

Meeting Minutes
Town of Morristown
April 13, 2021

Present: Gary Turner, Chris Coffin David VanArnam, Shawn Macaulay (Virtual), Frank Putman
Also Present: Gregg Mallette (Codes), Dean Hoffman (Highway), Joe Lightfoot (County), Wayne Moquin, Leanna Moquin, Tom Bell (virtual), Gary Hunter (Virtual)

Meeting was opened at 7:03 PM by Supervisor Putman.

Pledge of Allegiance

A motion was made by Councilman David VanArnam, and seconded by Councilman Chris Coffin to endorse and approve the following proclamation:

200th Anniversary Proclamation For the Town of Morristown

COMMEMORATING the 200th Anniversary of the Town of Morristown, New York
WHEREAS, " The Town of Morristown, New York celebrates its Bicentennial in the year of 2021, and it is fitting to recognize the Town of Morristown on the occasion of this special milestone and to applaud its distinguished history; and
WHEREAS, The Town of Morristown was officially created on March 27, 1821 by the State Legislature from part of the town of Oswegatchie, and
WHEREAS, The first Town Board meeting was held on April 10, 1821 it is fitting that we recognize this anniversary at the April 2021 meeting of the Town Board of Morristown, and
WHEREAS, The Town has been primarily a rural farmland area, and our rich and varied history includes ferries, railroads, grist mills, saw mills, tanneries, Indian Root pill factory, funeral homes, local schools and marinas, and
WHEREAS, We pay tribute to the residents of our Town who have bravely served in Wars and Conflicts faced by our country and to all who have served on the Town Board and committees that have contributed, to the enhancement of our Town, and
WHEREAS, The Town of Morristown consists of the hamlets of Morristown, Edwardsville and Brier Hill and our boundaries include the beautiful St. Lawrence River and scenic Black Lake. Our area is a destination for visitors from all over the world, and
WHEREAS, In recognition of the Town of Morristown's rich history and enduring contributions, it is indeed an honor to pay tribute to this Town upon the occasion of its Bicentennial; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that congratulations are sent to the Town of Morristown past and current residents on their Bicentennial and therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that a copy of this Proclamation will become a part of the official minutes of the Town of Morristown.

Vote: Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye Minutes approved

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Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilman Coffin to approve the minutes of March 9, 2021 with a correction changing Zoning to Planning in item 7 under Old Business. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner.

Vote: Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye Minutes approved.

Old Business

1. Supervisors Update: No update

2. REDI Grant Approve- NYS OGS Easement: The Board was updated on the easement and asked by Supervisor Putman to approve it. Councilman VanArnam made a motion to approve the two easements from the NYS Office of General Services for state owned land under the Morristown Bay to move the bridge project ahead. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner.

Vote: Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

3. Bayside Park Dock Repair Grant Extension Request: The Clerk reported that a preliminary request for a time extension had been submitted. The Board reviewed their plans for Phase 3 of the project and gave their OK for having the engineer assist with the extension and the Scope of Work change.

4. Distributed Solar Development Project Update: Supervisor Putman informed the Board that the project owners attorney and the Town attorney are talking. There still is no PILOT in place.

5. Municipal Building Design: Councilman VanArnam stated that he was not in agreement with moving forward with the project because the costs would be too high. Councilman Coffin agreed that the cost would be high and right now the time was not right for the project. The Board did discuss the potential to move some offices up to the Gouverneur Street location. They also discussed some things that could be done to reduce the cost of heating the garage.

6. Capital Replacement Planning: The committee reviewed the equipment lists and the replacement dates. They found 1 truck as surplus. They also revised some of the replacement schedules. The net effect of the Village dissolution is still becoming apparent. Some extra revenues are evolving such as the Federal American Rescue act. Guidance has not yet been received as to how those monies may be used.

- 7. **Public Employer Health Emergency Plan Approval:** Tabled
- 8. **Surplus Properties Sales:** Waiting on quotes from appraisers and letters of interest from the adjacent homeowners. The Board approved moving ahead with a survey of the Greenwood cemetery to deal with an encroachment issue.

New Business

1. Resolution #6 Hold Harmless St. Lawrence County: Councilman VanArnham moved the following resolution: RESOLUTION NO. 6 OF THE TOWN OF MORRISTOWN HOLDING HARMLESS THE COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE FOR PROVIDING SERVICE FOR 2021 By the Morristown Board of Councilmen, Town of Morristown

WHEREAS, the Town of Morristown is desirous of St. Lawrence County Department of Highways providing shared services such as paving, signage, road stripping, blasting, and other routine maintenance activities to the Town, and

WHEREAS, both the Town of Morristown and the County of St. Lawrence are desirous of promoting partnering efforts for the safety of the traveling public in St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, in this joint cooperative endeavor the Town of Morristown and the County of St. Lawrence desires to be reimbursed for their expenditures, and

WHEREAS, the Town is aware that the County may incur liability in the providing of the services and wishes to indemnify the County in this regard,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that to the fullest extent permitted by law, the Town of Morristown will indemnify and hold harmless the County, their officers, directors, partners, representatives, agents and employees from and against any and all claims, suits, liens, judgments, damages, losses and expenses, including legal fees and all court costs and liability (including statutory liability) arising in whole or in part and in any manner from injury and/or death of person or damage to or loss of any property relating to or arising out of any negligent or intentional acts and/or omissions of the Town of Morristown or any of its directors, officers, employees, contractors, representatives, or agents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following request for General Liability (GL) coverage is as follows:

General Liability Insurance. On an “Occurrence” basis, with the following limits:

- \$1,000,000 Each Occurrence
- \$3,000,000 General Aggregate
- \$1,000,000 Products Aggregate
- \$1,000,000 Personal Injury
- \$ 50,000 Fire Damage Legal Liability
- \$ 5,000 Medical Payment Expense

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that St. Lawrence County shall be an additional insured on the GL Policy, via ISO endorsement CG 2026.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Coffin.

Vote: Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

2. Black Lake Association Grant: Councilman Turner told the Board that the Black Lake Association was looking for a grant assistance to control the weed growth on the lake. They have requested a letter of support from the Town. The clerk was given contact information to get information needed to write a letter of support.

Department Reports

County Legislature: Joe Lightfoot informed the Board on various County wide issues including the weed issue on Black Lake, a recognition ceremony for police, fire fighters and EMS personnel during a recent house fire. The County is also searching for a new public health director.

Highway Department: Superintendent Hoffman informed the Board that the County will be putting the bridge removal project out to bid and have ordered the supplies for the project. CHIPS funding has been increased in 2021. All seasonal water is now on. Street cleanup is done, and street flags will be installed on Main & Gouverneur streets. Superintendent Hoffman informed the Board that the Town's old track excavator has finally become un-repairable. The cost of rental is expensive. He asked for Board authorization to purchase a new track excavator and presented a quote for the Boards review. The cost of the equipment delivered was \$123,931.00. A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, to authorize the purchase of a new 2021 CAT Track Excavator from Southworth-Milton CAT at a cost not to exceed \$123,931.00 The Motion was seconded by Chris Coffin.

Vote: Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

Code Enforcement: A written Report was presented to the Board.

Executive Session A motion was made by Councilman Coffin to enter executive session to discuss matters relating to the employment history of a particular Town employee. The Motion was seconded by Councilman VanArnam.

Vote: Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

The Board entered executive session at 8:15 PM. At 8:30 PM the Board re-entered the regular meeting. Supervisor Putman stated that the Board took no action during the executive session.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned upon motion at 8:30 PM.

Meeting minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by David Murray-Town Clerk.