

**Town of Morristown
Public Hearing-Local Law #4 of 2013
August 6, 2013**

Present: Gary Turner, Frank Putman, Howard Warren

Absent: David VanArnam, David Stout

Also Present: Mike Bogart, Valerie Harman

Members of the Public Present: Gordon Cameron, Dale Bombard

The Hearing on Local Law # 3 of 2013 was opened at 7 PM by Supervisor Putman for Public Comment. As there was no public comment received the hearing was closed at 7:01 PM

**Town of Morristown
Regular Monthly Meeting
August 6, 2013**

Present: Gary Turner, Frank Putman, Howard Warren

Absent: David VanArnam, David Stout

Also Present: Mike Bogart, Valerie Harman, Sherry Shatraw

The meeting was opened at 7:02 PM by Supervisor Putman.

Approval of Minutes A motion was made by Councilman Warren, and seconded by Councilman Turner to approve the minutes of July 9, 2013, as presented.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

Public Comment- Gordon Cameron presented a letter to the Board on behalf of Joan Rogers asking the Town to help with erosion problems on her property. Superintendent Bogart will meet with all involved parties.

Old Business

1. Sewer Projects- All documents have been submitted to EFC as requested and an October closing is projected. Erosion problems were discussed along River Road East.

2. Mill Road- Prior to moving the resolution a clarification was added to the exception wording of the resolution. A motion was made by Supervisor Putman, and seconded by Councilman Turner, to move Resolution #4 of 2013 as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the owners of land parcels adjacent to Mill Road located in the Town of Morristown have petitioned the Town to abandon any interest in said Mill Road held by the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town has never improved nor maintained any portion of Mill Road nor has it been used as a public highway by more than two vehicles per day for the last ten years; and

WHEREAS, the Town has no intention or need of improving or maintaining any portion of the Mill Road for highway or any other municipal purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Town has no record that it is the owner of Mill Road or that the Town ever dedicated same to same for highway purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board, the Town Highway Superintendent and the St. Lawrence County Highway Superintendent have each duly expressed their agreement that it is in the best

interest of the Town to abandon any interest the Town May have in maintaining Mill Road as a road of the Town; and

WHEREAS, New York Highway Law Section 205 permits the Town to abandon any interest in a road of the Town;

THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby releases any and all interest it may have in the entirety of Mill Road excepting 400 linear feet from the English Settlement Road, along the Mill Road, to the Dead End sign, and 700 linear feet from the Village of Morristown limits, along the Mill Road, to the Dead End sign, and hereby abandons the same. The Town Supervisor shall and is hereby empowered to take any and all actions necessary to effectuate such abandonment as required by the Highway Law of the State of New York, reserving to the Town a Public Right-of-Way in perpetuity in conformity with 205-b of the Highway Law of the State of New York.

FURTHERMORE, the Town shall hereafter have no responsibility for the maintenance of any portion of the Mill Road excepting 400 linear feet from the English Settlement Road, along the Mill Road, to the Dead End sign, and 700 linear feet from the Village of Morristown limits, Along the Mill Road, to the Dead End sign.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

3. Local Law #4 of 2013- A motion was made by Councilman Turner, and seconded by Councilman Warren to adopt Local Law #4 of 2013 as follows:

A local law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c

Section 1. Legislative Intent

It is the intent of this local law to allow the Town of Morristown to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing 1/1/2014 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 2. Authority

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government’s governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override

The Town Board of the Town of Morristown, County of St. Lawrence, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing 1/1/2014 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 4. Severability

If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court’s order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this local law, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

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Section 5. Effective Date

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

4. River Road East Lighting District- Tabled

Other Old Business –No other Old Business

New Business

1. Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance- The Board discussed the program with Mayor Shatraw and agreed that there were benefits in participating. The Town will need to track in kind service hours during the 5 year grant time period. A motion was made by Councilman Warren, and seconded by Supervisor Putman to move resolution #12 of 2013 as follows:

Whereas, the Town of Morristown desires to participate with other communities in the Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance program,

Therefore Be It Resolved, that The Town of Morristown will contribute such in kind services, as deemed appropriate and necessary, to participate fully in the S.A.S.S. program.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

2. Personnel Appointment- A motion was made by Supervisor Putman, and seconded by Councilman Turner to permanently appoint Valerie Harman to the position of Code Enforcement Officer, effective August 8, 2013, at a salary of \$27,000.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

3. Winter Sand-County Bid Quote or open Bid- After a short discussion a motion was made by Councilman Turner, and seconded by Councilman Warren, to advertise for bids for screened winter sand, bids to be opened at the September 10th monthly meeting.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

Other New Business- No other new business.

Department Reports

Code Enforcement Officer-A written report was given to the Board for review.

Highway Superintendent- A written Report was given to the Board. Additionally the Board authorized the Superintendent to have the tree stump in the Town ROW on Sand Street ground down. Regarding the County Route 6 Seasonal speed reduction request, Superintendent Bogart stated that he had spoken to the State DOT and we should be hearing back very soon on a decision.

DPW-No report.

The meeting was adjourned upon motion at 7:55 PM

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