

The Town of Moriah Town Board held a Public Hearing on November 12, 2020 at 5:30pm at the Knights of Columbus 4253 Main Street, Port Henry, New York, on the 2021 Preliminary Budget.

Present:	Thomas Scozzafava	Supervisor
	Paul Salerno	Councilman
	Thomas Anderson	Councilman
	Matthew Brassard	Councilman
	Nathan Gilbo	Councilman

Others Present: Becky Gilbo, Bill Trybendis, Jamie Wilson, Tim Rowland, Paul Reese, Dianna Stevenson, Rich Lapiere and Rose French, Town Clerk

The Supervisor called the Public Hearing to order at 5:30pm by saluting the flag.

The Supervisor stated social distancing was in effect so masks can be removed. He then read the legal notice calling for the Public Hearing.

The Supervisor stated we held the line on taxes.

There will be a 3% raise in salaries.

The Town Clerk will be taking over the Water & Sewer; salary will increase due to extra work load.

In 2021 the landfill BAN will be paid off.

We will be increasing the fee for C & D and it will be collected every day.

We are looking in to getting an extra C & D container.

Campsite fees will be increasing by 2% for the 2021 season for both campsites.

Revenues were down for campsites due to opening late because of COVID.

Auditing and Assessor budgets reduced by \$3,000.

Supervisor expenses down by \$1,000 and Building & Grounds expenses are down by \$25,000.

Sidewalks were removed from the budget.

Reduced amount in budget for campground improvements from \$50,000 to \$25,000. Hopefully we will get full state aid next year and the 20% that was cut this year.

The Highway Garage will not be replacing James Cirrincione's position. Will be purchasing a truck out of this year's budget. We will be taking out a BAN for some highway equipment.

Water rates will be going up to \$295.00 per year. Sewer rates will be going up to \$425.00 per year.

The Supervisor then went over the 2021 budget packet that was handed out. Will put \$10,000 in to Water District #2 to keep the tax rate down. Fund balance was used for this.

Fire protection went up due to Tub Mill Pond.

Village Dissolution Legacy; \$10,000; this is for retired employees.

The Supervisor then went over the comparison sheet from the County.

Under the \$100,000 house comparison sheet you will see we were able to keep under the 2% tax cap; could have raised \$70,000.

The Supervisor stated that he would like to consolidate all water and all sewer districts next year. We can't consolidate water district #3 because it is a benefit district.

Councilman Anderson asked if the Summer Program was still in the budget for next year and the Supervisor said yes, also, one beach and lifeguards.

Councilman Salerno asked if we are still waiting for any money from the State and the Supervisor said yes, CHIPS money and Becky stated also CTC money.

Councilman Gilbo asked if the budget was based on getting all state money and the Supervisor said yes. The Supervisor stated that the Town's fiscal stress is almost nothing. He also thanked Becky for all her hard work on the budget and the Department Heads for keeping spending in check.

Councilman Salerno asked if CHIPS money was withheld from all Towns and the Supervisor stated not all. Becky stated that some had submitted their paperwork earlier enough if their jobs were done. The Supervisor stated a lot of Town's use CHIPS money to buy equipment.

The Supervisor stated that he has been chastised in the past for commenting on the Court House revenues, however, the Court is costing the Town @ \$50,000 to run. Some of that is due to COVID but not all of it; a lot of it is in outstanding fines. Councilman Anderson asked why he has been chastised before and the Supervisor stated the Town is not supposed to use the Court as a revenue. He stated that now the Court House is costing the taxpayer's money. Councilman Brassard asked what our recourse is and the Supervisor stated a lot of Town Courts are going to one Judge and a part time court clerk.

The Supervisor stated that we had to file the budget prior to the Public Hearing due to New York State.

The meeting adjourned at 5:48pm.

Town Clerk