in the bid. Councilman Salerno asked if there was a start and end date and the Supervisor stated they will probably wait for Art Brassard to retire so there is more room to work.

78. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

**RESOLVED** to award AJ Catalfamo Construction the police station renovation bid in the amount of \$118,850.00.

**Floor Open to the Public:**

Patty Gallagher congratulated the Board on acquiring all of the grants. She asked what the process was on the decision making on how to use the grant money. The Supervisor stated he, Councilman Curran and the State had a meeting and went over the parameters for the NY Forward grant; submit 6-10 names for the committee; State gets applications and approves or disapproves of committee members; 8-9 months of meetings then projects can get submitted to the committee. Ms. Gallagher asked where the money is targeted for and the Supervisor stated it is for Main Street, from the Town Hall to the Liquor Store, up Broad Street, down College Street and across Church Street back to Main Street in Port Henry. Surveys will be sent out and Public

Hearings held. Councilman Curran stated the business owner has a 25% match. The Supervisor stated there is \$300,000 in it for the Town. The Supervisor stated New York State will pick the projects to be funded. Ms. Gallagher asked if there was money in it for housing and the Supervisor said yes. He also stated that he hopes the projects will be underway within 18 months. Ms. Gallagher asked about an application for the committee and the Supervisor stated they need a list of names by next Friday. Councilman Salerno stated interested persons should submit a short resume. Cecelia Wojciukiewicz asked about the 25% match, is it for the businesses and the Supervisor said yes, non-profits and municipal projects are exempt.

**Department Head/Town Board Reports:**

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent stated they are still cleaning up from the wind storm; had a lot of power lines, phone and cable lines down. It is cleaning up pretty quick. They are just trying to get through the long winter; they have a few issues with equipment. Councilman Salerno asked if this was one of the busiest winters and Mr. Wilson said yes and salt has been hard to get. Councilman Salerno asked who decides when it is time for the plow trucks to go out and Mr. Wilson said he makes the call, he gets calls from dispatch regarding accidents; he stated he tries to hold off as long as he can. Councilman Salerno stated the Town of Moriah has 80-90 miles of roads, he then asked who is responsible for sidewalks, he gets asked all the time. The Supervisor stated we do not have a sidewalk law. The Supervisor asked Mr. Wilson how long a tandem route is while plowing and Mr. Wilson stated it takes 2 hours for one route and they do 2 routes in 4 hours. Mr. Wilson stated he is still dealing with FEMA projects; homeowners, easements, lawyers, permitting process, etc. Mr. Wilson stated FEMA is frozen right now but there are projects that need to get done. Councilman Salerno stated it is a gamble right now with FEMA. Councilman Gilbo stated we can't do anything right now with FEMA shut down. Mr. Wilson stated Joyce Road will still go because bids have gone out. Councilman Salerno asked what the percentage of FEMA money have we received so far and the Supervisor stated we have been paid in full except for engineering on certain projects, Councilman Gilbo asked if the engineering was done and the Supervisor stated yes. Councilman Gilbo suggested going out to bid but that doesn't mean we have to spend anything.

Tom Cowin-Building & Grounds Superintendent stated they have been painting Rich Lapiers new office at the Town Hall. They are working on a bulletin board at Roe Pond for the fishing tournament. They will start putting up banners the middle of April; will need to rent a bucket truck. Mr. Cowin stated to take the banners down it cost \$3,700 and to put them up it takes 2 weeks and it is \$5,764. Councilman Salerno stated we need a bucket truck. Mr. Cowin stated he has been doing some pricing on a new bucket truck; they are between \$10,000-\$25,000. Councilman Gilbo asked who we rent from and Mr. Cowin stated Hertz. Jamie Wilson stated a bucket truck would get used for everything else, especially right now with all the trees down. The Supervisor asked Mr. Cowin to ask local people and see how much they would charge for their bucket trucks. Councilman Salerno asked if we could use occupancy tax money for one and the Supervisor stated occupancy tax money has to be used for tourism.

Councilman Gilbo reported he has been working on the playground grant with the grant writer and will have more information at the April meeting.

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

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

**RESOLVED** to hire Jessica McKiernan as Director and Cecelia Briggs as Activities Coordinator of the 2026 Sumer Youth Program.

Councilman Curran reported he has been working on the NY Forward grant with the Supervisor. The Chamber had their St. Patrick's Day fundraiser at the Old Miner's Tavern and it went well. He continues to work on grants.

Councilman Salerno reported the campsites will be opening soon. Bill Cook will be coming back as Manager of Champ RV Park. Mr. Cook will decide who he wants as Assistants and let us know. He has been trying to get a hold of Sherri Goodroe about cleaning the bathrooms on weekends. Chet & Sandy Woods have someone in mind if she is not interested; person would

want a free site in return. Councilman Salerno wants to talk to Sherri first. Campsite laborers will be coming back the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April, weather permitting. Opening day is May 2, 2026 and will be open until Columbus Day weekend. He wants to have the 2 cabins at Champ RV Park ready to go for Memorial Day weekend. Councilman Curran wants to get them on Vrbo. The Supervisor stated we can't pay tax so we will have to see how to do it. Councilman Salerno asked about the event space at Champ RV Park and the Supervisor stated it is shovel ready, waiting to hear if we get the grant. The Supervisor stated we have no lifeguards returning, if we don't get enough staff only one beach will be open. Patty Gallagher asked if we could use grant money to raise the pay and the Supervisor said no.

Councilman Salerno stated we have had a lot of water breaks.

**Supervisor's Report:**

The Supervisor stated he has been dealing with all the grants; NY Forward grant; \$4.5 million, \$75,000 smart growth grant, he would like to target youth for this one and the Northern Border Grant for economic development.

The Supervisor reported the Essex County IDA is working on a Brownfield Opportunity Area grant with the Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board; would provide funding for cleanup and reuse plans for vacant and abandoned sites.

80. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

**RESOLVED** to hire Lifeguards for the 2026 Season.

Councilman Gilbo asked how the water and sewer consolidation was going and the Supervisor stated the map, plan and report is complete; we have a meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> to finalize; should be able to adopt the map, plan and report at the April meeting; then hold a public hearing and send it to Albany for approval; rates and debt would be the same for everyone. Councilman Salerno asked if it would be one fund balance and the Supervisor said yes.

The Supervisor reported that the Town Hall has a lot of box elder bugs and Japanese beetles, they are starting to make a mess. The Town Clerk got a quote from Orkin; if we stay on our current plan of every other month and have them spray the perimeter once it would cost \$1,602.00. If they come every month and spray the perimeter once it would cost \$2,125.00. Councilman Gilbo suggested calling Ehrlich to see if they would be any cheaper. The Town Clerk will look in to this.

The Town of Moriah will be flushing fire hydrants for following areas the beginning around 8:00am on the following dates:

Monday	3/23/2026	Witherbee Area
Tuesday	3/24/2026	Mineville to Grover Hills
Wednesday	3/25/2026	Grover Hills to Moriah Center
Thursday	3/26/2026	Moriah Center to Moriah Corner's
Friday	3/27/2026	Moriah Corner's to top of Broad Street (includes Water District #4)
Monday	3/30/2026	Port Henry Area (Stone Street/Williams Street to Spring Street and Broad Street down to Tunnel Ave.)
Tuesday	3/31/2026	Port Henry Area (College Street to Elizabeth Street and Route 9N)
Wednesday	4/1/2026	Port Henry Area (Waldo Place to Whitney Street)

It is recommended that you shut off your boiler or hot water heater and shut off your main valve coming into your home to prevent the possibility of siphoning water from your boiler or hot water heater. If you do not have a main valve, or are not sure of its location you can contact the Water Department at 942-3340. If your water is cloudy once the water is restored, run your outside hose until it clears.

The Supervisor stated the Agricultural Society has fair tickets available; \$13; presale.

The Supervisor reported all Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant employees have to take a required Wastewater Cybersecurity Training. This is an unfunded course and has to be completed by March of 2027.

The Town Clerk asked the Supervisor what we were going to do about internet at Bulwagga Bay Campsite; Danny Brisson is not doing it anymore. The Supervisor stated he would have LeeAnn call him and see who he sold to and see if they are interested in providing it.

The Town Clerk also asked if there was a decision on a campsite laborer. Councilman Salerno stated we had only 2 applicants; Ron Nesbitt Sr. and Art Brassard. They are retired so they can only work so much a month. Sawyer VanBuren will not be returning this year. Councilman Gilbo asked if it was only one position and the Supervisor said yes. The Supervisor stated with these 2 people we will not have to pay unemployment.

81. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

**RESOLVED** to hire Ron Nesbitt Sr as campsite laborer for the 2026 season; \$19.58 per/hr for 2 days a week and Art Brassard as campsite laborer for the 2026 season; \$19.58 per/hr for 3 days a week; Town controls schedule; may include some weekends.

**Resolutions:**

82. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

**RESOLVED** a resolution to reimburse Louis Paris 86 Wasson Street \$587.50 for a sewer issue that ended up being the Town's issue.

Discussion: Mr. Paris called Rotor Rooter, roots in the line.

83. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

**RESOLVED** a resolution to contract with William Cook for Manager at Champ RV Park for the 2026 season in the amount of \$20,495.00.

84. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Curran, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was

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

**RESOLVED** a resolution to apply for NY Plays Grant to build a playground at the College Street Park and also at Witherbee Miner's Park.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the grant writer is going after this grant.

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

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

**RESOLVED** a resolution awarding Suozzo, Doty & Associates for Engineering Consultant Services for Water Plant Rejection Reservoir; paid with the 2026 Clean Water Planning and Implementation project grant through the Lake Champlain Basin Program in the amount of \$80,000.00 with a required local match of \$6,000.00.

Discussion: Will run sewer line along Stone Street to plant so the reject water can run down to the Wastewater plant.

86. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

**RESOLVED** to reimburse Judy Cutting for water & sewer usage paid on account WSD00214 in the amount of \$626.00; house has been empty; she has been living with her daughter.

Discussion: The Supervisor asked the Town Clerk if she would still be paying debt and the Town Clerk said yes.

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

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

**RESOLVED** to purchase a computer for the Town Clerk's Office for Clerk Julie Ida in the amount of \$964.64.

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

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

**RESOLVED** A Resolution Amending the Date of Adoption for the Essex County Multi Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2025, the Town of Moriah Town Board adopted the Essex County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Update, in anticipation of receiving final federal approval; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) later completed their review and issued an Approval Pending Adoption (APA) letter for the Essex County HMP on [Insert APA Date]; and

WHEREAS, FEMA requires that jurisdictions adopt the HMP after the APA letter has been issued to remain eligible for Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant funding; And

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Town of Moriah to formally amend the adoption date to reflect compliance with FEMA adoption requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Moriah Town Board hereby:

1. Rescinds the prior resolution adopted on November 20, 2025 for the Essex County HMP Update for procedural correction.

2. Formally adopts the Essex County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update as of March 19, 2026, following FEMA's APA designation dated October 10, 2025.
3. Affirms its continued commitment to implement the hazard mitigation actions and strategies outlined in the Plan, subject to funding availability and jurisdictional priorities.
4. Recognizes that this amendment ensures full compliance with FEMA requirements under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated we did this 8-9 months ago and FEMA hadn't approved it yet.

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

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

**RESOLVED** approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

90. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

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

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

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

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

The Supervisor stated he has a Pilot Consent Resolution consenting to an amended and restated pilot agreement and approving a host community agreement for the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project. He explained the only benefit of going from a pilot agreement to a host community agreement would be the payment amount would not go against the tax cap. This Resolution was **TABLED** until we can get more information from the Essex County IDA.

The Supervisor reported there were 2 businesses that took advantage of the micro enterprise grant program through the Essex County IDA. He stated the Town set aside \$20,000 out of occupancy tax money for this program. Because there were only 2 businesses to take advantage of the program he would like to increase the \$3,000 for each to \$5,000. Councilman Gilbo would like to keep this program open for next year. The Supervisor stated yes, we can do another one next year.

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

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

**RESOLVED** to increase contribution from the Town of Moriah to each business from \$3,000 to \$5,000 for the micro enterprise grant program.

Cecelia Wojciukiewicz asked what the percentage was the Town had to put forth for these grants and the Supervisor stated the Town doesn't pay any percentage.

The Supervisor went over all the grants: NY Forward Grant; \$4.5 million; no match for none profits and Town; 25% match for businesses. Northern Border Grant for Economic Development Plan; \$70,000; 25% match to help offset 25% of other grants. DEC Smart Growth Grant; \$75,000; no match for the update of the comprehensive plan. Pro Housing Grant; \$150,000; old site of Port Henry High School; no match needed. Essex County IDA Brown Field Study; no cost

to the Town. The Port Henry water plant reject reservoir grant; \$80,000 with \$6,000 match from the Town.

Councilman Salerno stated Michael Crane is here tonight; a few years ago, he thought the Town would be able to put a hotel at Bulwagga Bay Campsite. Councilman Salerno asked Mr. Crane if he thought that was still possible and Mr. Crane stated the chances get better and better. The Supervisor stated Mr. Crane will apply to be the consultant for the NY Forward \$4.5 million grant.

**Floor Open to the Public:**

N/A

The meeting adjourned at 7:19pm.

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Town Clerk

**Abstract Distributions:**

**Claim Numbers:**

February 26, 2026

General	\$19,370.34
Highway	\$1,142.90
Water #1	\$33.60
Water #2	\$22.79
Water #3	\$753.93
Water #4	\$3.60
Sewer #1	\$165.43

2026/250-266

March 19, 2026

General	\$38,800.06
Highway	\$39,681.17
Water District #1	\$7,483.98
Water District #2	\$5,959.92
Water District #3	\$7,024.58
Water District #4	\$548.02
Sewer District #1	\$14,333.93
Sewer District #2	\$5,441.29

2026/268-427

Capital Project

Sewer District #1 Improvements	MJ Engineering	\$3,740.00	#1
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