

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, May 12, 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

Excused: Nathan Gilbo Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Tom Cowin, Robert Stevenson, Tim Rowland, Cecelia Wojciukiewicz, Katrinka Tromblee, Diana Stevenson, Jamie Wilson, Sharon O'Connor, Walt Rushby and Rose French-Town Clerk

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

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

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

Special Guest-Rob Wick-Essex County Office of Community Resources

The Supervisor stated the Town has EFC approval for sewer upgrades in Witherbee, Mineville and Plank Road. We need to upgrade the original plan and start the process. It needs to be done in steps. This will be a 6-7 year project. The Board needs to make the decision to go forward with the project, there are issues with the sewer; very old system.

The Supervisor introduced Rob Wick from Essex County Office of Community Resources. Mr. Wick handed out a project overview (please see attached). He explained that the project will be done in 2 phases. Phase 1: Wasson Street, Joyce Road, Republic Street, Raymond Wright Ave., Witherbee, Moriah Center/Titus Road Pump Station, Plank Road (north section) and Switchback Road. Phase 2: Fisher Hill/South Plank Road, South Moriah to Windy Hill Road, Siphon Alternate. Project has to be bonded first. Total Project cost \$17,300,000.00. Jamie Wilson asked if the project could be cheaper; is this the worst case scenario and Mr. Wick said yes; he is not sure of the percentage. Councilman Salerno asked if we would know the cost to the tax payer before the project started and Mr. Wick and the Supervisor both said yes. Mr. Wick stated we would know that before it goes out to bid. The Supervisor stated these are benefit districts; only people in the district would pay for it. Mr. Wick stated with a 30 year bond it would cost the taxpayer an additional \$170.00 a year but with a 40 year hardship bond it would be less. Mr. Wick stated that the Town is not under a DEC order yet. The Supervisor asked if we could use the \$2.5 million stimulus money to start Plank Road and Switchback Siphon and Mr. Wick said yes, but not for the engineering. Mr. Wick stated the next step would be to have a public hearing and advertise for RFP's for engineering. The Supervisor asked if we would need to get sewer line easements and Mr. Wick said temporary easements if possible.

There was a 5 minute recess.

The meeting resumed at 6:47pm.

Bid Opening: Senior Van

The Supervisor read the legal notice of bid; stated we will use stimulus money to pay for it. One bid was received from Huttig in the amount of \$40,082.50 for a 2022 Chrysler Pacifica; it is a 7 passenger minivan. The Supervisor stated the Seniors desperately need this van and the Town also needs it to deliver meals. The Supervisor stated if we need more room for a trip we can borrow a van from the County. There was a brief discussion on whether or not the van was front wheel drive or all-wheel drive.

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

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

RESOLVED to accept the bid from Huttig in the amount of \$40,082.50 for a 2022 Chrysler Pacifica.

Floor Open to the Public:

Walt Rushby stated Woodbury, VT just built a new fire house for \$1.3 million; he stated the cost to the tax payer on a \$100,000 home was less than a \$1.00. He described in detail what it had. The supervisor stated that the Town Board has no control over the fire district. The Supervisor told Mr. Rushby he should attend a fire commissioners meeting. If they want to consolidate they need to go to the fire commissioners in each district. The Supervisor reminded everyone that just because you consolidate it doesn't mean that you will lose your station.

Department Head/Town Board Reports:

The Supervisor asked Jamie Wilson if he ran the numbers on sidewalk repairs. He also stated that parking on Main Street is still an issue. Mr. Wilson stated we got some extra funding this year but it is not offsetting the cost of paving. He would like to finish Fisk Road this year; he stated that the price of black top is through the roof. Essex County Soil & Water told Mr. Wilson that we need a bridge at the end of Fisk Road near Edgemont Road in the dip and Mr. Wilson stated there just isn't enough money in the budget and what is there is working. The Supervisor stated that last year; January – April we spent \$53,460 in fuel and this year January – April we spent \$76,115. Sharon O'Connor asked if the Town locks in and the Supervisor stated we pay based on rack price. Mr. Wilson reminded everyone that the Roe Pond Fishing Tournament is May 21, 2022 so please refrain from fishing there until after the tournament. Mr. Wilson thanked all residents who have helped pick up road side garbage. The Supervisor thanked everyone also.

Tom Cowin-Building & Grounds stated that the banners are up; almost 350 of them. They helped Elizabethtown put theirs up also.

Councilman Salerno had nothing to report.

Councilman Brassard stated the campsites opened last weekend, they are full; no issues.

Councilman Anderson stated they received 15 applications for Youth Commission Counselor. Will do interviews Monday and Tuesday and will bring names to the Board for approval in June. They will probably hire 12 counselors. They usually have 100 kids sign up. Councilman Brassard stated that whoever doesn't get hired please send them to the Town of Crown Point, they are in desperate need of kids for their program. Councilman Anderson stated it is a 4-week program. The Supervisor reminded everyone the program is at BOCES this year. Program will start July 11th. Councilman Anderson stated Steve Pelkey is working on the safety plan.

Rich Lapier-Building Codes: Issued 5 building permits for the month of April, 2022 (report given to the Town Clerk).

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor discussed the NYS Police sub-station. He read an email from Major Litardo. The Supervisor stated they cannot commit to coverage so the Town cannot commit to a building. The Supervisor stated he feels the community does not want the sub-station. Councilman Brassard asked if we could still put it on the ballot in November. The Supervisor said yes but there are certain things that need to be done first; SEQRE, nail the cost down, etc. The Supervisor stated it is a hard time to ask tax payers for more money. The Supervisor asked the Board if they wanted to leave it for now and the Board was in agreement with this. Councilman Anderson stated he was disappointed. Councilman Brassard stated he thought we were going to get more coverage. Councilman Salerno stated Cecelia Wojciukiewicz had a good point when she said it is the response time that is valuable. The Supervisor stated we have until August 8, 2022 to put it on the ballot.

The Supervisor stated we need to review our water turn on and shut off policy; fee is \$35.00; revenue last year was \$420.00, spoke to the Town Clerk and Water & Sewer Superintendent and it's not worth the aggravation. Also, we need to look at our policy regarding snow birds who are on the 6 month billing cycle.

The Supervisor stated we are still waiting to hear on the Millbrook Bridge/Pier where it floods every year.

The Supervisor spoke to Joseph Zalewski at the NYS DEC regarding the outhouses near the boat launch in Port Henry. They are going to retrofit the bathrooms with pumpable toilets.

The Town of Moriah Senior Citizens are having a trunk sale on Saturday, May 28, 2022 from 9am-2pm at the Train Station in Port Henry. To reserve a space or for more information call 518-546-7959 or 518-546-9965.

The Town's request to have the speed reduced in Grover Hills has been denied by the NYS DOT. The Town may be able to do it by Local Law; the Town Attorney is looking in to it.

The Supervisor stated he will be retiring. He read some scenarios on how to move forward:

If he retires prior to August 8, the Town Board can appoint his replacement but that individual would HAVE to run in this fall's election to complete the Supervisor's unexpired term; December 31, 2023.

The Board could also leave the position vacant and the Deputy Supervisor would assume the duties of Supervisor at no increase in pay until the fall election. As Deputy the Town would have NO vote on the Board of Supervisors.

If the Supervisor waits to retire until after August 8, the Town Board can appoint a new Supervisor that would fill the unexpired term and NOT have to run this fall.

The Supervisor stated he will wait until after August 8, 2022 to retire then the Board can appoint a new Supervisor; he said the Town will be in good hands. Walt Rushby thanked Tom and said he did a great job and he wishes him well.

Resolutions:

88. ON MOTION by Councilman Brassard, unanimous second, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED congratulations to Kendrick Peters on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization to go to bid for repair/replacement of Court House roof and replacement windows using stimulus money.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated this is a good expense; it is a slate roof; will go to bid.

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

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

RESOLVED due to lack of lifeguards, open Bulwagga Bay Beach only for 2022 season.

Discussion: We currently only have 2 lifeguards; 1 is for half the summer only.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for Supervisor to sign post closure landfill monitoring agreement with Adirondack Landfill Services for 2022; \$1,902.00.

Discussion: Councilman Brassard asked if this was for the old landfill, he thought we were done with it and the Supervisor stated one part was completed but we will always have to monitor it.

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

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

RESOLVED to pay for generator; Water District #3; Broad Street; \$34,950.00 (was budgeted in 2021, just installed).

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

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

RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

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

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED approval to pay end of month and monthly warrants.

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

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

RESOLVED to advertise for Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Trainee.

Floor open to the public:

N/A

The meeting adjourned at 7:41pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

April 28, 2022

General \$2,833.15
Highway \$1,872.66

2022/575-590

Water #1	\$819.74
Water #2	\$589.85
Water #4	\$76.63
Sewer #1	\$269.15
Sewer #2	\$49.92

May 12, 2022

General	\$72,901.13
Highway	\$11,969.59
Fire Protection	\$52,000.00
Water #1	\$8,399.65
Water #2	\$6,349.73
Water #3	\$36,592.71
Water #4	\$384.85
Sewer #1	\$10,948.34
Sewer #2	\$5,770.17

2022/591-738

Town Clerk