

The Town of Moriah Town Board held a Public Hearing on the 2013 Preliminary Budget on November 8, 2012 at 6:00 PM at the Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, New York.

Present:

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

Others

Present: John Easter; Diana Stevenson; John Viestenz; Richard LaPier, Codes Officer; Steve Stahl, OIC; Jamie Wilson, Highway Supt.; Staley Rich; Becky Gilbo, Sr. Account Clerk; Elaine Adkins, Town Clerk

Mr. Scozzafava opened the hearing at 6:00pm by saluting the flag; he then asked for a moment of silence in honor of Dain Venne who was killed in Afghanistan. Dain was the son of Town Justice Brian Venne and Laura Venne a school teacher at Moriah Central.

The Supervisor explained the budget that we now have it under the two percent tax cap. There is no new equipment in the budget; the tax levy is \$1,894,814.

Mr. Scozzafava wanted the people to know that the Village rate went up because the sales tax money received by the Town is applied to those outside the Village; the Village takes their own sales tax money. The worker's compensation cost will be added to the county portion of the town taxes.

Floor Open to the Public:

Mr. Viestenz asked besides property tax, what other large revenues does the Town have? The Supervisor stated that we get about \$62,000 in State aid, \$79,000 in CHIPS money for highways, about \$95,000 is sales tax, and about \$140,000 from the campground. We also get revenue from the Court, Town Clerk revenue and mortgage tax.

The Supervisor stated that water and sewer rates will remain the same; \$290/yr. for water and \$420/yr. for the sewer.

Mr. Scozzafava stated that Becky and the Town Board did a good job keeping the tax cap under the two percent.

The hearing adjourned at 6:12 pm.

Town Clerk

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Board meeting immediately following the Public Hearing o the Preliminary Budget (at 6:00 PM) at the Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, New York.

Present:

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

Others

Present: John Easter; Diana Stevenson; John Viestenz; Richard LaPier, Codes Officer; Steve Stahl, OIC; Jamie Wilson, Highway Supt.; Staley Rich; Becky Gilbo, Sr. Account Clerk; Elaine Adkins, Town Clerk

Supervisor Scozzafava opened the meeting at 6:13pm.

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

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

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

Department Head Reports:

Jamie Wilson, Highway Supt., reported that the trucks are ready for the winter months ahead. He has been working with the insurance company throughout the town; almost everything they requested is done.. His department has been cutting brush, tearing down the old salt shed and getting set for winter. The Supervisor stated that there is a water problem at the library and there is a resolution coming up for the Town and Village crews to work together to install a perimeter drain. Mr. Wilson stated his department can help. The Library will purchase the materials and the Town and Village will supply the man power.

Richard LaPier, Building Codes officer, gave the following report: He issued five building permits in October along with doing regular building inspections. There were no complaints received or violation notices given.

Mr. Scozzafava reminded landlords once an apartment is vacant they are required to get an occupancy permit before they can rent the apartment again. Mr. LaPier will inspect the apartment and if it passes, issue an occupancy permit. There is a \$100 fine for not complying. The Board discussed options of ways to get the word around especially for out of town landlords. It was suggested putting something in with the tax bills and then everyone would know about this. Mrs. Rich stated that real estate agents should be notified as well, then they can pass the word on to new owners.

Steve Stahl, OIC, gave the following report: The police department handled 174 calls for service in October of which 14 were violation arrests, 11 misdemeanor arrests, one felony arrests, issued 26 traffic tickets and handled six traffic accidents.

Councilman Salerno gave the reports for Water & Sewer and Building & Grounds. Water and sewer had their annual inspection and the Department of Health gave them an excellent report.

Mr. Salerno stated that he has been working with Building & Grounds and they are starting to cut the brush by CP Rail.

Mr. Scozzafava stated that the Town for years has a sewer ordinance that requires anyone on the Town sewer system to have backflow preventers installed. Notices regarding the ordinance will be put in with the water and sewer bills in January. It is to the owners benefit to have it in case there are any problems; if not the Town's insurance will not cover it.

Town Board Committee Reports:

Councilman Anderson reported that the Youth Commission is looking into youth bowling as an activity this year. They are also looking into skiing; this would be getting a reduced rate for the kids, not bussing them anywhere. The Supervisor congratulated the Councilman on the footballs teams victory this year.

Councilman Carpenter reported that they had the last Police Committee meeting for the year. Anyone with issues can contact himself (until he is replaced) or Mr. Garrison. The Supervisor congratulated him on his victory for the Justice position.

Councilman Garrison reported that the Chamber of Commerce held elections in October and they now have a Board of Directors; they have a new group of people and are moving forward. The Supervisor thanked him for his time and effort on the Chamber. Mr. Garrison stated the Economic Development Group will meet Wednesday, the 14th at 6:00 PM.

Councilman Salerno reported that the campground grossed about \$295,000 this year netting about \$145,000; there are still a few bills out there. It was a great year for the campground and they have done a lot down there, replacing pumps, installing new docks, fixed electric and water lines. We have a waiting list meaning all the seasonal sites are filled for next year. Mr. Salerno stated that we need to do the erosion project. Mr. Scozzafava stated they are still waiting to hear on the grant, which he thinks is a long shot. The work can't wait as all the permits are in place and will expire in 2013. We will Have to hold a special meeting on the campsite project and check into bonding, paying the bond off from revenue from the campsite.

Mr. Scozzafava stated that we are waiting on one permit for the Bartlett Pond Dam. Once we receive the final engineering and permit we will have Kubricky Construction finish the dam; they were the construction outfit awarded the emergency work at the time of Irene. FEMA funds will be used to pay for this.

Supervisor's Report:

- √¹ Asked Mr. Viestenz if reports were coming in for the web and was told the court has not sent anything as of yet; he has all the others. Councilman Garrison thanked him for all he is doing as did the other Board members.
- √¹ Received letter of support for the police department from Mary Consadine.
- √¹ Mr. Carpenter has been looking at street light options; we can either take the lights out or reduce the wattage to 70 watt. There are approximately 500 street lights outside the Village. If anyone in the community has a light in front of their house and wants it removed, call the Town Hall with the pole number and address and we will have it removed.

Resolutions:

1. **ON MOTION** by Supervisor Scozzafava, with a Unanimous second, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Scozzafava, Salerno, Garrison, Carpenter, Anderson
Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board offer a Resolution of Condolence to the family of Dain Venne, who lost his life serving his country in Afghanistan.
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 adopt the 2013 Town of Moriah Budget.

3. **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 amend the current Town of Moriah “Drug Free Workplace Policy” to read “All Town Employees” that may be tested for drugs and/or alcohol.

4. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Carpenter, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson, Salerno
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board Amend the Teamster’s Union Contract by “reducing the 2013 agreed upon salary raises from three (3) percent to two (2) percent for 2013; 2014 to remain at three (3) percent; 2015 at two (2) percent. The health insurance re-opener will remain in effect for 2013, 2014 and 2015.

5. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Anderson, Salerno, Scozzafava, Garrison, Carpenter
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board give approval for the Highway Department to work with the Village of Port Henry to install a perimeter drain at the Sherman Free Library; the Library will purchase the materials needed.

6. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson, Carpenter
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board give approval for the Highway Department to work with the Village of Port Henry, as a shared service, to install a “Truck Wash Station” at the highway garage as required by the DEC.
 Discussion: The Village has no place to wash their vehicles. We will need to install an oil/water separator. Because this is a shared service the Town and Village will submit a Grant application to the Department of State.

7. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Carpenter, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson, Salerno
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board renew the contract with Cornerstone for the phone service at the Town Hall.

8. **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 approve the payment to Riznick Construction for Water District #4 in the amount of \$75,157.86.
 Discussion: the project is complete except for a few minor issues; Mr. Scozzafava will call the engineer on this.

9. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Carpenter, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Carpenter, Scozzafava, Anderson, Salerno
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board contract with the North Country SPCA for 2013 for the impoundment of stray dogs and cats.

10. **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 purchase of two new computers for the Town Clerk's Office in the amount of \$1,797.99.
11. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Salerno, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson, Carpenter
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board purchase a new copier, printer, scanner, fax machine for the highway garage. Original pricing through New York State contract pricing is \$3,893 minus a grant from NYSEERDA in the amount of \$2,919; the remainder will be paid off in interest free monthly payments in the amount of \$59.56.
12. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Carpenter, seconded by Councilman Garrison, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Carpenter, Garrison, Scozzafava, Anderson, Salerno
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize going to bid for Sodium Hypochlorite Solution for the period of January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013; bid opening to be at the next board meeting.
13. **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 advertise for the Board of Assessment and Review vacant position; the term will begin immediately upon appointment and go through September 30, 2017.
14. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison, seconded by Councilman Carpenter, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Carpenter, Scozzafava, Anderson, Salerno
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board approve the payment of the warrants.
15. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Garrison with a Unanimous second, the following resolution was
 APPROVED Ayes Garrison, Scozzafava, Salerno, Carpenter, Anderson
 Nays 0
RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board offers full support in the building and delivery of natural gas pipeline to the Ticonderoga area and International Paper Company. The delivery of natural gas to our area will help maintain the businesses we have and also attract new businesses. It will also offer to the area residents, an inexpensive and efficient energy source.

Mr. Scozzafava stated that Judge Venne has been the only Justice since Judge Farnsworth resigned in February. There is training in Albany the end of November and because the new judge has to be certified before sitting the bench, we should send the newly elected Town Justice, Rick Carpenter to the training. If he doesn't go to this training there isn't another one until sometime next year so that won't be helping Judge Venne, he would still be the only one certified to sit the bench. We can appoint for a vacancy, but would never do that before an election. Once Rick becomes certified the Board can appoint him for the remainder of the year, (he will be taking office in January) but he would have to resign from the Board first. If the Board decides to appoint the Council position, the term will be for his unexpired term which is up next December. We can operate with a four member board.

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

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

RESOLVED that the Town of Moriah Town Board authorize Richard Carpenter to attend the Justice Training and stay in Albany the week of November 26, 2012 through December 1, 2012; he will be reimbursed for his expenses.

Floor Open to the Public: No one spoke.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Abstract Distribution:

Claim Nos.:

October 26, 2012

General	\$5,239.59
Highway	5,253.94
Water Dist. #1	66.91
Water Dist. #2	44.58
Sewer	125.32

1192 – 1203

November 8, 2012

General	\$12,749.00
Highway	14,660.37
Water Dist. #1	6,004.27
Water Dist. #2	3,730.83
Sewer	2,114.71

1210 – 1300

Town Clerk