

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, November 10, 2021 immediately following the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget 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: Robert Stevenson, Bill Trybendis, Diana Stevenson, Tom Cowin, Becky Gilbo and Rose French-Town Clerk

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

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

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

Floor Open to the Public:

N/A

Department Head/Town Board Reports:

The Supervisor stated that most department heads have been excused; hunting. He reported that Tom Cowin is here and he is doing an excellent job. Mr. Cowin reported they have been working on the cemeteries and chasing leaves; everything is going good.

Councilman Anderson had nothing to report. The Supervisor asked Councilman Anderson how the ski program was coming and Mr. Anderson stated he would have more information at the December meeting and he is still looking for volunteers.

Councilman Gilbo reported the charging station installation seems to have come to a halt; he will look in to this. NYSERDA has an energy efficiency training on block grants; he will have more information at the December meeting on this. Councilman Gilbo thanked everyone who came out to vote.

Councilman Brassard reported the campgrounds are all closed up for the season. He stated he is not sure what is going to happen if Moriah Shock closes, we may have to start the workers earlier next year to get the campsites ready; may have Highway and Building & Grounds help out with opening. Transfer Station is good; had a few illnesses but other employees stepped up and kept everything running smoothly.

Councilman Salerno had nothing to report.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor stated he was going to retire the end of 2021. He spoke to Social Security on Monday. He was going to retire so the Board could appoint someone in January 2022; all that has changed due to Moriah Shock; he will see this situation through. He still plans on retiring early in 2022. He stated the Board is capable of handling all business. He also stated that he has no plans of taking a seat on the Board. December 18th he will be 65 years old. He will not double dip and keep working and collect his NYS retirement also. He stated it is time for him to retire. He stated the Board needs to come up with a plan by April 1st. They can appoint someone to fill out the rest of his term. He stated change is good; he has made a lot of contacts over the years.

The Supervisor stated the Board has some things to work on in 2022:

1. Consolidation of fire districts so there is one tax base, not necessarily closing stations; just ease burden on tax payers. A study should be done. There would be no fire protection, it would all be

one district. Councilman Salerno asked if there would still be fire commissioners and the Supervisor stated the Town Board would oversee the finances. The Supervisor would like to meet with the commissioners to discuss it. Councilman Salerno asked if there would still be fire protection and the Supervisor said no, that would be gone.

2. The Board needs to come up with a plan for the stimulus money. Councilman Salerno asked if other towns in Essex County were using the money and the Supervisor said no. Councilman Brassard stated that some of the bigger towns have started to use it. The Supervisor stated he is leery not knowing what we can spend it on; he stated it is ridiculous, no such thing as free money.

3. Consolidation of Sewer Districts #1 and #2 and Water Districts #1, 2, and 4. Can't do Water District #3 because it is a benefit district. Councilman Salerno asked if the fire districts are consolidated would we just divide up the number of users and the Supervisor stated no, it is not that easy.

4. Police department/station; waiting on the manufacturer to see how much a building will cost.

5. Hydro Project; it is progressing. The Supervisor thinks we may see them sink the shaft in 2022. They are working with DEC getting permits; also working with Solvay; still 12-18 months away. Councilman Salerno asked if Elise Stefanik has ear marked \$300,00 for the new state police building or can we use stimulus money and the Supervisor stated we are looking in to that right now to see if we can; he stated the Board would have to make this decision and have some public meetings on it. Councilman Anderson asked what the DEC was testing for on the Hydro project and the Supervisor stated everybody wants their share; what you can sell the power for. Jeremy Carpenter had a question from Facebook Live: where is the water going that is being pumped out of the mines. The Supervisor stated they are permitted for \$650,000 gallons per day; there is talk of a small filter plant to supply silver hill and chipmunk street.

6. The Supervisor stated the Board needs to look at going to a sole assessor also. The County is looking at a county wide assessing unit.

The Supervisor stated he has been getting some complaints on roosters. He had Ed Roberts check with Ag & Markets; you can have 8-9 chickens on your property. The Board would have to do a local law for roosters. Councilman Anderson asked if that would be so you couldn't have roosters in certain neighborhoods and the Supervisor said yes; right to farm law.

Resolutions:

199. ON MOTION by Supervisor Scozzafava, unanimous second, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED a resolution of opposition to the closure of Moriah Shock.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated that he got the call on Monday that Moriah Shock would be closing. He called Commissioner Annucci right away. Moriah Shock is 1 of 6 that will be closing; Lake View vs Moriah. The Supervisor called the Governor's Office and spoke to an aide who is close to the Governor; he is looking at different scenarios. Keeping it open will be very difficult to do. The Governor has the sole discretion. The Supervisor is hoping that next week he will be able to meet with the Governor and Commissioner Annucci. The Supervisor stated that he, the Town Board and the County Board are doing everything they can. If it closes, we will need to come up with a re-use plan. His goal is to keep it open as a shock camp. He has been on the phone constantly. The Supervisor stated he doesn't think the new Governor has a grasp on exactly what Moriah Shock does; all they do.

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

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

RESOLVED authorization for repairs to live pipe at Port Henry Water Plant as per Manfred Construction quote of \$12,500; this will be paid from water district #3 fund balance.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated he received an email from Chip Perry which he copied the Board with; these are issues that can't be ignored.

- 201. ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED approval of subdivision for Kayleigh McCray; tax map #96.20-3-39.200; 2505 Moriah Road.
- 202. ON MOTION** by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED approval of pilot agreement with Mountain Lake Services for 2022.
- Discussion: The Supervisor met with Jack Mudge; they added Essex Industries and the Consignment Shop.
- 203. ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED to renew agreement with Elizabethtown Community Hospital for physical services for 2022.
- Discussion: The Supervisor stated he believes the rates are the same as last year.
- 204. ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED adoption of the 2022 Town Budget.
- 205. ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED to go to bid for Sodium Hypochlorite Solution for 2022; bids to be opened at regular Town Board meeting on Thursday, December 9, 2021.
- 206. ON MOTION** by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.
- 207. ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Brassard, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED approval to do adjustments in water and sewer as needed.
- 208. ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED approval of payment of end of month and monthly warrants.
- 209. ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Brassard, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Anderson, Brassard, Gilbo
 Nays 0
RESOLVED to accept proposal from Orkin for mouse control at the Train Station; initial visit \$425.00, \$1,250.00 annually.

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

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

RESOLVED to accept proposal from Cowin & Son's Floor Refinishing to sand and polyurethane floor in tax office at the Town Hall; \$350.00.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated this floor is in bad shape; will be done when office is closed for Thanksgiving; there is hard wood floor underneath and it will be refinished; may do the whole office at later date.

Floor open to the public:

Robert Stevenson asked where the traffic circle was removed on Main Street in Port Henry, can you do a u turn there now and the Supervisor stated that is a good question, he didn't think so; he stated it is now too late in the season to put up the new circle. Mr. Stevenson stated he thinks the brook in Mineville/Witherbee was always called Joyce Road Brook.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

October 22, 2021

General \$2,135.00

2021/1557

October 29, 2021

General \$11,215.30

2021/1558-1584

Highway \$1,359.71

Water #1 \$12,218.84

Water #2 \$8,148.57

Water #3 \$538.35

Water #4 \$9.05

Sewer #1 \$460.29

Sewer #2 \$750.69

November 10, 2021

2021/1582-1725

General \$17,812.33

Highway \$11,594.16

Water #1 \$8,801.07

Water #2 \$4,935.27

Water #3 \$6,789.04

Water #4 \$304.40

Sewer #1 \$10,583.30

Sewer #2 \$5,727.86

Town Clerk