

The Town of Moriah Town Board held a Public Hearing on Thursday July 20, 2023 at 5:45pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY on the Community Development Block Grant for Wells/Septic Systems in Cheever.

Present:	Thomas Scozzafava	Supervisor
	Paul Salerno	Councilman
	Tom Anderson	Councilman
	Matt Brassard	Councilman

Absent:	Nathan Gilbo	Councilman
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Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Lance Galvin, Jennifer Smith and Rose French-Town Clerk

Supervisor Scozzafava called the public hearing to order at 5:45pm by saluting the flag; he then read the legal notice calling for the public hearing.

The Supervisor asked the Town Clerk if she had received any written comments and she said no. The Supervisor stated this grant is being run by the Housing Assistance Program. There are 14 families in Cheever; their water source has not been maintained for years; person who always maintained it passed away; they have no safe drinking water. A 4th Water District was discussed years ago but it was too costly; Cheever is far from the main line. The NYS Department of Health approached the Town about submitting this grant to help these families out. The Supervisor stated that no Town money would be involved; all money would be reimbursed by HAPEC. The Supervisor asked the public and the Town Board if they had any questions. Councilman Salerno asked if we go forward with the application who is responsible for locating a water source and the Supervisor stated HAPEC is handling it all.

The Supervisor introduced Jennifer Smith from HAPEC and turned the meeting over to her.

Councilman Salerno asked how do we determine the 14 wells, who does the drilling; what type of water systems. The Supervisor stated again this is not in a water district and no Town monies are involved; the homeowner will be responsible to maintain the system. Councilman Salerno asked if the grant would be for pipes and lines and Ms. Smith said yes. The Supervisor stated the Town has to be the one to submit the application and Ms. Smith stated the Town is the recipient.

Ms. Smith stated that she and Alan Hipps went to all the homes; 3 were home; spoke to 2 and 1 would not speak to them; most are rentals; income is based on renter not owner. To be eligible income has to be 80% of medium income. Councilman Salerno stated that Lance Galvin is here and he owns 2 of the homes; but the income is based on the renter's income and Ms. Smith said yes. The Supervisor stated other areas in Town are in dire need as well especially for septic systems. The Supervisor stated we can do another application. Ms. Smith stated this grant is for the Town of Moriah, not just Cheever. Lance Galvin stated he owns 4380 NYS Route 9N which has a Westport address but is still in the Town of Moriah. Ms. Smith stated that is due to geographic boundaries. Councilman Salerno stated there are 10 homes in Cheever; how many in other areas of the Town and the Supervisor stated Mr. Alan Hipps from HAPEC will compile a list. Ms. Smith stated they will work with an Engineer and the property owner; the property owner will be the main contact and also the renter.

The meeting adjourned at 5:59pm.

Town Clerk