

The Town of Moriah Town Board held a Special Meeting on October 3, 2019 at 6:00pm at the Town of Moriah Town Hall, 38 Park Place, Port Henry, New York, for the Town Clerk to present the 2020 Tentative Budget to the Town Board.

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

Absent: Lucille Carpenter Councilwoman

Others Present: Becky Gilbo and Rose French, Town Clerk

The Supervisor opened the meeting by reading the notice calling for the special meeting; for the purpose of the Town Clerk to present the 2020 Tentative Budget to the Town Board.

The Supervisor stated everyone has a copy of the Tentative Budget. The Supervisor stated that Becky did all the work; he reviewed it. He stated that the Bond for Bulwagga Bay will be paid off this year. Becky stated we will leave \$50,000 in the budget for that. She also stated that \$10,000 will be set aside for capital improvements at each campsite. The Supervisor stated one Highway truck will be paid off this year. Becky stated \$38,000 was left in the budget in case they need a new truck.

The Supervisor stated everyone is in for a 3% raise. He stated that the Animal Control Officer will go from \$5,400 to \$6,000.

The Supervisor stated he received a letter from Steve Stahl requesting \$70,000; “a decent salary to retire with”. The Supervisor said he met with Steve and said it’s not going to happen. The Supervisor did agree to look in to a new retirement plan for the Police. Becky stated the plan Steve is in right now he would get half of \$55,000 unless we change retirement plans again. Councilman Anderson stated we already changed plans for Steve and Becky said yes. The Supervisor stated that this was not his or Becky’s fault. He stated that Steve started with the Sheriff’s Department, then went to the Village and then the Town. He has never contributed the 3% to the retirement plan like everyone else has. The Supervisor stated that Steve wants to meet with the Board; he can come to the Budget Workshop. Councilman Salerno stated Steve would receive 69% of his salary if he retired and Becky said no, not on current plan. The Supervisor stated that Steve chose his plan and he is the one who gets statements every year. Councilman Anderson stated he wants to meet with the Board because he is not happy with the 3%. Becky stated the Town pays \$22,000 for the police to be in the retirement plan they are currently in. The Supervisor asked the Board if they wanted to give Steve more than 3% and they all said no.

The Supervisor stated the Town received the “rough draft” of the Comptroller’s report. The Town was written up for cash management; we didn’t invest. The Supervisor stated he has never been comfortable with NYCLASS. He stated a lot of Town’s got written up for the same thing. The Supervisor stated that back in February the bank approached the Town regarding investing because other Towns were pulling out of the bank. Councilman Anderson asked what the bank is offering. Becky stated we corrected this immediately. The Town invested \$180,000 in a money market account and also a three (3) month CD that comes due this month. The Supervisor stated that he and Becky met with Glens Falls National Bank and told them what NYCLASS would do and Glens Falls National matched it.

The Supervisor stated the Town was also written up on time management. Councilman Anderson asked what that was about. Becky stated it had to do with each employee’s time. Becky stated that LeeAnn is now keeping track of everyone’s time. The Supervisor stated that the Comptroller picked 15 employees at random and checked their time; it was mathematical errors. The Supervisor stated he will respond to the report. He also stated that the comptroller’s office was a big help. Becky stated they helped straighten a lot out. Councilman Salerno said it worked out well then. Councilman Anderson asked if they were done now and the Supervisor said yes. He also stated that they are willing to meet with the Board if the Board wants to. The Supervisor stated we have a draft copy of the report; Becky stated it is an email copy. Councilman Anderson stated we didn’t lose money; we didn’t gain money because we didn’t invest. It is kind of misleading. The Supervisor stated we are financially healthy. There should

be no tax increase per the Comptroller's office. The Supervisor stated people should actually see a tax decrease. Councilman Salerno stated the tax rate should go from 19.67 to 18.68. The Supervisor asked the Board if they were all in agreement with no increase and they were. The Supervisor stated Fund Balance was used to keep tax rate flat.

Councilman Brassard asked if we were going to hire an extra campsite worker and the Supervisor said no. Councilman Anderson asked how things were going at Bulwagga Bay and The Supervisor stated better after he met with them. Councilman Brassard asked the Supervisor to go look at Port Henry Beach, it needs work. The Supervisor stated they need direction of what needs to be done. We need to hire a Campground Manager. Becky stated the workers should use a check list. The Supervisor stated the Managers need to do more. Councilman Brassard stated that Sharon O'Connor from the Waterfront Committee would like money for brochures and a website. The Supervisor asked Councilman Brassard to head up the website and Councilman Brassard stated he doesn't know anything about doing a website; he asked how much a website would cost. The Supervisor thought probably \$10,000. He also stated that Mark Davenport has a list of names for the website and Councilman Anderson stated we should double check.

Becky stated next week is not good for a budget workshop. The Supervisor stated bring the tax rate in flat. Becky asked what the Board wanted to do with Steve Stahl. Councilman Anderson stated we have to at least meet with him. The Supervisor stated he wanted to see what the new retirement is first.

Budget workshop scheduled for:

Thursday, October 17, 2019 6:00pm Town Hall

Councilman Brassard asked where we were at with Sharon O'Connor and the Waterfront Committee and the brochures, website and park units. The Supervisor stated we need to make a decision; a cabin discussion ensued. The Supervisor asked Councilman Salerno to look in to the Amish cabins.

The Supervisor stated he has two different offers for the Cell Tower Lease; possibly \$175,000 - \$200,000. Becky stated we receive \$1,200 a month on the current lease. If the Town did sell it, the Supervisor would like to put this money into a capital improvement project for the beaches. Councilman Salerno asked if we did RFP's we could always refuse them and the Supervisor said yes.

The Supervisor stated we will have one more meeting. He will send the Board the information on the retirement when he gets it.

Councilman Salerno asked the Supervisor if we could ask Steve Stahl to retire and the Supervisor said no. Councilman Anderson asked if we could offer Steve retirement incentives and the Supervisor stated only if the State does.

The meeting adjourned at 6:39pm.

Town Clerk