

The Town of Moriah Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on Thursday, January 16, 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
 James Curran Councilman

Absent: Nate Gilbo Councilman

Others Present: Bill Trybendis, Paul & Nancy Tromblee, Art Morgan-Water & Sewer Superintendent, Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent, Chip Perry-WWTP Chief Operator, LeeAnn Sprague, Dylan Thisse-Wright Pierce 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 Salerno, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

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

Special Presentation-Wright Pierce Engineering-Asset Management

Dylan Thisse gave a presentation on asset Management (see attachment).

Floor Open to the Public:

LeeAnn Sprague addressed the Board, she would like to speak to them in Executive Session regarding time accruals, the Supervisor asked if she could wait until the end of the meeting and Ms. Sprague said yes.

Department Head/Town Board Reports:

Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent reported they started and completed another FEMA project in 7-8 days; relocated the walking bridge to Main Street; they have been cutting brush and working on equipment. They have been getting in invoices from the flood; LeeAnn Sprague has been a big help doing that, thank you.

Chip Perry-WWTP Chief Operator had nothing to report.

Art Morgan-Water & Sewer Superintendent had nothing to report. The Supervisor stated he has spoken to both Art Morgan and Chip Perry; if you see surface water bubbling anywhere in Mineville or Witherbee please contact the Town Hall, we are losing water somewhere.

Councilman Anderson stated he met with Dee Olcott at the County regarding funding for youth sports and the summer program. He has a lifeguard training flier; the Supervisor stated he already posted it.

Councilman Curran stated he has been meeting with investors regarding Vic's restaurant; they would like to bring it back to life; will meet with them next Tuesday.

Councilman Salerno had nothing to report.

The Supervisor read the Building Codes report for 2024; issued 51 building codes; 5 new homes, 4 commercial buildings, 4 additions, 3 solar, 1 solar farm, 6 septic systems, 9 garages/storage sheds, 5 decks, 4 demolitions, the remainder in alterations.

The Supervisor stated Frank Slycord-Property Maintenance will be retiring; looking for a PT Code Enforcement Officer; have a year to get certified. Paul Tromblee asked if the garage permits were for businesses and the Supervisor said no. Mr. Tromblee stated I can put a car lift in my yard and have oil barrels all over the place and it doesn't need to be permitted and the Supervisor said it should be but we have no zoning. Mr. Tromblee stated they are changing oil and putting the oil in barrels and the barrels are everywhere right where they are living; he stated the garage on Center Road just popped up; Witherbee has another one. The Supervisor stated there is property maintenance laws. Councilman Salerno stated if they have a lift and oil barrels it sounds like a registered repair shop and NYS is responsible for that, we have no zoning because residents did not want it. Mr. Tromblee stated the Board needs to take a survey and see the percentage of people who want or don't want zoning.

Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor stated he has had a lot of FEMA meetings; have spent a million dollars on the July storm.

The Supervisor stated he has had a lot of meetings regarding grant information; the Town does go after grant money; he stated since he took office the Town has gotten a million dollars in grant money. Councilman Anderson stated Councilman Gilbo has been working on getting grants also. The Supervisor stated he got a youth grant last year for \$5,000. Councilman Salerno asked the Supervisor if we lost our grant writer and the Supervisor said yes, she is a small business and can't wait 30 days for payment. Councilman Salerno asked how much we appropriated for a grant writer and LeeAnn Sprague said it was \$30,000. The Supervisor stated the Town is constantly applying for grants.

Resolutions:

43. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, unanimous second, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Curran
Nays 0
Absent Gilbo

RESOLVED a resolution of condolences to the family of Kenny Bobbie.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated his services are Saturday at St. Patrick's at noon.

44. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Curran
Nays 0
Absent Gilbo

RESOLVED authorization for the Supervisor to set up financing for a new Kubota tractor and trailer for the Water & Sewer Department.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated this was discussed during budget time; state contract price; will be coming from Abele out of Albany; \$70,000 for tractor and \$12,950 for the trailer and it comes with attachments.

45. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Curran
Nays 0
Absent Gilbo

RESOLVED authorization to pay Moriah EMS half of their contract agreement now and the other half at the end of May 2025; \$62,500.

Discussion: Councilman Salerno stated the Town had good negotiations with the Ambulance squad from where we started, he feels this was a wake-up call for the Town.

46. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, unanimous second, the following resolution was
APPROVED Ayes Brassard, Salerno, Anderson, Curran
Nays 0

Absent Gilbo

RESOLVED authorization to have Telling & Hillman do our required single audit when they do the annual report.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated we have to have a single audit whenever we spend over \$750,000 federal money; FEMA puts the Town over that.

- 47. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED to purchase 2 new computers for the Assessor’s Office at a cost of \$1,001.58 each which includes the 24” monitor and software; state contract price.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated the Assessor’s reached out; their computers are so old they don’t have the space in them.

- 48. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED to advertise for a campsite foreman; 40 hours/week; \$21.33 per hour; April – October.

Discussion: Councilman Salerno stated before we run the ad we need to sit down and do a good job description. The Supervisor stated Bill Allen took another job. Councilman Salerno stated they need to be able to work weekends and the Supervisor stated there is no reason they can’t rotate schedules.

- 49. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Anderson, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED in accordance with the NYS Retirement, require Rose French, Matthew Brassard, Brianna Sargent and Jamie Wilson record time for work on a calendar for the period of 11/1/24-1/31/25.

- 50. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED the Deputy Supervisor position be hereby set for the Town of Moriah for the year 2025; this position is the appointment of the Supervisor and Mr. Brassard hereby appoints Paul Salerno as the Deputy Supervisor. Said appointment carries an additional salary of \$2,500. He is also authorized to sign checks in the Supervisor’s absence.

- 51. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED that Arrow Bank formerly known as Glens Falls National Bank, Port Henry Office, Port Henry, NY be and it hereby is designated as depository of all monies coming into the hands of the Supervisor, Town Justices, Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Policeman of the Town of Moriah, by virtue of the respective office and said offices, and said officials are hereby directed to deposit all such monies coming into their hands in said depository for the year 2025.

Discussion: The Supervisor stated they changed their name and never even gave the Town a heads up.

52. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED to do transfers in budget as needed.

53. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED to do adjustments in water and sewer as needed.

54. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED payment of the end of month and monthly warrants.

55. **ON MOTION** by Councilman Salerno, seconded by Councilman Curran, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED approval for Matt Carr to attend wastewater treatment plant certification classes at SUNY Morrisville; February 23, 2025 – February 28, 2025 and March 2, 2025- March 7, 2025.

Floor Open to the Public:

The Supervisor asked Councilman Salerno to explain the heating situation at the Iron Center Museum. Councilman Salerno asked why if we don't use the building November – April why are we heating it. He stated the boiler is upstairs, the tank is downstairs, had nothing but trouble with it. Councilman Salerno stated the building & grounds guys are working on it constantly. He wants to know why we can't put a monitor or heat pump in. The Supervisor stated we could also drain it for the winter. Councilman Salerno stated we should talk to Betty Lamoria the Historian first. He stated it does not make sense to heat it all winter tax payer wise. The Supervisor stated we can price out a propane monitor. The Board was in agreement with this.

Paul Tromblee asked why the contract with the Ambulance squad wasn't in the newspaper and the Supervisor stated we never put that in the paper; it is something we do every year. Mr. Tromblee stated he wants to see their revenues and expenditures. The Supervisor stated he is waiting for their 2024 information and then will ask for an audit; he stated their money goes towards paid staff. Nancy Tromblee asked if they are still billing for Medicaid and the Supervisor said yes. Mr. Tromblee stated he wants to see their budget. Councilman Salerno stated the Board asked William Tansey, Town Attorney if we could see their financials and were told only for what the Town appropriates to them every year and that was only \$50,000 last year.

Councilman Curran stated only 2 vehicles without plates are allowed on property under NYS property maintenance code. Nancy Tromblee stated she is very concerned about the barrels with oil in them, where is the oil going. The Supervisor stated he will contact the NYS DEC.

Paul Tromblee asked Jamie Wilson-Highway Superintendent if he had any luck finding any drivers and Mr. Wilson stated yes, hired one and is going to hold off on hiring another one to see how everything works out.

Executive Session: 7:00pm

Lee Ann Sprague addressed the Board regarding how vacation time is accrued; spent a lot of time at the Highway Garage going over time and a couple new employees are not happy because they are out of time. Ms. Sprague stated the way she has always done it was probably not the best way, spoke to the Comptroller and also Essex County Personnel on the correct way to do it. Also, regarding Court Clerk time how sick time is accrued because she is 32 hour/week employee, need to change policy to read “week” not “day”. Ms. Sprague handed out a copy of the revised personnel policy to the Board. A lengthy discussion ensued so everybody was on the same page as to how it will be handled going forward.

Out of Executive Session: 7:25pm

Back in Regular Session: 7:28pm

56. **ON MOTION** by Supervisor Scozzafava, seconded by Councilman Salerno, the following resolution was

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

RESOLVED Vacation time shall be pro-rated from the first year anniversary date to the next January to get on a fiscal year schedule. Example based on a 40 hour work week: Employee X is hired July 1st, 2025. In January 2026, Employee X would receive 20 hours. In January 2027, Employee X would receive 40 hours and continue on as years of service increase.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28pm.

Abstract Distributions:

Claim Numbers:

December 31, 2024

2024/2220-2323

General	\$25,424.25
Highway	\$542,110.81
Water District #1	\$2,783.35
Water District #2	\$2,015.77
Water District #3	\$4,846.07
Water District #4	\$196.14
Sewer District #1	\$3,176.02
Sewer District #2	\$2,170.93

January 16, 2025

2025/01-57

General	\$45,775.04
Highway	\$1,073.87
Water District #1	\$124,659.56
Water District #2	\$55,519.14
Water District #3	\$2,836.77
Water District #4	\$3,784.75
Sewer District #1	\$109,320.44
Sewer District #2	\$125,055.80

Bulwagga Bay Cabin (COVID \$):	Backyard Outfitters	\$13,775.00	#1
Champ Beach Event Space (COVID \$)	AES Northeast	\$2,447.00	#2

Town Clerk