

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, November 20, 2025 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
	James Curran	Councilman
	Nate Gilbo	Councilman
	Tom Cowin	Building & Grounds
	Vicki Sargent	Deputy Town Clerk

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, George Clark, Mark Lashway

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

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

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

Tom Cowin-Building & Grounds reported metal roof is finished & new heater hooked up and working good at the Iron Center. Started putting up Christmas lights. All lights on train had to be replaced. Main street Christmas lights are up had to change all but 1 string. Councilman Curran stated Mr.Cowin provided a proposal with quote for commercial grade Christmas lights. Mr.Cowin stated that you can make a stretch of them and are repairable that will last years. Initial cost is high but will last for years. Tom stated he's been having to buy lights every year.

Supervisor Brassard gave Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendents Report-Getting ready for winter, trucks are all already. Meachem Street FEMA project is 50% completed. Supervisor stated they will be back in the spring to finish sidewalks, top coat and fix yards. The Supervisor stated FEMA money should be in soon.

Councilman Anderson had nothing to report.

Councilman Gilbo had nothing to report.

Councilman Salerno had nothing to report.

Councilman Curran reported he and Supervisor Brassard had a good walk around town with NY Forward.

**Supervisors Report:**

Supervisor Brassard reported that he and Councilman Curran walked the boundaries of the project with two officials from NY Forward. All apartment buildings and businesses on Main Street are eligible for the 4.5 million grant would help revitalize Main Street. Application is submitted, hopefully hear in a few months.

The Supervisor stated he meet with La Bella Engineering Group at Bulwagga Bay Campsite. La Bella Engineering is doing a report for shoreline stabilization. Comparing with what was done in 2014 to now. Supervisor Brassard stated we're losing valuable land. Main focus is to start where last project was left off. Councilman Salerno asked if they are going to end up all the way down to the brook? Supervisor Brassard stated from where last project stopped to and around that point.

The Supervisor stated an article in the Sun Community press that CVES Central has decided to stay in the area. Supervisor Brassard stated that he and Moriah School Superintendent Bill Larrow spent a lot of time finding local property for the new building. The plan for the current building is to be put up for sale the summer of 2026. Supervisor Brassard stated CVES Central plan to have the new building open in 2028. Supervisor Brassard stated the only information he can offer as a location for the new building is one entrance on Plank Road and another entrance on Switchback.

Supervisor Brassard would like to remind everyone the Christmas Train will be here on November 26, 2025 at 5:30pm. A non-perishable food item is greatly appreciated to support the Moriah Food Pantry. Supervisor Brassard stated that Melinda Morin who runs the Food Pantry stated the pantry's usual weekly count is 10-13 people and lately it's been 50-60 people, she feels this higher number will continue over the winter. Councilman Salerno asked how do they determine eligibility for the food pantry? Supervisor Brassard stated they don't check eligibility. Councilman Anderson asked why the uptake in need? Supervisor Brassard stated with the government shutdown & HEAP pushed back. Supervisor Brassard Stated the Moriah Food Pantry is open on Wednesdays 10:00am to 12:00pm and Melinda is fantastic to work with.

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

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

**RESOLVED** recognition honoring Katherine Baker on her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday November 22, 2025.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated Mrs. Baker was the Post Mistress at the Moriah Corners Post Office for many years. Mrs. Baker and her husband where instrumental in getting sewer to that part of town.

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

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

**RESOLVED** for the Supervisor to sign a site control agreement with Serium Energy Storage LLC (aka Moriah Hydro) for the property with Tax Map ID 86.82-6-6.000(aka Town Highway Garage and Transfer Station).

Discussion: Serium Energy is applying for NYSERTA grant the state has for clean energy. Supervisor Brassard stated it is for site control no transfer of property. Allows Serium Energy site control to apply for grant to do surveys and take samples.

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

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

**RESOLVED** approving FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) for Essex County.

Discussion: Supervisor Brassard stated that every community has to have it. The county hired a consultant to do all 18 towns mitigation plan. FEMA approved this plan. Supervisor Brassard stated without this plan if we had a natural disaster in 2026 or going forward, we wouldn't be eligible for FEMA funds.

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

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

**RESOLVED** to add a fee for Fire/Safety Inspections to our fee schedule; \$30.00 for a single-family home/apartment unit; each additional apartment unit costs \$25.00; Commercial/Business inspections \$75.00.

Discussion: Supervisor stated Colin our property maintenance officer brought to his attention fire safety inspections haven't been done in a while. This cover's the town if any fires occur and the state fire inspector came need to provide fire safety inspections. Colin sent letters out to business and apartment owners to set up a time for inspections. Business owners or apartment owners don't have to respond to his letter they can go through a third party, they have to provide Colin with the final report. Councilman Salerno asked if this is mandated law? Supervisor Brassard stated yes, it is a mandated law. Any apartments with more than 3 units once every three years. Hall's, Firehouses and business are annually.

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

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

**RESOLVED** approve Regional Food Bank payment in the amount of \$1,097.45

Discussion: Supervisor stated that Melinda Morin called and stated a huge uptake in people needing food. Government didn't fund SNAP benefits and HEAP pushed back. Caused for more people needing to use the food pantry.

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

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

**RESOLVED** go to bid for Sodium Hypochlorite Solution for 2026; bids to open at Regular Board meeting on Thursday, December 18, 2025.

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

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

**TABLED** to approve Health Officer Agreement with Hudson Headwaters Health Network for 2026 in the amount of \$910.00

Discussion: Supervisor Brassard stated this is a NYS law. Councilman Salerno asked if this could be done per diem? Considering we have only used them a couple of times in the last few years. Supervisor Brassard stated it's an annual fee. Councilman Salerno asked if that is a set fee. Supervisor Brassard stated we can table this and find out, we have till end of year.

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

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

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

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

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

Absent 0

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

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

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

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

218. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Curran, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

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

**RESOLVED** approve Lab Courses at Buffalo State University Continuing Professional Studies January 12<sup>th</sup> to January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 for WWTP employee Matt Carr in the amount of \$650.00.

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

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

**RESOLVED** approve Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning to apply for NYS Homes and Community Renewal grant

Discussion: Supervisor Brassard stated this technical assistance pro housing grant came out recently and has to be submitted by November 25, 2025. Supervisor Brassard stated the \$150,000.00 grant would be to evaluate the former Port Henry High School site for development of middle-income housing. Supervisor stated there is no match for this grant and they would pay full taxes.

**Floor open to the public:**

Mark Lashway asked what the budget looks like for next year? The supervisor stated we came in 1% increase on the levy. General down on levy and Highway levy up a little bit. County budget is under cap. Tax rate for Town to County \$2.66 per 1000 this year to \$3.65 per 1000 last year. Highway and General last year \$7.98 per 1000 last year to \$5.60 per 1000 this year.

The meeting adjourned at 6:29pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk

**Abstract Distributions:**

**Claim Numbers:**

October 23, 2025

Water #1	\$180.00
Water #2	\$130.00
Water #3	\$180.00
Water #4	\$10.00

2025/1671

October 28, 2025

General	\$30,837.03
Highway	\$1,623.58
Water #1	\$33.60
Water #2	\$22.80

2025/1662-1675

Water #4	\$3.59
Sewer #1	\$1991.29
Sewer #2	\$941.50

October 29, 2025

General	\$2960.21	2025-1724
---------	-----------	-----------

November 20, 2025

General	\$55,094.65	2025/1676-1855
Highway	\$399,641.12	
Water #1	\$13,835.94	
Water #2	\$8989.13	
Water #3	\$27,636.18	
Water #4	\$555.84	
Sewer #1	\$11,854.65	
Sewer #2	\$5,957.31	

Capital Projects

MJ Engineering	Sewer District #1 Improvements	\$56,740.00	#14
All States Construction	Sewer District #1 Improvements	\$313,983.76	#15
Press Republican	CDBG Port Henry Wells/Septic	\$65.67	#2

Stimulus

AES Northeast	Champ Beach Event Space	\$10,156.79	#7
---------------	-------------------------	-------------	----