

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

Absent: Matt Brassard Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Sharon O'Connor, Diana Stevenson, Jamie Wilson, Mark Davenport, Ann Tesar, Cathy Sprague, Tim Rowland and Rose French-Town Clerk.

Supervisor Scozzafava called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

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

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

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

The Supervisor stated that Councilman Brassard has been excused,

Floor Open to the Public:

Cathy Sprague congratulated everyone on their reelection. She also thanked Jamie Wilson and crew for everything they did during the Halloween storm. Ms. Sprague reported that the Holiday Train will be here on Wednesday November 27th at 4:30. November 30th is small business Saturday. They have 16 stores that are participating. The Parade of Lights starts at 6:30; lineup is at 6:00pm at Port Henry Fire Department. The Tree lighting will be at 6:00pm. They will have Santa Clause and hay rides. She asked if they could borrow 3 fire rings to roast marshmallows. Councilman Salerno will get in touch with Ed Roberts regarding this. She also asked Jamie Wilson if they could borrow the light plant that is usually set up for the Holiday Train and Mr. Wilson said yes. She asked Mr. Wilson if he could help with setting up the Christmas Tree. The Supervisor stated if the Chamber buys the tree, the Town will make sure it gets up. Councilman Anderson asked what the date was for the Holiday Train.

Ann Tesar asked who decided that all 4 election districts should be at the Moriah Fire Department and the Supervisor stated that was all the Board of Elections. He knows it was a mess, he got a lot of complaints at the Town Hall; he stated he couldn't do anything about because he was on the ballot, same as the Town Clerk. Ms. Tesar stated they had complaints all day long. The Supervisor stated it will be changed for next year; you can't have all 4 districts in one spot. It was a bad location; cars were parked in front of the ambulance building. Ms. Tesar asked how many early voters there were and the Supervisor stated only 15 or 16. Ms. Tesar stated that the machine kept jamming also.

Councilman Salerno stated that Edgemont Bed and Breakfast will be having a grand opening of the Wedding Barn on December 14, 2019. Cathy Sprague said no, that will happen in early Spring. Councilman Salerno stated he will get it straightened out.

Department Head Reports:

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent: Mr. Wilson asked Cathy Sprague if we were still doing a tree in the gazebo and the circle. He stated that the Christmas lights are up in Port Henry. He stated that Moriah and Dock Lane in Port Henry got the most damage from the Halloween storm. A dozen roads were affected. They had 5 days of emergency; trying to get roads open and then they had to get ready for the snow storm. NYS DOT helped out; they sent up an excavator and an operator; today was there last day with us. Essex County Soil & Water came down and did assessments. The Supervisor stated that the Governor sent up a representative and he toured the

town with the Supervisor and Mr. Wilson. Mr. Wilson stated they are making progress. They offered storm work to local contractors and only one person was able to work. Kubricky is letting us use a paver for Dock Lane. The Supervisor stated that FEMA will be here next week. Mr. Wilson stated the excavator is still down; also 2 pickups. He stated the generator is installed.

Mr. Wilson stated that the Town of Minerva has a truck that they are going to put out to bid. The Supervisor asked what year it was and Mr. Wilson said a 2001; he stated it is not new but it drives nice and it includes a sander. He thinks it has @ 100,000 miles on it. Councilman Anderson asked if it was a tandem and Mr. Wilson said yes. The Supervisor asked Mr. Wilson if it was in better shape than what we have and he said yes. Mr. Wilson would like Board approval to get the truck. Councilman Salerno and Councilman Anderson were in agreement with it. The Supervisor would like to wait and speak to Becky regarding the financial aspect. He is concerned if we get it, will we get reimbursed by FEMA or not and the bills are going to start rolling in from this storm. Councilman Salerno asked if we could purchase this truck without a special meeting and the Supervisor said no. Mr. Wilson stated that we also have contracts with the County that we need to fulfill. The Supervisor stated it is up to the Board. Councilman Anderson asked if there was a resolution on the floor and the Supervisor said not yet. The decision was made to hold a special meeting if Mr. Wilson decides the truck is worth purchasing.

Town Board Report's:

Councilman Anderson had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Carpenter read the police report: Handled 151 calls for service. 7 Violations-4 permitting a dog to run at large, 2-harassment 2nd degree, 1-unlawful possession of marijuana. 8 Misdemeanors-2 aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle 3rd degree, 2 endangering the welfare of a child, 3 criminal mischief in the 4th degree, 1 DWI. 0 Felonies. Issued 13 traffic tickets. Handled 6 traffic accidents. Conducted 7 pistol permit background investigations.

197. ON MOTION by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED that the Waterfront Committee appoint Carol Chirela and Nick Gilbo.

Councilwoman Carpenter then read the minutes from the last Waterfront Committee on November 6, 2019 (see attached). Prioritizing 7 recommendations: Website, Cabins, Building at Champ RV, Dock to building for boaters, more paddle boats, kayaks and canoes, rework sites, and Campsite Manager.

The Supervisor stated that a walking trail from beach to beach was tried and it didn't work; CP Rail said no. The Supervisor asked if \$1,000 for a website was realistic. Mark Davenport stated he feels with the right people it is. Cathy Sprague stated she spoke to Jim McKenna regarding a new website. He needs a written proposal and he will present it to his team. She feels he would do the same for the Waterfront Committee. The Supervisor stated the Town definitely needs a website. He thinks the beaches should have a separate website. Mark Davenport feels it should not be that specific. Councilwoman Carpenter stated the Town website needs links to the beaches and other attractions and it should be easy to navigate. Councilman Salerno asked Mr. Davenport if they have a worthy team to do the website. Mr. Davenport stated they would like input from everyone involved so we only have to build the website once. Sharon O'Connor stated if we used key words like "Lake Champlain" it will be easier. The Supervisor stated that as far as the beach house at Champ RV Park, we will have to wait and see what it is going to be used for. He feels we should lock in an investor for 5 years. Councilman Anderson asked why we are asking them to put money into something they don't own. The Supervisor stated that is why we would offer them a 5 year lease; also they wouldn't be paying any electric, water & sewer, etc., they would get first option at another lease. Mark Davenport stated we could contact the NYS DOH to see what needs to be done to the building.

The Supervisor stated that we had canoes and nobody ever used them. Mark Davenport stated they got used this year because we did not charge and he also stated that Councilman Brassard

said the canoes and kayaks that we have are in rough shape. The Supervisor stated we can apply for another Healthy Places grant for more. Councilwoman Carpenter stated we need more paddle boards.

The Supervisor stated he is working on the cabins. He talked to CVES, they are willing to build one this winter and then transport it to the beach in the spring. We cannot buy one from the Amish because they only deal in cash and the Town can't. The Supervisor thought we might be able to buy a couple of Amish sheds and turn them into cabins. He stated the committee needs to make a decision about what type they want first. Sharon O'Connor asked about a park unit. The Supervisor stated they are very expensive. Councilman Anderson asked if CVES could do it and the Supervisor said yes; they are doing a great job on the bathroom at Bulwagga Bay Campsite. Mark Davenport suggested maybe Bill Cook could "manage" both campsites. He also asked if there was room at Bulwagga Bay for a sandwich shop and the Supervisor stated that George Jarvis tried it years ago and it didn't work.

Councilman Salerno had nothing to report.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor was notified that Verizon will be upgrading the antennae's on the cell tower. He stated he has had several companies contact him because they want to buy out our lease. The lease is up in 2030. The Supervisor stated that if we sold the lease it would be a quick way to make money to put into a capital improvement project for the campsites. The lease does have a 3% escalation clause every year. Councilwoman Carpenter asked how much we make off the lease and the Supervisor did not want to quote an amount; he wasn't sure. Councilman Salerno asked when the lease was up and the Supervisor said 2030. Councilman Anderson asked if there was a deadline on selling the lease and the Supervisor said no. The Supervisor stated the only bad thing is if another company hangs an antenna on there we don't get anything for it.

The Supervisor received a letter from the State Comptroller, the Town will no longer receive any AIM payments.

The Supervisor stated there is a lot about Moriah in the Lakes to Locks brochures.

Stewarts will be putting up a chain link fence around the old Mac's store so they can begin the demolition process. They will first empty the building of all shelves, etc. and then do an asbestos abatement, then they will demolish the building and reuse any concrete and brick they can in the new store. They are going to try and match the look of the surrounding brick buildings. This demolition process should take 4 – 5 weeks and then the new construction will begin in the Spring. Councilman Anderson asked when they are going to start the demolition process and the Supervisor said tomorrow. Frank Slycord will take lead on this, he has worked with other Stewarts stores.

Solar companies are trying to buy land for solar farms. Currently they are exempt from property tax unless the Town passes a resolution otherwise. The Supervisor feels they should be taxed. Mark Davenport asked if this was for permanent and the Supervisor said yes. The Supervisor will get more information to the Board.

The Supervisor stated that during the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget when Officer Stahl addressed the Board about his retirement the Supervisor stated he could have retired after 20 years, the Supervisor stated he was wrong, that was under the old plan, it was 30 years.

The Supervisor was going to report on how many seasonals Bulwagga Bay had this year but he had conflicting information so he will wait until next month. He stated Champ RV Park had 59. Councilman Salerno stated last year Champ RV park had 53.

The Supervisor stated he was contacted by National Grid; they are doing another light conversion program. They toured all town buildings and will work up a cost summary. The Supervisor stated that the Town should really look into switching over all street lights to LED, it would be a substantial savings for the Town; we have over 700 street lights. The Board was in agreement with looking into this.

The Supervisor contacted Emergency Services about Thompson Place/Parsonage Way which is now part of Spring Street. This is a Town road.

Resolutions:

- 198. ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was
- | | | |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Carpenter |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Brassard |
- RESOLVED** to renew contract with Mountain Medical Services for employee drug/alcohol testing for 1/1/20-12/31/20.

- 199. ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
- | | | |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Carpenter |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Brassard |
- RESOLVED** to include Dock Lane and Bulwagga Drive in Town of Moriah Highway Inventory.

Discussion: This is for CHIPS reimbursement.

- 200. ON MOTION** by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
- | | | |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Carpenter |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Brassard |
- RESOLVED** a resolution of appreciation to CP Rail for Holiday Train and donation to food pantry.

- 201. ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, the following resolution was
- | | | |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Carpenter |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Brassard |
- RESOLVED** to go to bid for Sodium Hypochlorite Solution-bid opening December 12, 2019 at 6:00pm.

- 202. ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was
- | | | |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Carpenter |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Brassard |
- RESOLVED** to set opening and closing dates for campsites: Open Friday, May 8, 2020 and close Monday, October 12, 2020.

- 203. ON MOTION** by Councilwoman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was
- | | | |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Carpenter |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Brassard |
- RESOLVED** approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the audit will be released next week.

- 204. ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
- | | | |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes | Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Carpenter |
| | Nays | 0 |
| | Absent | Brassard |

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

The Supervisor reported that the Train Station needs a new roof. CP Rail wants the Town to pay to have it fixed and the Town can't, we don't own the building and the Town can't afford it anyway. Amtrak is looking into doing it; they would like to stay with a slate roof.

Councilman Salerno asked about the Hydro Project. The Supervisor stated FERK is the hold up right now. They wanted all the information on Barton Hill, which they got. Now they want all the information on the old landfill that used to sit where the Highway Garage is now. Councilman Anderson asked if the bats were still an issue and the Supervisor said no.

Floor open to the public:

Mark Davenport stated we have that beautiful train station and when people get off they have to look at that disaster. The Supervisor stated we cannot single people out and if the Town took him to court it would cost the town \$300 per hour. Councilman Salerno stated we can't single out one person when there are others just as bad. The Supervisor stated a property owner has rights. Councilman Salerno asked if anyone has addressed him personally. Councilman Anderson stated you can't go after one person. The Supervisor stated the only way to address this issue is with zoning. Councilwoman Carpenter suggested concentrating on beautifying the surrounding area so the focus isn't on just that one piece of property. Mark Davenport suggested maybe the Board could pass a resolution of expectations. The Supervisor asked the Board and there was no comment.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

October 28, 2019

General	\$8,843.26
Highway	\$2,309.10
Water #1	\$1,314.17
Water #2	\$952.75
Water #3	\$430.07
Water #4	\$120.55
Sewer #1	\$122.63
Sewer #2	\$93.81

2019/1592-1616

November 14, 2019

General	\$43,078.11
Highway	\$31,888.66
Water #1	\$3,747.75
Water #2	\$2,874.63
Water #3	\$2,431.95
Water #4	\$233.19
Sewer #1	\$11,130.87
Sewer #2	\$5,653.83

2019/1619-1769

Capital Projects:

Shoreline Stabilization	Denton Publications	#1	\$30.66
W & S Main Replacement (Frist, Oak and Ridge Lane)	MJ Engineering	#6	\$7,215.00

Town Clerk