

The Town of Moriah Town Board held a Special Meeting on October 4, 2022 at 6:30pm at the Town of Moriah Town Hall, 38 Park Place, Port Henry, New York, for the Town Clerk to present the 2023 Tentative Budget to the Town Board.

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

Others Present: Becky Gilbo and Rose French, Town Clerk

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 6:30pm by saluting the flag.

The Supervisor read the legal notice calling for the special meeting; for the purpose of the Town Clerk to present the 2023 Tentative Budget to the Town Board.

The Supervisor stated Becky Gilbo did a lot of work on this budget. Councilman Brassard sat in on some work in the beginning.

Added 5% for insurance; getting quotes from other agencies. 3% increase for employees across the board with the exception of LeeAnn Sprague; she took the senior account clerk exam and passed; she will go from \$17.36/hr. to \$20.50/hr.

We started working on the bathrooms at Bulwagga Bay Campsite this year. Costs are up this year. \$32,000 in electric alone. Revenues may offset the cost; Becky is not sure yet, all the bills are not in yet. The Supervisor stated we are spending more money on the campgrounds.

The Chamber went from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Champ Day was expensive; over spent. The Supervisor stated he and Becky met with Lohrer McKinstry; told him the Chamber needed to tighten up their financials. Bed tax will go from \$25,000 to \$35,000.

Received Courts budget, wanted increase; they will get 3% like everyone else. As of September 1, 2022 they have brought in \$14,000 in revenue.

The Supervisor stated that he and Becky met with Rick Maye, Captain of the Moriah Ambulance Squad. The town currently gives them \$15,000 in appropriations plus \$9,000 for fuel and the Town pays their Worker's Compensation. They are looking for \$59,000 a year. They have to pay their EMT's. Councilman Gilbo asked if the squad gets paid by insurance and the Supervisor said yes but it is not much. The Supervisor stated the County was looking in to going to a County wide Ambulance district but the bill didn't pass. Councilman Gilbo asked if they respond to mutual aid and the Supervisor said yes, he also stated that every town is in the same boat. The Supervisor stated he feels that \$59,000 is a legit request. He feels the Town should form an ambulance district that way everybody pays. The Supervisor stated we could have a budget workshop and ask Rick to come. Councilman Gilbo asked if it comes out of general fund not everybody pays and the Supervisor said no due to exemptions.

The Sherman Free Library will go from \$15,000 to \$25,000. Councilman Gilbo asked if the school was going to help with the Library and the Supervisor stated he has not been able to connect with Superintendent Larrow; they will have to look at it at their next budget season.

Retirement increased \$13,000.

The Supervisor stated the campsite is paying \$4,000 in water and sewer; need to look at the point system again.

Debt for Highway; \$89,870. Jamie Wilson wanted a new truck and the Supervisor said no.

The Supervisor stated that Kevin Shaw and BOCES is helping with the new bathroom. Councilman Salerno asked Becky how she appropriates the revenues; this was a banner year. Becky stated she budgeted \$300,000, revenues (as of early September) are \$356,000. Councilman Salerno asked where the additional \$56,000 goes and the Supervisor and Becky both

said it goes in the fund balance. Councilman Salerno asked about the increase in electrical, how do we adjust for that next year; the Supervisor stated we will look at final costs and revenues and compare. The Supervisor stated there will be a 2% increase at both campsites next year.

Snow & Ice-County-up 10%.

Building Codes & Property Maintenance; \$22,272 for 2 and they free wheel; no set hours. The Supervisor stated that a big part of his job is dealing with building codes and property maintenance. They need to have set hours; the Board needs to require it; 10 hours per week. Councilman Brassard stated it would be helpful if they could stagger their hours. The Supervisor stated the County may go out for RFQ's for 7 Building Codes and Property Maintenance employees; County would handle it all; is in discussions right now.

The Supervisor stated that John Hickey will be retiring; Matt Ball was an additional employee to Building & Grounds; Tim Breeyear will be replacing John Aurilio. Councilman Gilbo asked where they mow now and the Supervisor stated the Town Hall, pepper field, sides of roads, etc.

Will be an increase at Train Station due to fuel costs.

Councilman Anderson asked about the Youth Program. Becky stated it will remain a 4-week program; brought counselors up to minimum wage (\$14.20/hr) and directors all got 3% increase. Becky stated Lifeguards were brought to \$15.00/hr.

Councilman Gilbo asked how much the fund balance was and Becky stated roughly 2 million in general. The Supervisor stated we can move money if we have to.

The Supervisor stated that Sewer District #2 Debt will go from \$184.00 to \$198.00. The Supervisor also stated that we need to get in touch with the comptroller about consolidating all water and sewer districts.

Councilman Salerno asked if the guys at the Transfer Station could get an increase in clothing allowance and Tom said yes, we can do it at the next board meeting; looking for boots.

The Supervisor referred the Board to the tax rate sheet. Councilman Gilbo asked if the \$40,000 could be used for campsite and Becky said yes, it was kept in the budget. Becky stated she only has campsite bills through the end of August; she does not have definite numbers yet. The Supervisor stated the campsite is making money. Becky will work on getting hard numbers. Councilman Salerno stated the campsite on average used to net \$140,000. Councilman Gilbo asked who the extra person was at the campsite and the Supervisor said no, it's not an extra person, it is Kevin Shaw and BOCES working on the bathroom. Councilman Gilbo asked how much money we were spending on the bathroom and what exactly they are doing and if we hired a contractor would it have to be prevailing wage and the Supervisor said yes; he encouraged the Board members to take a ride down to the campsite to see what exactly was being done. Councilman Gilbo asked if Neil Larkin, campsite laborer could do the work on the bathroom; Councilman Brassard stated Neil did a great job this year and they could ask him about the bathroom. Councilman Salerno stated we need to figure out exactly what needs to be done on the bathrooms. A lengthy discussion followed regarding putting bathrooms on the cabins at Bulwagga Bay Campsite. Councilman Gilbo asked if the \$40,000 could be used on the campsite and the Supervisor said yes.

The Supervisor stated he feels this is a good budget. Councilman Salerno asked if there was any recovery money left. Becky stated we haven't spent much of it. The Supervisor stated we have until 2025 to use it. Becky stated she spoke to Sue McHone; we need ideas on how to use the stimulus money. Councilman Salerno stated he has been hearing we need a little league field and the Supervisor stated that is what the field on College Street is. Councilman Anderson stated it needs to be for softball also. Jamie Wilson is looking at the possibility of bleachers at the new field also.

Councilman Brassard asked if we are going to do a budget workshop and ask the ambulance squad to come. The Supervisor stated he will get ahold of Rick Maye, the Chamber and the Library and tell them all we need their expenditures.

The Food Pantry gets 4,000 pounds of food that the Highway Garage has to pick up in Schroon Lake every month; this was easier when we had the inmates. He has reached out to the United Way and they are willing to help the food pantry financially and the Supervisor called Albany to see if the trucking company could just deliver the food to the Highway Garage; he is waiting for a call back.

The Supervisor stated he will send letters to the Ambulance Squad, Chamber and Library regarding their budgets; we want expenditures.

Councilman Gilbo asked if we could upgrade the beaches so we can have a music festival at each beach. The Supervisor stated it wouldn't take much to do the electrical at the Beach House at Port Henry Beach. Councilman Gilbo stated he agreed with Councilman Salerno, we need to utilize the beach house at Port Henry Beach. The Supervisor stated the Manager said they used to have a store there and it did great. Councilman Salerno stated he would like to see it become a rental cabin; air bnb. The Supervisor stated we don't need to do a lot to it for that.

The Supervisor stated he doesn't feel we need a workshop if there are no changes; the Board was in agreement with this.

The meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.

Town Clerk