

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

Present:	Matthew Brassard	Supervisor
	Paul Salerno	Councilman
	Tom Anderson	Councilman
	Nate Gilbo	Councilman
	James Curran	Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Cecelia Wojciukiewicz, Mark Lashway, Art Morgan-Water & Sewer Superintendent, Richard Lapier-Building Codes, Robert Stevenson, Ned Phinney, Tom Cowin-Building & Grounds Superintendent and Rose French-Town Clerk

The Supervisor opened the meeting at 6:00pm by saluting the flag. He thanked everyone for coming.

**ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran
	Nays	0
	Absent	0

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

**Bid Opening-Fuel Oil Bid**

We received three (3) bids.

Avery Energy:           \$0.30 over OPIS daily average for fuel oil, kerosene, diesel and LP gas 10/1/25-9/30/26  
                                  \$2.69 fixed pricing on #2 fuel oil  
                                  \$1.79 fixed pricing on LP gas

MX Petroleum Corp.   \$0.53 over OPIS daily average for fuel oil, kerosene and diesel 10/1/25-9/30/26  
                                  \$0.59 over OPIS daily average for propane

Mirabito Energy Products:   \$0.65 over OPIS daily average for fuel oil 10/1/25-9/30/26  
  \$0.35 over OPIS daily average for diesel and kerosene  
  No bid for propane

**Floor Open to the Public:**

Mark Lashway asked what shaft the Supervisor was talking about before the meeting and the Supervisor said the one on Mountain Spring Road; the Town pumped out of the Cookshaft mine back in 2001.

**Department Head/Town Board Reports:**

Tom Cowin-Building & Grounds reported we usually get the bucket truck from Minerva to do the banners and when Mr. Cowin asked last time he was told “it is getting to be a habit and when are you getting your own”. We can get one from the County but they have to supply a man to go with it and it takes a while to schedule it. Mr. Cowin looked in to renting one and it cost \$1,500 a week. Councilman Salerno stated we could look for a bucket truck on the auction website. Mr. Cowin stated it would cost the Town at least \$6,000 to rent one just to do the banners. Councilman Salerno stated if the Town bought one it could be used for multiple projects; like the campsite. The Supervisor stated it is definitely something to think about. Mr. Cowin stated they will start taking the banners down on Monday. They are replacing the porch on the Court House also. Councilman Curran asked about a scissor lift and Mr. Cowin stated they work good on level ground but they have a lot of banners that are off the road. They put up and take down about 400

banners a year; \$60,000 worth of banners. Councilman Salerno asked how long it takes and Mr. Cowin stated 2 weeks.

Rich Lapier-Building Codes issued 4 building permits for the month of August; looked at 1 subdivision and did 30 building code inspections. The Supervisor asked when the solar farm on Decker's Flats and Tarbell Hill will be up and running and Mr. Lapier stated he has no clue.

Art Morgan-Water & Sewer Superintendent reported Ross Valve came and worked on the back flow preventer. They have been dealing with the water issue; removed several beaver dams; have been using the new tractor every day.

Councilman Gilbo had nothing to report.

Councilman Anderson reported they had 15 youth soccer kids; will purchase new equipment next year. Julie Anderson would like to thank Casey Nephew and Bill Larrow for the expo; older girls are playing now. Basketball will start soon.

Councilman Curran thanked the Chamber for Champ Day. He also thanked the Chamber and Town Hall staff for their help with the Labor Day celebration. He also thanked Chip Perry and crew for cooking the chickens. The Supervisor stated they had 300 chickens and they sold out.

Councilman Salerno reported the back pack blower at Bulwagga Bay campsite is not working; he is going to call Stihl tomorrow. Rich Lapier stated he finally heard back today; they are going to replace the motor.

Councilman Salerno reported Bulwagga Bay Campground has grossed \$298,326 so far this year and Champ RV Park has grossed \$213,050. There are 31 people on the waiting list at Bulwagga Bay Campsite and there are 169 seasonal sites; are using 7 transient sites as seasonal sites. The cabins have been rented 27 times this year so they are paying for themselves. The cabins at Champ RV Park are on trailers; need to look site over closely before site work begins. Champ RV Park has 72 seasonals but is permitted for 114, we should look at where we can add more sites. Councilman Curran stated part of the problem is that campers are longer now. Councilman Salerno stated he would like to do some updates at each campsite next year; maybe a bathroom at each one. Councilman Curran stated he would like to add bathrooms to the cabins up on the hill at Bulwagga Bay Campsite.

Councilman Salerno read the police report: 1 misdemeanor for criminal contempt 2<sup>nd</sup> degree, 1 harassment 2<sup>nd</sup> degree, handled 43 calls for service, handled 3 traffic accidents, assisted the fire departments 2 times, assisted the ambulance squad 5 times, issued 8 traffic tickets, issued 2 tickets for dog running at large and issued 1 ticket-failing to license dog with Animal Control Officer Ed Roberts.

Councilman Salerno stated the Board needs to think about what the Town is going to do when Art Brassard retires; we will be without a police force. The Supervisor stated it is going to be tuff finding another police officer. Councilman Salerno stated we advertised a few years ago and had no interest; Mr. Brassard only makes \$50,000; we may have to look at the pay.

### **Supervisor's Report:**

The Supervisor stated we got our shelter report from Ag & Markets; we passed. In December there will be new laws; will need to do some minor renovations to the shelter at Building & Grounds.

We received a notice of violation from the NYS DOH at Champ RV Park. Violation is more on campers than staff; missing pressure reducers. Hearing is 12/4 or we can pay the \$100 fine. Councilman Gilbo stated we should charge the camper. The Supervisor stated if we get a ding on our report then we can charge the camper; should be charging a security deposit; put it in the rules and regulations. Rich Lapier suggested the camper leave a \$10 deposit with the manager at the beginning of the season and if they return the reducer they get their money back. Councilman Anderson asked how much they cost and Rich Lapier stated \$8; he stated he orders 40-80 a year; there are bad ones or they are missing. The Supervisor stated we should put it in the rules; if camper is caught without one they pay the fine.

176. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Curran, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** a resolution to pay NYS DOH \$100.00 for the Notice of Violation at Champ RV Park.

The Supervisor stated he has been asking people to conserve water for the past 2 months. Bartlett Pond has dropped 7 inches. Art Morgan-Water & Sewer Superintendent stated he is worried about this winter if we don't get any rain; won't be able to keep the brook running; Port Henry will be out of water. The Supervisor stated he and Art Morgan and several other town employees went up in to North Pond dam and let some water out. Mr. Morgan stated they let about 3 feet out; he stated with all the dams they let out it only raised the pond by 2 inches. Councilman Salerno stated the outlook for rain does not look good either. The Supervisor stated we have a couple of options; Peg Wisell stated she would let the Town hook up to the cookshaft mine for water if the Town drilled her a well on her property. Councilman Salerno stated that needs to be in a written agreement. Mr. Morgan stated the Town should ask for the deed. Councilman Salerno stated we would need to put electrical down in the shaft to pump the water out. Robert Stevenson stated the deepest shaft is off of Fisher Hill; there is a pipe there and it flows down. The Supervisor stated it is all swampy right now; will check it out tomorrow. The Supervisor stated Leigh Dunning stated the shaft is 900 feet deep and we can pump out of there. The Supervisor stated there are 3 wells next to the Mineville plant; Mr. Stevenson stated there are 3 wells on the McConley property and the Supervisor stated Dillon Orr owns that now. The Supervisor asked everyone again to please conserve water.

**Resolutions:**

177. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** to award the fuel oil bid to Avery Energy: \$0.30 over OPIS daily average for kerosene and diesel and \$2.69 fixed pricing on #2 fuel oil and \$1.79 fixed pricing on LP gas; 10/1/2025-9/30/2025.
178. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** to set date for Special Meeting for Town Clerk to submit tentative budget to the Town Board for Thursday, October 2, 2025 at 10:00am at the Town Hall.
179. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** to renew contract with Mountain Medical for Town drug testing for 2026 in the amount of \$150.00.
180. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Curran, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
- |          |        |  |
|----------|--------|--|
| APPROVED | Ayes   | Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran |
|          | Nays   | 0  |
|          | Absent | 0  |
- RESOLVED** to reappoint John Boyea to the Board of Assessment Review; 10/1/2025-9/30/2030.

181. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Curran, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran
	Nays	0
	Absent	0

**RESOLVED** to appoint James Langey (President), Nick Gilbo, Tanner Whalen, Julie Anderson and Erica Slattery to the 2025-2026 Youth Commission Board, with Councilman Anderson as Town Liaison/voting member.

182. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran
	Nays	0
	Absent	0

**RESOLVED** to do transfers in budget as needed.

183. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran
	Nays	0
	Absent	0

**RESOLVED** to do adjustments in water and sewer as needed.

184. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Gilbo, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran
	Nays	0
	Absent	0

**RESOLVED** payment of end of month and monthly warrants.

185. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Gilbo, the following resolution was

APPROVED	Ayes	Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Gilbo, Curran
	Nays	0
	Absent	0

**RESOLVED** to hold a budget workshop on the 2026 Town of Moriah Budget on Tuesday, October 14, 2025; 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Court House, 42 Park Place, Port Henry, NY.

**Floor Open to the Public:**

Cecelia Wojciukiewicz stated the Town is loaning the ambulance squad \$120,000; if they default the Town gets the equipment; don't we already own it; did the Board ever ask the Town Attorney and the Supervisor stated yes, the Town owns nothing; the ambulance squad is paying the Town back monthly by revenues collected; if they default the Town gets the equipment then the Town would only need personnel. Councilman Gilbo asked when their first payment is due and the Supervisor stated October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mark Lashway asked about the ambulance squad being delinquent on their Medicaid billing and the Supervisor stated unfortunately they are at the mercy of the State to make the payments. Mr. Lashway stated the people that were doing the paperwork weren't doing it correctly and the Supervisor stated that has been rectified. Councilman Salerno stated the Ambulance Squad is giving a monthly report to the Town Board regarding their revenues and they are up 28%-33% compared to 12%. Councilman Salerno asked the Supervisor if he wanted to talk about the County and EMS. The Supervisor stated the County is proposing using short term rental tax money to fund EMS; reinvest in each Town EMS up to \$100,000. County will give half of what Town gives to Moriah EMS up to \$100,000.

Robert Stevenson asked why the Town doesn't pump out of the Sherman mine and the Supervisor stated he believes that is Leigh Dunning's property.

The Supervisor stated he has heard some concerns about the water we are pumping out of Moriah Shock being contaminated; the water still has to go through the water plant; it is safe to drink.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.

		Town Clerk	
<b>Abstract Distributions:</b>		<b>Claim Numbers:</b>	
<u>August 22, 2025</u>			
General	\$950.00	2025/1321	
<u>August 27, 2025</u>			
General	\$41,395.62	2025/1322-1329	
Highway	\$387.03		
Water #1	\$33.60		
Water #2	\$22.80		
Water #4	\$3.59		
Sewer #1	\$60.00		
<u>September 18, 2025</u>			
General	\$51,762.28	2025/1144-1478	
Highway	\$10,397.25		
Water #1	\$7,144.02		
Water #2	\$4,946.00		
Water #3	\$6,462.56		
Water #4	\$45.52		
Sewer #1	\$9,491.25		
Sewer #2	\$5,412.27		
<u>Capital Projects</u>			
MJ Designs	Sewer District #1 Improvements	\$47,637.50	#11
<u>Stimulus</u>			
Truckin Around	Champ RV Cabins	\$850.00	#5
FNBO	Champ RV Cabins	\$2,116.05	#6