

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

Present: Matthew Brassard Supervisor
Paul Salerno Councilman
Nathan Gilbo Councilman

Absent: Tom Anderson Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Thomas Cowin, Bruno Mazzotte, Sharon O'Connor, Mark Lashway, Eric Wilhelmson, Jim Curran, George Pilger and Rose French-Town Clerk

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

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

Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
Nays	0
Absent	Anderson

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

Floor Open to the Public:

Bruno Mazzotte stated at the Public Hearing on the proposed EMS tax district when he asked for a forensic audit the Town Attorney Tabled it; he wants to know where we are with his request. The Supervisor stated he spoke with the Comptroller and they can't do it. The Town Attorney stated we can only audit the \$50,000 the Town gives the ambulance squad. Mr. Mazzotte stated there is a problem with the books; this tax district is a big deal and is going to hurt a lot of people. Mr. Mazzotte stated he had an attorney look at the contract the Town has with the ambulance squad and he said it is no good. The Supervisor stated William Tansey, Town Attorney said we have a right to know where the \$50,000 is being spent. Councilman Salerno stated he agrees. Bruno Mazzotte stated the squad is currently not being accountable for the \$50,000. Councilman Salerno stated they need to be accountable to the tax payers. Bruno Mazzotte asked where the money is going and Councilman Salerno stated we don't know. Mr. Mazzotte stated the contract should be changed to read that the Town has the right to look at the books; the Town gives them money. The Supervisor stated it would be similar to what the Town does with the Chamber. Mr. Mazzotte stated this district is a big deal and if the squad has nothing to hide they should show the Town their books. Councilman Salerno told Bruno Mazzotte that a lot has changed since the public hearing. Mr. Mazzotte said he heard, they took the building out, big deal. He feels the squad is being mismanaged. Councilman Salerno stated the Board is waiting on the ambulance squad at this point. The Supervisor stated he will send the squad a letter requesting to see their books; the Board was in agreement with this. Councilman Salerno stated they should take the \$22,000 lot and put 2 trailers on it. Councilman Gilbo stated there is no mandate that they have to sleep there.

George Pilger stated the squad should never have bought that trailer and property for \$22,000. They should put the \$22,000 in to the building where they are now. Mr. Pilger stated the fire departments need to consolidate; everybody agrees; why hasn't it been done yet. The Supervisor stated each district needs to submit a petition; Sharon O'Connor stated it needs to be a percentage from each district. Mr. Pilger stated we have a centralized school, we need a centralized fire department and make it a good one.

Department Head/Town Board Reports:

Tom Cowin-Building & Grounds stated the banners are done; mowing now; will have the cemeteries done before Memorial Day. The Supervisor stated it took 20 full days to hang the banners. He told Mr. Cowin and crew thank you.

The Supervisor stated Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent has been excused.

Councilman Salerno stated the cemeteries would be done by Memorial Day. He then read the Building Codes Report: Issued 5 building permits for April; did 1 fire/safety inspection for CO

for Mountain Lake Services; 1 mobile home permit for Justin Drake; Mr. Lapier recommends approval.

Councilman Salerno stated the Water & Sewer Department installed a sewer lateral on Plank Road; painted fire hydrants and flushed hydrants. The Water & Sewer department have been assisting the campground as well.

Councilman Salerno reported that Bulwagga Bay Campsite has 162 seasonal campers. George Pilger asked if there was a waiting list and Councilman Salerno said yes, he thought if you were a resident of the Town you got moved to the top of the list, he will check in to this. George Pilger thought we could do away with a transient site; Councilman Gilbo stated he will look in to it; we have done it before.

Councilman Salerno would still like to use stimulus money at Champ RV Park. He feels we could get 2 more lake front sites there. He stated Champ RV Park has 75 seasonal campers. Set up and opening went well. The beach house has been rented; will get the water on. Champ RV Park-issue with dogs not on leash, not sure if they are campers or not; we need to put up signs.

Councilman Salerno read the police report: 2 pre-employment fingerprints; 2 felony criminal mischief 3rd, 7 traffic tickets, 38 calls for service, assisted the Sheriff's Department on 2 calls and state police on 3 calls.

Councilman Gilbo has contract for design firm to turn the beach house into a rental; he will have that next week. He has been working on a master use plan, events pace and answering questions on those.

Supervisor's Report:

The gentleman that owns the Rexall in Mineville has offered a piece of property at 200 Raymond Wright Avenue to the Town for a children's park in memory of his wife; it is not a good location and it has a building on it that would have to be torn down. Councilman Salerno would like to look at it; he appreciates the offer. Councilman Gilbo asked if there was an old house on it that would have to be removed and the Supervisor stated it would be a lot of work. Councilman Gilbo is concerned about tearing the building down. This was TABLED.

The Town received a youth sports grant in the amount of \$4,000; new equipment for all.

YCC applications are being accepted until May 31, 2024, must be 14 years old and have a working card.

On Monday, May 20, 2024 the Supervisor will meet with Rich Lapier, Jamie Wilson, Billy Allen, Paul Salerno and the DEC; we are in danger of losing the point at Bulwagga Bay Campsite; trees are tipped over; we already lost 8 sites on the lake; back in 2014 did shoreline erosion project.

Resolutions:

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

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0
	Absent	Anderson

RESOLVED to change Brianna Sargent's job title from Clerk to Clerk to the Town Justice; no change in pay rate.

Discussion: Councilman Gilbo asked what the purpose of this was, was this due to the desk audit and the Supervisor stated yes, she does more work than a clerk. Councilman Gilbo asked if this was recommended by the Personnel Office and the Supervisor said yes.

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

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
	Nays	0

Absent Anderson

RESOLVED to approve mobile home permit application for Justin Drake located at 4159 Main Street; tax map #97.79-3-6.000.

Discussion: Rich Lapier inspected the trailer; its immaculate; not sure if he will rent it or Air B & B it.

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

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
Nays 0
Absent Anderson

RESOLVED to refund Assistant Managers Penny Curtis and Larry Hasting's their \$150.00 site deposit.

Discussion: Councilman Gilbo asked if this is something that happens every year and the Supervisor stated this is because they didn't know they would be Assistant Managers when the deposit was due.

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

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
Nays 0
Absent Anderson

RESOLVED refund Trisha King \$150.00 site deposit; A-44; won't be camping this year.

Discussion: Councilman Salerno stated Ms. King paid deposit and for personal reasons is unable to camp this year; site has already been rented.

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

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
Nays 0
Absent Anderson

RESOLVED to advertise for grant writer on zip recruiter for one month; \$350.00.

Discussion: Councilman Gilbo stated this is a digital recruiter.

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

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
Nays 0
Absent Anderson

RESOLVED a resolution of appreciation to Town Supervisor Steve McNally of Minerva for letting the Town use their bucket truck to put up the hometown hero banners.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated we were in a bind because we could not get the bucket truck from the County. It took 2 weeks to hang the banners.

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

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
Nays 0
Absent Anderson

RESOLVED to have street light removed at 513 Silver Hill Road; pole #25.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the resident requested the light be removed.

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

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
Nays 0

Absent Anderson

RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

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

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
Nays 0
Absent Anderson

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

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

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
Nays 0
Absent Anderson

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

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

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
Nays 0
Absent Anderson

RESOLVED to hire Joe Pelkey, Hayden LaRose, Jacob Mascarenas, Isaac White, Alexis Mascarenas, Sam Scorsome, Hailee Cutting, Hailey Patenaude, Alexis Cheney, Chase McGinness, Holli Rivera-Shantz and Zachery Garrow as Counselors of the 2024 Summer Youth Program; July 8, 2024 – August 2, 2024

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

APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Gilbo
Nays 0
Absent Anderson

RESOLVED to hire Halee Calabrese-Director, Ronnie Cunningham-Assistant Director and Cecelia Briggs-Activities Coordinator for the 2024 Summer Youth Program; July 8, 2024-August 2, 2024.

Floor Open to the Public:

Eric Wilhelmson asked what was going on with Moriah Shock and the Hydro Project. The Supervisor stated he calls Jim Besho once a month and always gets the same answer.

The Supervisor stated NYS is going to fix the sewer lines at Moriah Shock so that is a good sign. He has not heard of any other plans for Moriah Shock. BOCES wanted it but it has to be a state agency.

Eric Wilhelmson asked if the Town gets any money from them and the Supervisor stated yes for sewer; the Town Clerk stated they have not paid yet. They would still have to pay sewer debt regardless. George Pilger asked if they pay Mineville/Witherbee Fire Department for fire protection and Sharon O'Connor said no. Councilman Salerno stated the state aid for Moriah Central School has been lowered. Supervisor Brassard stated he does not know what the school gets for state aid.

Councilman Salerno asked about any precious metals proceeds and the Supervisor stated that is the County for Barton Hill from Phoenix Tailings; looks very promising; could be worth a lot of money. George Pilger asked if this was for the big tailings pile and the Supervisor said yes, they are trying to work a deal with Solvay.

The meeting adjourned at 6:44pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

April 25, 2024

2024/579

Sewer District #1 \$347,945.60

April 26, 2024

2024/583-604

General \$1,805.42

Highway \$326.69

Water District #1 \$1,438.97

Water District #2 \$1,039.24

Water District #3 \$1,168.33

Water District #4 \$133.23

Sewer District #1 \$1,944.11

Sewer District #2 \$1,910.32

May 16, 2024

2024/605-784

General \$146,935.77

Highway \$15,961.13

Fire Protection \$52,000.00

Water District #1 \$3,878.33

Water District #2 \$2,697.46

Water District #3 \$3,631.02

Water District #4 \$146.54

Sewer District #1 \$10,034.12

Sewer District #2 \$5,465.75

Capital Project-Sewer District #1 Improvements

Orrick \$1,775.00 #4

Stimulus Funds-Beach House Renovations-Champ RV Park

AEDA \$2,000.00 #1

Stimulus Funds-College Street Field

Tri State \$6,571.27 #1

Town Clerk