

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Board Meeting Thursday, September 12, 2013 at 6:00pm at the Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

Present:

Thomas Scozzafava	Supervisor
Paul Salerno	Councilman
Timothy Garrison	Councilman
Thomas Anderson	Councilman

### **Others**

**Present:** John Easter; Cynthia King, Real Property Analyst, NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance; Diana Stevenson; Anna Mayville; Gordon Wallace; Eric & Fran Wilhelmson; Luci Carpenter; Paul Mazzotte, Assessor; Shirley Cutting; Mike & May Ann Allen; Robert Allen; Mark Lashway; Kay Baker; Richard LaPier, Building & Codes; John Viestenz; Jamie Wilson, Highway Supt.; Stephanie Hanchett; Lani Sprague, Assessor; Mary Streible; Ethan Snyder, Assistant Water & Sewer Supt.; Elaine Adkins, Town Clerk.

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 6:00pm by saluting the flag. Mr. Scozzafava stated that he will move the Special Guest to the top of the Agenda.

### **Special Guest:**

The Supervisor introduced Cynthia King, Real Property Analyst, NYS Department of Taxation and Finance to talk about what people have to do to register for the Basic STAR exemption this year. Ms. King stated that the STAR exemption is an exemption on the school taxes that has been in place since 1999; it used to be that anyone with Basic STAR only had to register the one time. Now New York State is finding that some people have second homes in different states and getting a STAR exemption on that property as well. The STAR exemption is for the main residence that you live in and if a husband and wife own more than one home, whether it is in either name or both names they are entitled to a STAR exemption on one home only regardless if the second home is in the same or different state. The Basic STAR gives \$30,000 off the total assessment of the property to those with an income below \$500,000/yr. The easiest way to register is online; you can register by phone, but you may have a 10 minute or longer wait.

Mr. Scozzafava stated that anyone 65 and older with Senior STAR doesn't have to do anything differently. Mr. Mazzotte stated that seniors don't have to do anything different unless they get a letter from the assessors. If turning 65 by December 2014, they must fill out the Senior STAR application by March 1, 2014 and the income limit is \$81,900. If an elderly person with STAR moves in with a family member the STAR exemption still applies. You have to be an owner or have life lease in order to get the exemption; land contracts are a little tricky.

John Viestenz stated that there will be sessions set at the Chamber and Library at a later date where someone will be available to help them go on line and register.

Mr. Mazzotte stated that there is another exemption available to seniors for the school and land taxes if their income is under \$25,000.

The Board took a five minute at 6:25 break for Ms. King to get her equipment loaded up. The meeting was called back to order at 6:30pm by Mr. Scozzafava.

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

APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson  
Nays 0

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

### **Bid Opening:** Scrap Metal

George Moore, Truck & Equipment, Inc.: Pile A - \$135/net ton; Pile B - \$.07/pound

Earth Waste Systems: Pile A - 91.50/net ton; Pile B - \$.11/pound

The Board discussed the bids and stated they will award the bid as they came in with resolution to follow.

**Floor Open to the Public:** No one spoke

**Department Head Reports:**

Ethan Snyder, Assistant Water & Sewer Supt., reported that in August his department replaced over 200 feet of sewer line behind Ford Munson's. They have been working with Luck Brothers on the bridge in Moriah Center and helping Kubricky Construction on the Bartlett Pond Dam project. They had someone from fire protection come and check the flow valves on five hydrants. (Mr. Scozzafava stated that Water and Sewer and Highway have been helping on the dam project because we agreed to help as much as we can to save money.) Mr. Snyder reported that Luck Brothers will be putting in a temporary water line in Moriah Center so the water will be shut off in Moriah Center south including Water District #4 from 10pm until 5am on September 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. If the water is off for more than 4 hours we will have to put on a Boil Water Order for those areas. Mr. Scozzafava stated that we will need to have a fire protection meeting and have a fire hose set up during this.

Jamie Wilson, Highway Supt., reported that it is getting chaotic. The plan is that on September 16<sup>th</sup> the temporary bridge will be up in Moriah Center and all traffic lights will be on. It is a tough intersection with all the egress and ingress. This is a one lane bridge and we have done all we can to make it as convenient as we can. The date to be finished is December.

Between the two departments (Highway and Water & Sewer) one is always at the Bartlett Pond Dam project. There have been a lot of problems, but we are still under budget. The department has also been busy hauling for the county. The County has started repaving Moriah Road (Edgemont Road south) so with all the projects going on there are a lot of trucks in town. We had a little CHIPS money left after the Grover Hills project so we used it on Silver Hill and Teft Lane.

Richard LaPier, Building Codes, gave the following report. Building Codes issued six permits for the month of July and did two fire and safety property maintenance inspections; had one complaint.

Ed Roberts, Building & Grounds and Animal control had nothing to report.

Paul Mazzotte, Assessor, wanted to reiterate for seniors not to panic, if they need to re-file the assessors will notify them in January.

**Town Board Committee Reports:**

Councilman Salerno reported that the transfer station completed the junk days; had 87 from Mineville/Witherbee area and 120 from Moriah/Port Henry area also 100 tires were taken in for all the areas. He reported that there is 60-70 ton of scrap metal there and very little aluminum.

Building and Grounds are finishing mowing and Ed is working on cleaning boilers. He reported on the oil tanks to be filled at the Town buildings.

August was a good month at the campsite; there are 164 seasonals with only six left on the waiting list. There was \$10,020 taken in on pump outs and the winter storage fees are coming in. September 29<sup>th</sup> the campsite closes and we will be sending a letter out that all backflow preventers must be turned in (we will store them) or a \$30.00 fee will be charged. Mr. Scozzafava stated that the permits have to be amended for the shoreline erosion project at the campsite so the project probably be done until next spring or fall depending on the water level. We lost 20 more feet off the shoreline in two years. We need to do the engineering the year we do the project.

Councilman Garrison reported that there will be an EDGe meeting September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at the Court House. Mike Mascarenas will speak about the grants available for the community. Moriah Stock and Labor Day went great, had great turn outs. The Gaddor's show was amazing; they do the shows for no charge and all donations are given to different charities.

Councilman Anderson gave the following Police report. Police Department handled 181 calls of service of which seven were violation arrests, 10 misdemeanor arrest, issued 14 traffic tickets and handled four traffic accidents.

The Youth Commission wrapped up the summer program at their last meeting, there is a little money left in the supply budget; they will use this to order supplies for next year. They are looking into the cost of a ski program and if there is enough interest. He will have the numbers on that next month.

As for youth soccer Mike Mascarenas has \$500 in grant money to give us for equipment. We have to spend it first and then get reimbursed by the County.

### **Supervisor's Report:**

- Received notification from National Grid; they will be doing line refurbishment mostly on the south end of town. Go to the website or contact the Supervisor for more information.
- Last meeting we talked about junk day and misspoke about the garbage being paid on the property tax; it is not, it is paid by stickers.
- Have had calls on dangerous dog situations. Ed contacted Ag & Markets, received the law from them. The law is quite detailed and things aren't as easy to do as they seem to be; we have to go by the law.
- NYS Public Service sent papers on lifeline service based on income. Information is available through the Town Clerk or me.
- We will have our first meeting on the new playground September 18<sup>th</sup> here at 7pm. Money is available through the Department of Health. Playground will be put at Linney Field and will not interfere with the football games.
- Talked to Bob Stegman at DEC regarding the brush issue. They are going to try to find money for a commercial chipper for the County; we'd use the chipper once or twice a year. Grover Hills and the Village can't burn and have nowhere to bring their brush.
- Talked to the Board regarding the County tax sale. Looked at the property that adjoins the water filtration plant; requested they give this to the Town of Moriah. It is in the best interest of the Town to own this property. Asking the Board to give him authorization to request the County to give us this property.

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

APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava, Anderson  
Nays 0

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to request the County give the Town of Moriah the piece of property (that is up for taxes) next to the water filtration plant.

- Last month Lucie Carpenter came to the Board regarding getting land from the Town for the Angel of Hope. He asked Mrs. Carpenter to speak regarding this. Mrs. Carpenter stated that the Angel of Hope is a monument dedicated to all children regardless of age where anyone can go to remember loved ones. She is asking the Board to place the on a piece of property behind the Town Hall on the old rail bed. Mr. Scozzafava stated that we can't sell her the property, but can give her permission to use the property for her monument. The Board thinks this is a good project.

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

APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava, Anderson  
Nays 0

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board give authorization to Lucie Carpenter to go ahead with her Angel of Hope Monument project to be placed on Town property which she will maintain.

### **Resolutions:**

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

APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Garrison, Scozzafava, Salerno  
Nays 0

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board accept the bid for Pile A scrap metal at the transfer station from Northern Car Crushers, a Division of George Moore Truck and Equipment Corp. in the amount of \$135.00/ net ton as per their bid.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board award Pile B scrap metal to Earth Waste Systems, Rutland, VT, in the amount of \$.11/pound as per their bid. If Earth Waste Systems decides they don't want this bid it will automatically go to George Moore Truck & Equipment.

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

APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson  
Nays 0

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize the Supervisor to purchase two computers from state contract pricing, one for the Supervisor and the other for the Clerk's office to sell hunting and fishing licenses for a total amount of \$1,806.89.

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

APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson  
Nays 0

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorizes the purchase of a laptop computer for the assessors through state contract pricing.

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

APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson  
Nays 0

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board gives authorization for Paul Mazzotte to attend assessor training in Lake Placid in the amount of \$952.00 to be reimbursed by the State.

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

APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson  
Nays 0

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the affirmative vote of **not less than two-thirds of the total voting strength** of the Town Board of the Town of Moriah, Essex County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The purchase of pick-up trucks for the Town of Moriah, Essex County, New York, including original equipment and incidental expenses in connection therewith, is hereby authorized at a maximum estimated cost of \$60,000.

Section 2. It is hereby determined that the plan for the financing of the aforesaid maximum estimated cost is by the issuance of \$60,000 serial bonds of said Town, hereby authorized to be issued therefor pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid class of objects or purposes is fifteen years, pursuant to subdivision 28 of paragraph a of Section 11.0 of the Local Finance Law. It is hereby further determined that the maximum maturity of the serial bonds herein authorized **will not exceed five years.**

Section 4. The faith and credit of said Town of Moriah, Essex County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of said Town, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the serial bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Supervisor, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such

terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Supervisor, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 6. All other matters except as provided herein relating to the serial bonds herein authorized including the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, within the limitations prescribed herein and the manner of execution of the same, including the consolidation with other issues, and also the ability to issue serial bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, shall be determined by the Supervisor, the chief fiscal officer of such Town. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals, in addition to those required by Section 51.00 of the Local Finance law, as the Supervisor shall determine consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 7. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

- 1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said Town is not authorized to expend money, or
- 2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or
- 3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 8. This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 9. This resolution, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in summary form in the official newspaper of said Town for such purpose, together with a notice of the Town Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Councilman Salerno	VOTING	Aye
Councilman Garrison	VOTING	Aye
Supervisor Scozzafava	VOTING	Aye
Councilman Anderson	VOTING	Aye

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

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

APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson  
Nays 0

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorizes the purchase of two  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton pick-up trucks with plows from State Contract pricing in the amount of \$28,734 each for a total amount of \$57,468.00. (One truck will be for Building & Grounds and the other for the Water & Sewer Department)

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

APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava, Anderson  
Nays 0

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board set October 3, 2013 as the date for the Special Meeting on the Tentative Budget to be held at the Town Hall at 6:00pm.

8. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Anderson, Scozzafava, Salerno  
Nays 0

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorizes the renewal with Televue for the public access equipment for one year at a cost of approximately \$600.00 per year.

9. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Garrison, Scozzafava, Salerno  
Nays 0

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize the payment of the warrant.

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

APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava, Anderson  
Nays 0

**RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize to spend \$500.00 for youth soccer equipment to be reimbursed by Essex County.

**Floor Open to the Public:** No one spoke.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

**Abstract Distributions:**

<u>August 20 2013</u>		Claim Nos.:
General	\$6,000	2484
<u>August 21, 2013</u>		2489-2502
General	\$11,286.06	
Highway	1,586.83	
Water #1	67.57	
Water #2	46.65	
Water #4	6.97	
Sewer	195.32	
<u>September 12, 2013</u>		2507-2597
General	\$30,394.07	
Highway	12,875.83	
Water #1	5,409.56	
Water #2	3,939.88	
Water #4	497.27	
Sewer	40,726.48	

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Town Clerk