

The Town of Moriah Town Board held a Public Hearing on the 2019 Budget on Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 5:45pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, New York.

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

Others Present: Tim Rowland, Becky Gilbo, Diana Stevenson, Linda Smyth, Jeff Kelly, Mark Davenport, Sharon O'Connor, Rene Anderson, Cathy Sprague, Michael Crane, Jamie Wilson, Ann Tesar, Bernadette Brennan, Bill Trybendis and Rose French-Town Clerk.

Supervisor Scozzafava opened the meeting at 5:45pm by reading the legal notice.

The Supervisor gave a quick overview of the budget. He stated there was one budget workshop. There is a 2% raise across the board for all employees. Garbage stickers will go from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per 32 gallon bag effective January 1, 2019. This is because Essex County has increased the tipping fee. The Supervisor stated that the sales tax on the revenue side is good. Port Henry Fire District #3 will assume all utility bills for the building they are in effective January 1, 2019. We were able to eliminate one Highway position. No new equipment is in the budget. The Highway Department will purchase a pickup this year and use 2018 fund balance. The Supervisor stated that dissolution money is being used to reduce taxes. Water & Sewer rates will remain the same. Sewer debt is not included in the tax cap this year.

The Supervisor asked everyone to refer to the projected town tax handout. He explained that these numbers do not include County tax. He explained that page 2 is a breakdown of last year vs this year taxable values. He asked if anybody had any questions.

Linda Smyth asked how long we would get the dissolution money for and the Supervisor said forever; it is the same amount every year.

The Supervisor stated he received a letter from Assessor's Brent Ida and Leilani Sprague requesting an increase in their salaries to \$8,000 each for 2019. Councilman Brassard asked if this was because of their hours and getting paid minimum wage. The Supervisor stated that their hours are varied, they are elected officials. Councilman Brassard asked if it was 720 hours a month; the Supervisor stated that is what the letter states.

The Supervisor stated that the Sherman Free Library requested an increase in their annual appropriation from \$12,000 to \$13,000; they are in the budget for the increase.

The Supervisor stated the Chamber has also requested an increase in their annual appropriation to \$12,000. Councilman Salerno asked when the Chamber asked for the increase and the Supervisor stated the letter is dated September 25, 2018 which he copied the Board with. The Supervisor stated that if the Board decides to increase the appropriation the budget does not need to be amended, that is only for elected officials. He also stated that the Chamber receives \$6,875 annually from the Town and \$2,500 in bed tax money that the Town gives them from the County. The Supervisor read the letter from the Chamber. Cathy Sprague explained that \$3,500 of that money goes straight for fireworks and/or the parade. Councilman Salerno feels their appropriation should be increased to \$10,500; additional \$1,125 a year. Linda Smyth thanked Councilman Salerno.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:02pm.

Town Clerk