

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Board Meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2015 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, New York.

Present:	Thomas Scozzafava	Supervisor
	Lucille Carpenter	Councilwoman
	Timothy Garrison	Councilman
	Paul Salerno	Councilman
	Thomas Anderson	Councilman

Others Present: William Trybendis; Diana Stevenson; Rose French; Rod Boula, ECH CEO; Michelle Meachem, ECH Human Resource Director; Jamie Wilson, Highway Supt.; Art Morgan, Water & Sewer Supt.; Sandra Lovell; Elaine Adkins Town Clerk

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

ON MOTION by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Garrison, all in favor, carried, **RESOLVED** that the Town of Moriah Town Board approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

Fuel Bid: Supervisor Scozzafava read the Legal Notice.

Avery Energy - \$0.14 per gallon over Rutland Valero rack price delivered for #2 Fuel, Kerosene and On Road Diesel.

Superior Plus Energy Services – Albany NY weekly rack average delivery plus \$.1080per gallon for Heating Oil. Albany, NY weekly rack average delivery plus \$.1180 per gallon for Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel.

ON MOTION by Supervisor Scozzafava, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Scozzafava, Anderson, Salerno, Carpenter
	Abstain	Garrison
	Nays	0

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board award the fuel bid for heating oil, kerosene and on road diesel to Avery Energy at \$.14 per gallon over Rutland Valero rack price delivered.

Special Guest:

The Supervisor introduced Rod Boula, Elizabethtown Community Hospital (ECH) CEO and Interim CEO of Inter Lakes Health. Mr. Boula reported that this is the 11th year with their consolidation with Fletcher Allen now known as University of Vermont Health Network.

ECH was built in 1968; in 2008 they did major renovations to the ER and Outpatient which was finished in 2010. The acute care floor has not been renovated since it was built other than painting; it needs to be modernized, only two rooms have a restroom and shower. They will add 5-6,000 square feet with the renovation having an L shaped expansion. They will still have 25 rooms of which 11 will be private. They can use the remaining rooms as private or double occupancy if needed. The cost of the project will be 10.2 million; three million will be out of pocket, three million will be financed and they plan on raising three million by fund raising. The remaining will be funded with their reserves.

ECH recruited another primary care physician for AuSable Forks, purchased property there and opened a health center; this is the fifth clinic they have opened. They increased their mobile MRI to two days/week and finished their second year of in-house transport thereby getting people out quicker.

ECH has earned three years in a row the Guardian Award for excellence in the ER; they maintain 95 percent or higher in patient satisfaction in the ER and are the top critical access hospital in New York State out of 13. It has been a good year financially and they in the top 10 percent in NYS.

Mr. Boula reported that he is also the Interim CEO of Inter Lakes Health; they are looking at bringing them under ECH, but they will have to sell the nursing home to do this, they are in the process of selling now. They will maintain the ER 24 hrs./day along with labs and x-ray; they started this week with the mobile MRI one day/week. ECH will be leasing 23,000

square feet of the hospital and applied for an eight million dollar district grant to renovate the 23,000 sq. ft. They will be gaining space from the reduction of beds; they will be down to three or four beds called hold beds. The ER will have tele-med linkage with CVPH. If everything goes well they will start September first. The Supervisor asked what the average occupancy rate was this year of the 25 beds; as of now zero, but as high as three or four throughout the year. Mr. Scozzafava asked who staffs the ER now, Hudson Headwaters. Mr. Boula reported that Pas staff it and they work directly from Inter Lakes; admissions come from Hudson Headwaters. Councilman Salerno asked if they will have a dentist come in and was told they are negotiating with a dentist from Plattsburgh now, but he wants to pay less in the lease and they can't afford to go any less so they will have to wait and see. The Board thanked Mr. Boula for the tremendous job he has done; they are glad he is in Ticonderoga also.

Floor Open to the Public: No one spoke.

Department Head Reports:

Councilman Anderson gave the following reports for the Police Department for June and July. In June the Police Department handled 174 calls for service of which five were violations, nine misdemeanor arrests, two felony arrests, issued 16 traffic tickets and handled six traffic accidents. In July the Police Department handled 183 calls for service of which were 10 violations, four misdemeanors, two traffic tickets issued and handled six traffic accidents.

Councilwoman Carpenter gave the following Building Codes report. Building Codes issued four building permits for the month of July, did five fire/safety inspections, issued five notices on junk vehicles to area businesses and issued two violation notices on rubbish issues.

Art Morgan, Water & Sewer Supt., reported that the filtration plant needs a new flow meter in the amount of \$1,458.00; this is a standard part that doesn't require going to bid.

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

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

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board approve the purchase of a flow meter in the amount of \$1,458.00 from Flow Motion Systems for the Water Filtration Plant.

We need to purchase carbon for the water plant; the company we purchase from is the only company that has the carbon in the bags we use and they have changed their policy on how we can pay. Now the company wants their money upfront before the carbon is shipped; a municipality can't pay that way. Art is waiting to hear back as to what we can do.

Jamie Wilson, Highway Supt., reported that his department has been working with the County in the Mineville/Witherbee areas replacing culverts and doing cutouts prior to construction. They tore out sidewalks and replaced some with concrete and some are now black top. They've also helped with the milling. Joyce Road and Barton Hill were also done; the County is splitting the cost on Barton Hill because they use that road to get to their tailings pile.

Through Meg Parker helping us to get grant money, we purchased a red dragon for Linney Field and a professional grade shuffle board for the beach; we only have to pay for the deck to put the shuffle board on. Meg is the one who wrote the grants to get all the playground equipment and boats and paddle boards also. Meg works through Public Health's Healthy Places, but they are doing away with the program and she will be done in September. She has been a great asset and we will be sad to see her go.

Mr. Scozzafava stated that the pickle ball court in Moriah gets a lot of use and that the boat rentals at the campsite did fairly well; most of the rentals were the paddle boards.

The Supervisor reported that he and Art met with the DEC on Titus Road. They also discussed the sewer districts in Moriah that are now 30 years old and we need to start preventative maintenance. Rural Water Conservation will come down at no charge because we are members to monitor the four miles of line we have that goes through the woods. We are getting fined \$1,000 for the Plank Road over flow. The only good thing about the fine is that the points go way up with EFC for funding.

Town Board Reports:

Councilman Anderson reported that the Summer Program was very successful and that there were over 110 campers, averaging over 90 a day. They had many activities some of which were movies, swimming, bowling, and arts and crafts to name a few. Mr. Anderson thanked all those that were involved. He stated that we may have to look onto charging a low fee to campers in the future. We have less counselors due to minimum wage going up and more campers; we can't be in violation of counselors to campers. The Board discussed charging a fee and how they would be able to do more with more money. The Supervisor did not think people would balk at paying \$10.00 per week. This is something we will have to discuss at budget time. Mr. Anderson stated that the last week was a little rough, but everything went well. The DOH has a new Director and she was very helpful.

Councilwoman Carpenter had nothing to report.

Councilman Garrison reported that Champ Day and Moriah Stock went well; they will expand it next year.

Councilman Salerno set the dates for the Town clean up days for Friday, September 11th and 12th for Witherbee, Mineville and Grover Hills. September 18th and 19th for below Grover Hills through Moriah Center, Moriah and Port Henry from 8am – Noon and 1pm – 4:30pm; Fridays will stay open until 7:30pm.

Mr. Salerno stated that if you haven't gone to see the Angel of Hope you should go see it. Tom Carpenter, Luci and all that helped have done a beautiful job. Mrs. Carpenter said they will have a small fund raiser on September 5th and are taking donations and selling pavers.

The Supervisor asked Mr. Wilson if the fence people had given them a quote on the labor for putting the fence up. Mr. Wilson said that the labor costs \$5,000 which is half the cost of the other companies and he will get with them on the fence and labor or just labor depending on the cost of the fence for the cemetery.

Supervisor's Report:

- Jamie, Laney and the Supervisor have been going over the abandoned highways in the Town and found that things weren't followed through on some of the roads. We need to address this issue again now that we are aware.
- The beach was closed for two day due to the blue-green algae; this has happened the last three summers; there's nothing we can do about it. When this happens we still have to keep the lifeguards on to keep people and animals out of the water.
- John Waldron asked to be let out of his camping charges. Something came up and he had to move out this season. We usually give refunds for medical reasons; others have been entitled to refunds in the past. The site has been re-rented. He isn't asking for a refund, he wants out of his agreement. The Board discussed if he should have paid on a daily rate, but was alright with letting him out of the agreement because we have since rented the site.

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

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

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board agree to let John Waldron out of his agreement for renting the site at Bulwagga Bay Campground.

- The DOH did an inspection at the beach; they had a few recommendations, but no violations; it was a good report. The water was also tested at the beach, everything came back fine.
- Received a letter from the Sr. Citizens asking for a new van. The current van is a 2002 or 2003 and has a lot of miles on it. The van is used for delivering meals and for trips for the Seniors. The Supervisor thinks we can get a few more years out of it for delivering meals; after checking with Senator Little he found there's no money out there for a van. We are working with the County to see if it is possible to use the public transportation for their trips. We can't afford a new van and will have to deal with this at budget time.

- Received a letter from Suzanne Maye asking what can be done to change the current laws on property maintenance. The current NYS Property Maintenance Code holds the landlord responsible for clean up on property not the tenant. Ms. Maye wants to know if that can be changed to go after the tenant not the landlord for any messes, garbage etc. the tenants leave. The Supervisor said that a town can pass a local law, but not sure how it would stand up in court if tested. The Board discussed the enforcement and decided the only recourse we have now is to go after the property owner then they can go to civil court and take action on the tenant.
- Received notice that the Town equalization rate is at 100 percent. Every town in Essex County is at 100 percent.

Resolutions:

1. Resolution for fuel bid done earlier.
2. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorizes to go to bid for the Mountain Spring Road Water Project with the bid to be opened on September 16, 2015 at 10:00am at the Town Hall.
3. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize the Supervisor to pay NYS DEC for overflow on Plank Road in August in the amount of \$1,000.00.
4. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, the following resolution was

APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Carpenter, Scozzafava, Salerno, Garrison
Nays

the Town of Moriah Town Board authorized to renew the contract with Orkin Pest Control for the Transfer Station in the amount of \$914.40 for the period of August 1, 2015 through July 31,2016.
5. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board agree to donate the returnable bottles to the “Back Pack Program” for the month of August as per request by Brooke Mildon.
6. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board award the bid for the Titus Road Pump Station to the low bidder, Emerick Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$27,469.76.
Discussion: The Supervisor stated that the bids were very close and came in way under what we thought they would be; we may not have to borrow for the project depending on fund balances in sewer.
7. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board award the bid for the installation of the 10 foot chain link fence at the Pickle Ball Court to Cedar Ledge Fence Company in the amount of \$5,000.

8. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Carpenter, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Carpenter, Scozzafava, Garrison, Salerno
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board approve the payment of the warrants.
9. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava, Carpenter, Anderson
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize the Justices to submit a 2015 Grant Application for funds for office equipment and a security system pursuant to OCA requirements.
10. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Garrison, Scozzafava, Salerno, Carpenter
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board enter into Executive Session to discuss union negotiations at 7:05pm.
11. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Salerno, Scozzafava, Anderson, Carpenter
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the board meeting at 8:15pm.

After discussing union negotiations in the Executive Session there was no action taken.

ON MOTION by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Nos.:

<u>7/16/2015</u>	\$1,103.48	2015-767
This claim was approved at previous meeting, but the check had to be voided as it was made out to the wrong vendor; we had to issue new check to correct vendor.		
<u>7/22/2015</u>		
General Fund A	\$11,834.31	2015-768 – 2015-786
General Fund B	46.64	
Highway DA	590.87	
Water #1	57.25	
Water #2	38.84	
Water #4	6.14	
Sewer	272.92	
<u>7/24/2015</u>		
General Fund A	\$7,895.00	2015-787 – 2015-792
<u>8/7/2015</u>		
General Fund A	\$5,335.00	2015-797 – 2015-802
<u>8/13/2015</u>		
General Fund A	\$61,181.64	2015-802 – 2015-905
General Fund B	73.88	
Highway DA	2,576.71	
Highway DB	92.40	
Water #1	2,426.62	
Water #2	1,776.26	

Water #4	224.25
Sewer	6,393.84

Capital Projects:

Claim Nos.:

Mt. Spring Road	\$5,989.30	3-4
Court House	2,845.20	1
Handicap Accessibility	500.00	1
Titus Rd. Pump St.	133.22	1-3

Town Clerk