

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, October 14, 2021 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
	Nathan Gilbo	Councilman

Others Present: Robert Stevenson, Jamie Wilson, Joel & Sylvia Zelinsky, Chris Feith, Tom Cowin, Sharon O'Connor, Bill Trybendis and Rose French-Town Clerk

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 6:00pm by saluting the flag.

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.

Special Guest:

The Supervisor introduced Joel Zelinsky and Chris Feith from the Town of Moriah Snowmobile Club. They would like to hold a vintage snowmobile race on February 19, 2022 and they would like to utilize Bulwagga Bay Campsite. Mr. Zelinsky stated the club has been struggling and they are trying to revive it. They would do the track on the ice, admission and the food. The Supervisor asked if they would be using the bay side of the campsite and Mr. Zelinsky said yes, if there is ice. The Supervisor stated the club is asking the Town to take care of plowing for parking and the insurance. Mr. Zelinsky stated that parking is huge because of the campers. Councilman Brassard stated that what campers are still there will be staying; he suggested parking for the race by the basketball court. Mr. Zelinsky asked that it not get plowed down to the dirt because that is bad for the sleds. The Supervisor stated the Town would have to take out an insurance policy for one day. Mr. Zelinsky stated it is \$1,000. The Supervisor stated he spoke to ROOST and asked if we could use the bed tax money to pay for it and they said yes, that is what that money is for. The Supervisor stated he hopes the weather cooperates. Councilman Salerno asked if they were shooting for February and Mr. Zelinsky said yes, February 19th. The Supervisor asked Mr. Zelinsky if he thought the old sleds would draw a crowd and Mr. Zelinsky said yes, and they are hoping to get people from Canada now too that the border is open. Councilman Salerno asked if there was an age limit to the sleds and Mr. Zelinsky stated the newest could be 1993 but there were different classes of sleds. Councilman Salerno stated his concern about "the point" and the amount of inches of ice there. The Supervisor told Mr. Zelinsky that the Town cannot plow on the water and Mr. Zelinsky stated he understood that; they will take care of that; plow straight out from where the dock usually is; that would be the pit area and the races would take place to the right. Councilman Anderson asked if they had any sponsors and Mr. Zelinsky stated not yet; he stated each race team usually has a small sponsor. Councilman Gilbo asked if the event was hosted by clubs and if so could they help donate for the insurance. The Supervisor stated that the insurance will be in the Town's name and the club will be the co-insured. The Town will pay the bill directly. Mr. Zelinsky stated that it helps that there is insurance on the land already. Councilman Salerno asked if the club was going to work with the Chamber. Mr. Zelinsky stated that they would like to; they were waiting to advertise until they had the official go ahead. Mr. Zelinsky stated they will need the rescue squad there, once ambulance and 2 EMS people. He reached out to the ambulance squad already and is waiting to hear back. Mr. Zelinsky asked if the bathrooms at the campsite would be accessible and the Supervisor said no, they are not weatherized; will need porta potty's. The Supervisor stated we could use the bed tax money for this also. Mr. Zelinsky stated this is a one-day event, maybe next year depending on the turnout it would be two. Chris Feith asked who the contact was for the Chamber and the Supervisor told him Alex Wojewodzic and Sharon O'Connor gave him the hours she is there.

Floor Open to the Public:

N/A

Department Head/Town Board Reports:

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent, stated their summer projects are wrapping up. They finished Furnace Road and Started Fisk Road and worked on Mountain Spring, Curtis and King Lane. They were working on winter sand stock. They have also been helping the County. The Supervisor asked if we had any salt prices yet and Mr. Wilson said nothing has been confirmed yet. The Supervisor stated the Highway Garage would like to purchase a sander; budgeted for \$7,000; Mr. Wilson stated they have a couple of sanders that are in rough shape. Councilman Anderson asked if we will even be able to get one and Mr. Wilson said yes. The Supervisor stated that there is \$30,000 for sidewalks in the 2022 budget. He told Mr. Wilson that he needs to come up with a 5 year plan; we have 20 miles of sidewalk in the Town; need to pick out the high traffic areas and start with them first; replace with blacktop except in residential areas; concrete those areas. The Supervisor feels we need to do this in house, if we go out to bid \$30,000 won't go very far. He stated we are still waiting to see what exactly we can spend the stimulus money on.

Tom Cowin, Building & Grounds Superintendent, stated this is his 2nd week and everything is going good so far; still learning; people are very helpful. Councilman Salerno stated that he and Ed Roberts will meet with Mr. Cowin and spend a full day with him getting him acclimated.

Rich Lapier, Building Codes, excused.

Councilman Salerno had nothing to report.

Councilman Brassard reported that both campsites are now closed. We had a really good year. There is a waiting list at Bulwagga Bay Campsite. Both Campsite Managers are willing to come back. He would like to advertise in January for campground staff. The Supervisor stated that the campsites are the Town's 2nd biggest revenue. Tom Cowin asked if you had to be 18 and have a driver's license to apply at the campsites and the Supervisor said yes; it is seasonal work.

Councilman Gilbo reported that he and the Board have just been working through the budget.

Councilman Anderson wanted to remind the Board that he will be starting a ski program this winter and will be looking for financial support from the Town Board for transportation. The Supervisor asked if it was to Whiteface and Councilman Anderson said yes. Councilman Gilbo asked how you sign up and Councilman Anderson stated he is not sure yet, still need more volunteers.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor announced that we will celebrate Halloween on Sunday, October 31, 2021 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

The Supervisor reported that he and Councilman Gilbo met with Kevin Egan regarding internet access, Mr. Egan will meet with the Board of Supervisors on Monday. They are making progress. The Public Service Commission oversees Spectrum; they are paying a lot more attention and questioning more and putting more pressure on Spectrum.

The Supervisor stated this year we have received \$228,349.07 from the Federal Government (American Rescue Plan Act-Coronavirus). We have until 2024 to use it. So far we know we can use it for broadband and water & sewer. Other than that, not sure what it can be spent on. We need to spend it on something that we will see the benefit for years to come. Once we get more information, we will hold some public meetings.

The Supervisor stated there has been some statements made on Facebook regarding the miner statue and where it should be placed. The Supervisor does not agree with putting it in the flower circle. He then read a letter from Jim Dugan; Superintendent, Essex County DPW, they will not allow the miner statue to be placed there for safety reasons. Councilman Salerno asked if it could be placed on private property and the Supervisor stated the Board has no say regarding private property. The Supervisor stated that if you read mining history, mining started in Port Henry;

Cheever. Councilman Brassard stated you would not be able to get out and look at it and take a picture with it if you wanted to if it was in the flower circle. The Supervisor will invite the statue committee to come and meet with the Board.

The Supervisor stated he got an email from Captain Litardo, NYS Police regarding the size of the police station they would need if one is built in the Town of Moriah. The Supervisor forwarded this information to the manufacturer of pre fab homes. He stated we need the State Police here; it would be next to the Court House and there would be 6 troopers assigned there; 1 full time one in Moriah; the Supervisor will get this confirmed. Councilman Anderson asked the Supervisor if he has spoken to Elise Stefanik regarding funding and the Supervisor said yes, she thinks she can get us an ear mark for \$300,000; but we need to submit the cost to them first.

The Holiday Train will be a virtual event this year. CP Rail will still donate to the Food Pantry.

Councilman Salerno asked if the Hydro Project is a reality what impact will it have on taxes. The Supervisor stated they will pay full taxes on the property. He stated their taxable value will be @ \$400,000,000, town taxable value amount is @ \$246,000,000, taxes should be cut in half; this goes for School and Town & County. The Supervisor also stated that we should take care of ourselves and use a portion to reduce taxes.

Resolutions:

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

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

RESOLVED to authorize payment #2 to Catalfamo Construction; Town Hall Project; \$98,816.80.

Discussion: CDBG grant, they are making progress, can't get materials.

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

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

RESOLVED to authorize payment to Cedarwood Engineering; \$8.05 to close out 1st and 2nd Street Project.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated we did great on this project, only left \$8.05 on the table.

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

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

RESOLVED to adjust the sewer debt billing for 3264 Broad Street from 5 to 2 units as no longer apartments in the building.

Discussion: Councilman Brassard asked what building this was and the Supervisor stated it is the old Gilbo's store building.

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

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

RESOLVED to authorize purchase of a sander for Highway Department from budget funds, 2021, \$7,000.

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

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

RESOLVED to authorize repairs to 2013 Chevy Impala at Sleeper's as per quote dated 9/10/21; \$1,751.13.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated it is in good shape, worth the money.

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

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

RESOLVED approval of Town of Moriah Snowmobile Club to use Bulwagga Bay Campsite; February 19, 2022 for races. Insurance for event to be paid from Occupancy Tax monies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town will provide 2 porta potty's for the event to be paid from Occupancy Tax monies.

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

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

RESOLVED to renew contract with North Country Life Flight; 2022; \$200.00.

Discussion: Councilman Gilbo asked if this was one lump sum. The Supervisor said yes; life flight you don't get charged for.

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

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

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor to sign agreement for 2021-2022 with SPCA for \$250.00/\$25 per day for dangerous dog confinement.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated this is a special kennel for dangerous dogs.

- 195. ON MOTION** by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED to set date for Public Hearing on 2022 Preliminary Budget for Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 6:00pm; regular board meeting to immediately follow.

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

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

RESOLVED approval to do transfers in budget as needed.

- 197. ON MOTION** by Councilman Brassard, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

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

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

- 198. ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Brassard, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED approval payment of End of Month and Monthly Warrants.

Floor open to the public:

Robert Stevenson stated we need a 3-way street light by Larrow's Garage, Fisher Hill and the old drug store in Mineville. The cars fly coming off Fisher Hill. The Supervisor stated the Town has no say in that, it is County Road; he stated he will mention it to the County Highway Superintendent but he feels it won't happen. The Supervisor stated he could ask the State Police to patrol up there and can also send Art Brassard up there. Mr. Stevenson also mentioned that the dirt bikes and 4 wheelers on Mountain Spring Road are out of control, he almost hit one the other day. He stated they are terrorizing Mineville. The Supervisor stated he spoke to Officer Nichols, he is aware of the problem, we don't have the resources to chase them through the woods. Councilman Brassard suggested putting a gate at each end of the road, Jamie Wilson said you can't it is a Town Road. Mr. Stevenson stated the Pilfishire Road is bad also; even during football games; somebody is going to get hurt. The Supervisor stated again the Town does not have the resources to handle it. He also stated that the Police, Sheriff's Department and DEC are doing what they can.

The Supervisor asked Mr. Wilson to talk about Spanish Settlement. Mr. Wilson stated the road is in rough shape. The Town can't work on it; it is not a town road; it is a shared deed. The Supervisor stated he will do a letter to the homeowners. Councilman Salerno stated we can't work on that road unless we work on all the roads in town that fall under those circumstances. Councilman Anderson asked how long the road is and the Supervisor stated it is a cul-de-sac. Councilman Salerno stated who knows, old Highway Superintendents probably took care of it and now it is a problem. The Supervisor stated the Town can't work on this road because it is not a Town road and the Board was in agreement with this.

The meeting adjourned at 6:56pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

September 27, 2021

General	\$11,035.87
Highway	\$1,890.84
Water #1	\$57.07
Water #2	\$40.32
Water #3	\$572.53
Water #4	\$2.61
Sewer #1	\$2,072.87
Sewer #2	\$2,020.27

2021/1391-1408

October 14, 2021

General	\$46,818.34
Highway	\$54,750.23
Water #1	\$5,943.39
Water #2	\$2,856.12
Water #3	\$9,073.23
Water #4	\$256.44
Sewer #1	\$13,326.72
Sewer #2	\$9,245.98

2021/1412-1554

Capital Projects

Water/ Sewer Main Replacement Phase II	Cedarwood Engineering	\$11,477.50	#11
	Cedarwood Engineering	\$8.05	#12
	Press Republican	\$46.94	#13
Town Hall Project	Catalfamo Construction	\$98,816.80	#7

Town Clerk