

The Town of Moriah Town Board held a Public Hearing on the “Cold War Exemption” on Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 6:00pm at the Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

Present:

Thomas Scozzafava	Supervisor
Paul Salerno	Councilman
Timothy Garrison	Councilman

Absent:

Thomas Anderson	Councilman
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Others

Present: John Easter; Diana Stevenson; Ed Roberts, Building & Grounds; Richard LaPier, Building & Codes; John & Jackie Viestenz; Lucy Carpenter; Linda Smythe; Elaine Adkins, Town Clerk.

The Supervisor called the hearing to order at 5:45pm by saluting the flag.

Mr. Scozzafava opened the floor for any questions. Mrs. Viestenz asked how many people it would affect. Mr. Scozzafava responded that we don’t know how many, we will have to contact the Veteran’s Office and have them do a calculation of the number of vets in Moriah. The Cold War Exemption affects those who served in the military from September 2, 1945 through December 26, 1991 who are not currently receiving the eligible funds or alternative veteran’s exemptions. War vets get a \$12,000 exemption and another \$18,000 if they are a combat vet. It depends on how this would affect the tax rate; we need to know how many vets this would affect in order to see how it would affect the tax rate. The Board will look into the matter further and do more research before holding another hearing and have the assessors here.

The hearing closed at 5:59 PM.

Town Clerk

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Board Meeting Thursday, July 11, 2013 at 6:00pm at the Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

Present:

Thomas Scozzafava	Supervisor
Paul Salerno	Councilman
Timothy Garrison	Councilman

Absent:

Thomas Anderson	Councilman
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Others

Present: John Easter; Diana Stevenson; Ed Roberts, Building & Grounds; Richard LaPier, Building & Codes; John & Jackie Viestenz; Linda Smythe; Lucy Carpenter; Elaine Adkins, Town Clerk.

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

ON MOTION BY Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava,
	Absent	Anderson
	Nays	0

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

Bid Opening: ½ Ton Work Van

Port Henry Service Center offered for bid a 2004 Ford Econoline 250 with 43,696 miles at a price of \$6,000.

The Board discussed the bid and decided that Jamie and Tim Garrison will look at it and test it out and upon their approval accept the bid.

ON MOTION by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

Approved	Ayes	Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava
	Absent	Anderson
	Nays	0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board accept Port Henry Service Center's bid in the amount of \$6,000 for the 2004 Ford Econoline 250 upon the approval of Timothy Garrison and Jamie Wilson after they check the vehicle out.

Floor Open to the Public: No one spoke

Department Head Reports:

Richard LaPier, Code Enforcement Officer, gave the following report: Building Codes issued seven permits for the month of June, did one inspection for an occupancy certificate and did four fire and safety property maintenance inspections.

Mr. Scozzafava reported that he has had numerous calls of people burning garbage at night. The police and the DEC have been contacted and will be checking into the matter. There are heavy fines in place for this now.

Ed Roberts, Building and Grounds had nothing to report. Mr. Scozzafava asked him if he purchased the have a heart traps and was told they did.

Councilman Salerno gave the following Water & Sewer report: the department fixed sewer laterals that collapsed on Community Street in Grover Hills. They worked on water breaks on Decker's Flats and Mountain Spring Road. They have been doing their regular mowing and helping Building & Grounds who have been short staffed. They worked with the Highway Dept. in Grover Hills on the Federal Street repair, worked with the beach crew putting in docks and moving them back due to high water, they sent a backhoe to the beach to help move sand and helped highway build a wall at the beach due to erosion from high water.

Councilman Salerno reported that water will be turned off on July 24th at 9 AM to fix the pressure reducing valves. Affected areas will be Tarbell Hill, Fisk Road and all of Water District #4. Mr. Scozzafava stated that flyers should be taken door to door for those that will be affected by the water shut off.

Councilman Salerno gave an up-date on the campsite. The July 4th weekend was very busy with transient sites filled. They had to put those with tents on different sites as the tent sites were under water. Some campers had to be moved due to high water. They have 162 seasonal sites filled. The YCC is working there staining picnic tables. We are the best shape we've been in in years.

The Supervisor stated that we were losing sites, water and power lines due to the high water. We put in for an emergency permit to put shock rock on the shore line so we wouldn't lose anymore; we had the permit in two hours. We've spent \$10,000-12,000 for repairs and are hoping to utilize some of the grant money for payment. The Town crews did all the work and saved the Town a lot of money; they did a great job.

Councilman Salerno stated that we have two full-time seasonal workers (Justin Briggs & Mark Scozzafava) at the campsite and asked the Board to consider giving them sick time as they get nothing now. He suggested that they receive 20 hours for the remainder of this year and 40 hours per year after.

ON MOTION by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution to give the two full-time seasonal workers sick time of 40 hours per year, 20 hours for this year, which would require a doctor's note to use was **Amended** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

Approved	Ayes	Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava
	Absent	Anderson
	Nays	0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize 20 hours per year of non-accumulative personal time (changed from sick time, no doctor's note required) to the two full-time campsite workers.

Mr. Salerno stated that he spoke with Chris Marin of CATS and he asked if the Town could mow around the old landfill for people that want to go that way to the trail. Mr. Scozzafava stated that the field was brush hogged by the highway this week.

Councilman Garrison gave the following highway report as Mr. Wilson was excused: Grover Hills project is in full swing with the base course of blacktop in place. Storm drains, manhole covers and water valves will be set to grade before the final course of blacktop is laid. Once done, all lawn area will be addressed as needed.

All departments helped out with an emergency erosion protection permit that was granted by the Army Corps of Engineers. The permit is only to slow down the erosion problem with a 300 foot area south of the beach. We put in 350-400 ton of stone in that 300 ft. section; filter fabric was installed behind the rock to help the sand from washing out through the rock. This will not solve the erosion problem, but it will buy us time until all engineering is in place and funds are available.

Also, the guys have started the roadside mowing, working with the County crews on Decker Flats, flagging, pulling shoulders, ditching and trucking; paving should be completed by the end of the week. The guys also worked at the transfer station on the pad for the metal pile, blacktop has started to be put in place and should be finished in the next few weeks.

Councilman Garrison gave the following Police report as Office Stahl has been excused. The Police Department handled 188 calls for service in June of which there were seven violation arrests, 15 misdemeanor arrests, four felony arrests, issued 23 traffic tickets and handled five traffic accidents.

Councilman Garrison reported that as far as Economic Development, within a couple of months he will be presenting a five year plan to the Board.

Supervisor's Report:

- We are putting together an application (up to \$600,000) for an extension of an eight inch water main on Mt. Spring Road. We have a good shot at it. The surveys were sent out and it is critical that we get them back; without that information we won't get the money. If the surveys aren't all in next week we'll have to go door to door.
- Talked with the engineer about the punch list for Water District #4, there is a list of items that have not been completed. If they don't come back to fix things we will hold their retainage. There was money left from the project and we are looking into EFC letting us use that money to buy equipment for the Water Dept., a backhoe and a truck.
- Had a meeting with Jim and Gloria Virmala; they want to donate the Town Carriage that was owned by Witherbee/Sherman; it will be on display at the Iron Center.

ON MOTION by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava
	Absent	Anderson
	Nays	0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board accept the carriage from James and Gloria Virmala and appreciate their donation.

- Received notification from Real Property that they will be mailing a questionnaire form to all commercial property owners in Essex County. If you have any questions regarding these forms we will turn them over to Paul Mazzotte.
- Received an inquiry from the Chamber to use the pier and the Powerhouse Park for the Labor Day doings, but we don't own it. Have contacted NYS Canal Corp and they see no issue, but asked that the Chamber contact them. They are glad that it is being used; the insurance will be covered under the Town's umbrella. It was discussed that the dock got twisted due to the high water and needs to be repaired.
- Received notification that we will no longer be able to burn brush at the transfer station; we are still trying to get a permit to burn what is there. Spoke with Cheyenne and we have stopped taking brush immediately (if someone comes in with a loaded truck we will take it until the word is out). The Board discussed how this would affect the community especially those in the Village and Grover Hills.

ON MOTION by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava
	Absent	Anderson
	Nays	0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board ordered that effective immediately we will no longer accept brush at the transfer station.

- Have many requests as to when we will be having a free day at the transfer station; Councilman Salerno will work on the dates for September.
- Received notification that the Eliopoulos' want to sell the old high school property to the Town; they are asking \$195,000. Spoke with Mike Mascarenas at Community Development to see if we could get a grant to put a ball field there; this can't be done without an appraisal and it would be subject to public referendum.
- Received the municipal shelter inspection report for June; everything was satisfactory.
- Received notification that the tentative equalization rate is at 100 percent.
- The Verizon property dispute over the tower is no longer an issue, the property the tower sits on is on the Village/Town property as they thought. The Franken pine is up. We will be checking into the rent that we had agreed upon which they owe us from March through to present.

Ms. Smythe asked if they would be getting electricity at the traffic circle; Mr. Scozzafava stated that he had put power in the circle over a year ago. Apparently something failed and there is none; he will check it out.

Resolutions:

1. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava
	Abstain	Anderson
	Nays	0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board give approval to Justice Venne and Court Clerk Kay Hanson to attend mandatory training in Potsdam, NY from July 23rd through the 24th including two overnights at \$77.00 per night.

2. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution giving authorization to the Supervisor to sign the grant agreement with NYS EFC was **TABLED** by Supervisor Scozzafava, seconded by Councilman Garrison, all in favor, the resolution was tabled until the Supervisor gets more information.

3. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Salerno, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava
	Absent	Anderson
	Nays	0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize the Supervisor to retroactively allow the Highway Superintendent to rent an excavator and purchase materials for the emergency shoreline repairs at Bulwagga Bay Campsite.

4. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Salerno, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava
	Absent	Anderson
	Nays	0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board set the date for the public hearing for the grant application for improvements in Water District #2 on Mt. Spring Road for July 16th at 10:00 AM at the Town Hall.

5. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Garrison, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava
	Absent	Anderson

Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board approve the payment of the warrants.

6. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Garrison, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava
Absent Anderson
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to renew the contract with Orkin for pest control at the transfer station for the period of August 1, 2013 through July 31, 2014 in the amount of \$853.63.

Floor Open to the Public:

Mr. Viestenz asked how many and what positions are up for re-election this year. Mr. Scozzafava stated that two Councilmen, the Supervisor position and one Assessor are up for re-election.

Mrs. Adkins reported that there will be a rabies clinic at the Town Hall on July 23rd at from 6-7 PM. She also stated that people are not coming in to renew their dog licenses; 94 renewals were sent out in June and only 30 + renewed. She will check to see if we need to do another enumeration or if the ACO can go to the delinquent license holders and issue tickets.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Nos.:

June 14, 2013

2249

General Fund \$3,379.00

June 26, 2013

2251-2261

General Fund \$4,572.04

Highway 2,533.58

Water #1 45.61

Water #2 31.75

Water #4 4.63

Sewer 67.39

June 27, 2013

2262

General Fund \$12,376.00

July 7, 2013

2271-2349

General Fund \$34,638.44

Highway 5,421.48

Water #1 4,821.48

Water #2 3,518.95

Water #3 441.53

Sewer 559.44

Capital Projects:

Claim Nos.:

July 7, 2013

1-4

Beach Erosion \$14,365.39

Town Clerk