

**Town of Morristown
Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2016**

Present: Gary Turner, David VanArnam, Shawn Macaulay, Howard Warren, Frank Putman
Also Present: Dean Hoffman, Christopher Sherwin, John Warneck (Jeff Lewis BOCES), Joe Lightfoot, Kevin Crosby, Cheryl Shatraw

The meeting was opened by Supervisor Putman at 7 PM.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilman Warren, and seconded by Councilman Macaulay, to approve the 2015 End of Year and 2016 Organizational Minutes as presented.

Vote: Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Howard Warren-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

Correspondence: The Annual Report on The Fiscal Conditions of NY Municipalities was received and given to the Board.

Public Comment: County Legislator Joseph Lightfoot briefed the Board on the County's fiscal issues, a reduction in county hiring and a grant received from Senator Ritchie.

Old Business

1. Sewer Districts: Superintendent Hoffman brought the Board up to date on the freeze up at the Foy residence. The issue is that the existing line was installed only 4 "deep. The contractor states that the homeowner wouldn't allow any blasting during the installation to put the line down deep. The Board discussed whether or not the homeowner should be responsible for repairs in the future due to not allowing the contractor to blast and install the line as per the engineers design. Councilman Warren informed the Board that John Sever had contacted him concerning injecting air into the system in place of the proposed water well fix. A response was received from Ms. Bautista offering to sell the town the property for the well site. The Board agreed that there aren't sufficient funds in the budget to purchase the property.

2. Town Hall: There still hasn't been a response from Senator Ritchie's office.

3. Solar Project: John Warneck from Jeff Lewis BOCES reported that National Grid has been slow in the preliminary application process for feeding into the power grid. He also reported that the contractors would be on the ground again to survey possible sites in the spring.

4. Other Old Business: Councilman Turner asked the Code Officer to research the process for condemning the Edwardsville Grocery property at the corner of County Route 6 and State Highway 58. He is also concerned that there may be 1000 gallons of fuel in a tank on the property. The Clerk was directed to write a letter to the DEC concerning the remaining fuel and what they are going to do to prevent contamination of Black Lake.

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New Business

1. Resolution #2- NYS DOT Hold Harmless: A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, and seconded by Councilman Turner, to approve Resolution #2 of 2016 as follows:

**HOLDING HARMLESS THE COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE FOR PROVIDING
SERVICE FOR 2016**

By Town Board Town of the Town of Morristown

WHEREAS, the Town of Morristown is desirous of St. Lawrence County Department of Highways providing shared services such as paving, shoulder widening, signage, road striping, 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 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 a 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 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

\$2,000,000 General Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Products Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Personal Injury

\$ 50,000 Fire Damage Legal Liability

\$ 5,000 Medical Payment Expense

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

Vote: Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Howard Warren-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

2. 2016 Senior Income Eligibility Limits: The Board agreed to keep the Senior Income Eligibility Limit at \$18,000. The Clerk will inform the County Real Property Office.

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- 3. Real Property Exemption for Persons with Disabilities (Town):** James Snyder, Assessor, briefed the Board on the Disability Exemption Law that the Town could put into place. Councilman Warren question what the impact would be for the tax base and the assessor replied that it would be negligible and the exemption might apply to a small group of property owners.
- 4. Other New Business:** No other new business was brought forward.

Department Reports

Highway Department: Superintendent Hoffman gave a written report to the Board. A request was made for permission to put the surplus pressure washer up for bid. A motion was made by Supervisor Putman, and seconded by Councilman VanArnam, to advertise for sealed bids. A minimum of \$1000.00 was attached to the bid to be opened at the regular March 8th meeting

Code Enforcement: CEO Chris Sherwin gave a report to the Board. He will be attending Codes Conference February 28th - March 3rd. The town wide junk survey is scheduled for March and April.

DPW: Kevin Crosby reported all was quiet. Councilman VanArnam brought up the issue of the village units feeding into the Town vacuum system on Riverview Street in regards to overtime charges. Kevin Crosby stated that he checked with Kit Smith and Mike Bogart and they remembered a verbal agreement that avoided the need for the village to blast a new line by hooking into the town vacuum plant. Mayor Shatraw stated that she hoped that this wouldn't mean that the residents hooked in to the Town line wouldn't see higher rates. Mayor Shatraw also informed the Board that the NYS DOT had informed them that the village billboard in the right of way on State Highway 37 either had to be removed immediately, or the business advertising on the sign had to be covered over.

Supervisor Putman adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM

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