

**Town of Morristown  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
February 12, 2013 Meeting opened at 7 PM**

**Present:** Gary Turner, David VanArnam, David Stout, Howard Warren, Frank Putman  
**Also Present:** Mike Bogart, Valerie Harman, James P. Snyder, Sherry Shatraw, Kevin Crosby, Tim Burley, Jay Berkman

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Turner to approve the minutes of the 2013 Organizational meeting and the meeting of 1/9/2013.  
**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, David Stout III-Aye, Howard Warren- Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

**Public Comment Period**

1. Charles Alford- Mr. Alford addressed the Board on the subject of damage to his well and asked the Board to respond to his request to resolve the issue. He asked what other people had to do to receive remedies to their damage issues. Mr. Alford stated that the Town is responsible and not the contractor and has not treated him with dignity. Mr. Alford thanked the Board for listening to his presentation.
2. Gordon Cameron- Mr. Cameron asked the Board to respond to some written questions he has about the new sewer law. Supervisor Putman stated that having just received the letter from Mr. Cameron that he would need time to look at it. He also asked the Town to look into putting some additional drainage in place at the end of English Settlement Road to help alleviate runoff that occurs. Superintendent Bogart will look at the situation.
3. Dale Bombard-Mr. Bombard asked the Board to remove and clean up the site of the burned out house on the English Settlement Road owned by Glenn Simmons. Supervisor Putman stated that the Code Officer will address that issue during her department report.

**Old Business**

**1. Sewer Project**

**a. Sewer Law Amendment-** Tabled until March.

**b. Engineering Issues-**Tim Burley and Jay Berkman discussed the issues that have been identified with District 2. Possible fixes for the freeze ups were discussed including insulated liners for the covers on the pots. Tim proposed an April walk through with the contractor. Tim stated that Mr. Alford needs to pursue the contractors insurance and will send the insurance information to Mr. Alford.

**c. New Contract for Black Lake-**A motion was made by Councilman Stout, and seconded by Councilman VanArnam, to authorize the Supervisor to execute the contract with C2AE for a preliminary engineering study for a sewer district on County Route 6. The contract cost not to exceed \$6,000 plus expenses not to exceed \$500.

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, David Stout III-Aye, Howard Warren- Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

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**Sewer Project(cont.)**

**d. Gap Funding-**A motion was made by Supervisor Putman, and seconded by Councilman Turner to set a public hearing to take comment on the proposed district amendment necessary to allow the additional funding to complete the project. The Hearing is set for Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. The clerk was directed to place a legal notice advertising the hearing.

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, David Stout III-Aye, Howard Warren- Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

**2. Blighted Property-Terrace Park** –The Code Officer will report on this during Departmental Reports.

**3. Other Old Business-** No other Old Business.

**New Business**

**1. Cancer Action-** Tabled

**2. Senior Income Ceiling-** No action taken. Income ceiling will remain at \$18,000.

**3. NCC Inspection Contract-** A motion was made by Supervisor Putman, and seconded by Councilman Warren, to authorize the entering into a three year annual inspection contract with North Country Communications (NCC)at \$300 annual cost.

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, David Stout III-Aye, Howard Warren-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

**4. Liquor License Renewal-**A motion was made by Supervisor Putman, and seconded by Councilman Stout, to waive the 30 day waiting period for the liquor license application for Mary Ellen Mace (Langbrook Clubhouse)

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, David Stout III-Aye, Howard Warren-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

**5. 911 Surcharge Sharing Renewal-** A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, and seconded by Councilman Stout, to move resolution # 2 of 2013 as follows:

**Resolution # 1 of 2013**

**EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF CELL 911 SURCHARGE MONIES**

**WHEREAS,** New York imposes a \$1.20 per month surcharge on all cell phone bills that was initiated following the attacks of 9/11 and was aimed at addressing the serious communications failures and shortcomings that horrific event exposed in the communication systems used by first responders, and

**WHEREAS,** the people of New York State were told that this surcharge would be dedicated to rebuilding emergency communication systems throughout the state, and

**WHEREAS,** New York State has not been fair in sharing these funds. Last year over \$192 million was collected statewide from this surcharge, of which only \$9.3 million was shared with local governments. This year it is expected that the surcharge will generate over \$210 million, and

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**WHEREAS**, currently a bill has been introduced to the NY State Senate, **S.1720A (Grisanti)** that would dramatically increase the sharing from this fund to first responder and emergency services to an annual amount of 58.3%. If these bills were to become law, this would represent a significant source of funds for local agencies to begin rebuilding and upgrading communication systems, and

**WHEREAS**, sharing from this fund needs to be significantly increased and would be used to fully build the infrastructure for the complete emergency interoperable communications network, it would be prudent and beneficial to contact our State Assembly member and State Senator and urge them to support these bills then,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that it is hereby resolved that the Chair will contact and forward this resolution to our Senate and Assembly representatives to urge them to support bills **S.1720A** now pending in the NYS Senate that will provide the county with a more equitable distribution of state 911 surcharge funding .

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, David Stout III-Aye, Howard Warren- Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

6. **Other New Business** – Councilman Warren proposed to the Board that the Town Council move a resolution opposing the NYSAFE gun control act for review and passage as soon as possible. The clerk was directed to prepare a resolution for the Board.
7. **Other**-The Board moved the March regular meeting from March 12<sup>th</sup> to March 5th

**Department Reports**

**Code Enforcement Office**-Code Officer Valerie Harman presented a written report to the Board for their review. A subdivision request from Jack and Arlene Martin was put before the Board for review and action. A motion to approve the sub-division request was made by Councilman Warren and seconded by Councilman VanArnam.

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, David Stout III-Aye, Howard Warren- Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

Ms. Harman discussed the request from Dale Bombard to have the Town remove and clean up the burnt out structure at 611 English Settlement Road. Councilman Warren stated that he felt the first thing to do is to designate the building as unsafe under the provisions of the Town's Unsafe Buildings law. The Board directed Ms. Harman to do so.

**Highway Superintendent**-Superintendent Bogart presented a written report to the Board. He also presented the 2013 request to expend Town Highway funds for Board approval. A motion was made by Councilman Warren, and seconded by Councilman Stout to approve the request.

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, David Stout III-Aye, Howard Warren- Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

The Board brought up the issue of the tree being removed on Sand Street by Frank Richardson. Superintendent Bogart reported that the job was still not finished. The Board set a deadline of March 2<sup>nd</sup> to have the tree completely removed and cleaned up. The Board directed the clerk to send Mr. Richardson a certified letter with return receipt informing him of the deadline. The Board also directed that the letter include a request for a copy of Mr. Richardson's contractors liability insurance.

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**Department Reports (Cont.)**

**Public Works Department-** Kevin Crosby reported his concerns with the engineering issues with District 2 and stated that he hopes all the problems are resolved before the warranty period expires. He also reported that in District 1 the sewer pumps are still having problems. Siewert is coming to look at them again. The vacuum pumps are not having problems. He also asked that the Town website put up an alternate emergency number for help for residents using cell phones along the river where Canadian towers may intercept the call.

**Assessor-**James P. Snyder reported that the state ORPS representative reports are equalization rate is at 100% and there is no need to conduct a revaluation in 2014. He asked the Board for their position on whether they would favor a revaluation or not. The Board responded that they felt there was no need to do one.

Meeting was adjourned upon motion at 8:50 PM.

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