

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Town of Morristown**  
**September 7, 2021**

**Present:** Gary Turner, David VanArnam, Chris Coffin, Shawn Macaulay, Frank Putman  
**Also Present:** Dean Hoffman, Joe Lightfoot, Shirley McDonald, Wayne Sardullo, Jr., Jill Sullivan, Michael Warren, Wayne Moquin, Jay Carter, Dan Churchill, James Robinson, Bridget Whalen Nevin, Carolyn Noble

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Shawn Macaulay

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Councilman Macaulay and seconded by Councilman Coffin to approve the minutes of August 10, 2021, as presented.

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

**Correspondence:** A letter was received from Thomas Clements voicing concerns over an upcoming dredging project by the NYS Office of Governmental Services in the Morristown Outer Harbor. The Board also receives the notice from the Army Corps of Engineers informing the Town of the project, but after the letter from Mr. Clements was received. The Board will review the notice. Shirley McDonald stated that the dredging could impact her dock rental business and wanted to know when it would be happening. Highway Superintendent Dean Hoffman stated that he was told late September to early October. He also said that Weeks Marine, from Texas, had the contract with NYS Office of Governmental Services. Councilman Coffin said that he could contact the Army Corp or NYS OGS over concerns that the timing of the dredging could impact dock usage and revenues for private business owners.

**Public Comment**

Wayne Sardullo, Jr. spoke to the Board of his concern with speeding in the village. He stated that without local law enforcement the problem is hard to correct. Supervisor Putman stated that he has had other complaints of speeding brought to him. Mr. Sardullo also stated that UTV's are speeding all over the hamlet. Councilman Macaulay offered that the Town should send letters to the Sheriff and the State Police asking for increased enforcement of the local speed limits in the hamlet. Supervisor Putman said he would make sure those letters were sent right away.

**Old Business**

**1. Supervisors Update**

**REDI Grant Update:** The blasting work for the project has been completed.

**Surplus Properties Sales:** The surveying has been completed on the 8- acre parcel and been broken down into 4 lots. Next up is the appraisal of the lots. The cemetery property line has been surveyed and marked prior to installing the fence. The Code Officer was instructed to send a certified letter to the adjacent property owner to remove structures and personal property from Town property.

**Covid Relief ARPA Funds:** one half of the funds will be received in 2021 and one half in 2022. Accounting and reporting regulations are complex.

**Meeting Minutes  
Town of Morristown  
September 7, 2021**

**2. Local Laws Enforceability:** The Town attorney will be present at the October meeting.

**3. Capital Replacement Planning:** The Board discussed replacing the oldest truck in 2022 for delivery in 2023. They also discussed a plan for the paver replacement as either a consortium purchase or as an as needed rental. The Highway will be replacing a mower in this year's budget.

**4. 2022 Budget:** The budget team has had 2 sessions and plan on having a tentative budget for posting on the website in late October. The Board will review the budget in early October for later adoption. Bridget Whalen Nevin talked to the Board about the Morristown Public Library's budget, the funding sources that make up the budget and the importance of the Town's contribution. The library publishes their annual budget on their website.

**5. Teamsters Contract:** A proposal has been received and the Board will meet in executive session to review and discuss it.

**6. Cannabis Sales Local Law:** Supervisor Putman asked the Board how they viewed cannabis sales in the town after having the issue on the table for several months. Councilmen VanArnam and Macaulay continued to oppose sales in the Town. Councilman Turner supported it and Councilman Coffin had no specific conviction on how to proceed. Supervisor Putman polled the Board on how they would vote on allowing sales in the Town. Councilman VanArnam -no, Councilman Macaulay -no, Councilman Coffin – yes, Councilman Turner -yes, Supervisor Putman – yes. Supervisor Putman asked the Board if they wanted to make a more formal statement on their stance on allowing cannabis sales. A motion was made by Councilman Turner that the Town of Morristown does not opt out of permitting cannabis sales. The motion was seconded by Councilman Coffin.

**Vote:** Gary Turner, Aye, David VanArnam-Nay, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Nay, Frank Putman-Aye The motion passes. On a suggestion to make the motions intent clearer Councilman Turner amended his original motion as follows. A motion by Councilman Turner to amend the preceding motion to read the Town of Morristown *opts in* to allowing cannabis sales in the town. The amended motion was seconded by Councilman Coffin.

**Vote:** Gary Turner, Aye, David VanArnam-Nay, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Nay, Frank Putman-Aye The amended option passes. The Board discussed that during the revision of the Land Use Code cannabis sales should be planned for.

**7. Ridgeview Tel:** Dan Churchill of Ridgeview Tel explained they have only two customers using their service located on the water tower. Mr. Churchill asked the Board to lower their monthly payment to the Town down to \$110 per month. Councilman Coffin stated that Mr. Churchill is asking the Board to make an accommodation to Ridgeview Tel to help them continue to provide service to their customers. Supervisor Putman Noted that the last payment they made was returned due to an error I with the check. He proposed that Ridgeview Tel re-issue a corrected check for \$521.91 and from June 2020 forward pay the Town \$100 per month. A motion was made by Councilman Coffin that Ridgeview Tel re-issue the check for \$521.91 from May 2020, and then from June 2020 forward pay the back payments of \$100 per month through September. Then continue to pay monthly payments of \$100 per month. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Putman.

**Vote:** Gary Turner, Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Town of Morristown**  
**September 7, 2021**

**New Business**

**1. Authorization to Advertise for Bids Winter Fuel Oil:** A motion was made by Supervisor Putman to authorize advertising for bids for Winter Fuel Oil. The motion was seconded by Councilman VanArnam. Bids to be opened at the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

**2. 2. Authorization to Advertise for Bids Winter Sand:** A motion was made by Supervisor Putman to authorize advertising for bids for Winter Sand. The motion was seconded by Councilman VanArnam. Bids to be opened at the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

**3. State Boat Launch- BLF&GA Request:** Members of the Black Lake Association and the Black Lake Fish and Game Club spoke with the Board about the state- owned Black Lake Boat Launch. The members present told the Board that the state has little money in the budget to maintain and repair the site. Dean Hoffman said the site needs improvements. They proposed that the Town of Morristown acquire the boat launch from the state and refurbish the facility and enlarge the available docking. They argue that Black Lake is the single largest economic engine in the town. As such, the Town should take over the site and maintain it to a higher degree to benefit the users of the boat launch that drive the economic benefits of shared sales tax for the town. Councilman Coffin suggested that the Association and the Fish & Game Club get numbers on the financial obligations should the Town take the site over, the cost of suggested improvements, and the most immediate needs at the boat launch site. Councilman Turner stated that he thought the Town should take over the site. Supervisor Putman thanked the members of the Black Lake Association and the Black Lake Fish & Game Association for coming to the meeting and explaining their concerns and request.

**4. Speed Limit Request Motion:** The Board discussed the need to request a speed reduction around the Parkway store and the new Dollar General store. The location of the 2 stores on State Highway 37, with increased traffic entering and exiting the highway has raised the Board's concern for accidents. The Board is also concerned that there may be an increase in pedestrian and bicycle traffic to the stores alongside the roadway as well. A motion was made by Supervisor Putman to officially request the NYS Department of Transportation create a reduced speed zone in the vicinity of the Parkway Convenience Store and the Dollar General Store. The motion was seconded by Councilman VanArnam.

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

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Town of Morristown**  
**September 7, 2021**

**Department Reports**

**Highway Department:** Superintendent Hoffman reported that there is a small amount of paving remaining to do. The crew will be redoing some sidewalks in the hamlet and the Highway crew are getting all equipment ready for the winter season.

**Code Enforcement:** A printed report was available.

**Assessor:** A printed report was available.

**Sewer Districts:** The Town vacuum plant has been losing prime. Staff think the cause may be a malfunctioning relay.

**County:** Joe Lightfoot spoke about the recent problems with the Department of Social Services, Covid deaths in the County. The County's plan to trial an herbicide to eliminate milfoil in Black Lake as a more cost-effective method.

**Executive Session**

A motion was made by Councilman Coffin to enter executive session to discuss matters relating to contract negotiations with the Teamsters Union, and to discuss matters relating to the employment history of a particular Town employee. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Putman.

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

The Board entered executive session at 8:50 PM

The left executive session at 9:40 PM Supervisor Putman reported that no action was taken.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned upon motion at 9:40 PM

Meeting minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by David Murray, Town Clerk