

**Town of Morristown
Regular Monthly Meeting
May 12, 2015**

Present: Gary Turner, David VanArnam, Shawn Macaulay (7:10 PM), Frank Putman

Absent: Howard Warren

Also Present: Dean Hoffman, Chris Sherwin, Kevin Crosby, Joe Lightfoot

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, and seconded by Councilman Turner to approve the minutes of April 21st & April 27th, 2015.

Vote: Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye. Motion Carried

Correspondence: Letter from William Covell

Public Comment

- Darrell Merkel-Stated that he was here with a number of residents from the River Road East Waste Water District with questions regarding the status of repairs.
- Q. Darrell Merkel-Are some district budget lines depleted due to repair costs?
- A. Supervisor Putman-Monies continue to flow in from sewer rents.
- Q. Darrell Merkel-Are the affected areas of the district repaired permanently or are they just temporary fixes.
- A. Dean Hoffman-All the problems have been repaired but could recur.
- Q. Darrell Merkel-What about improperly installed pipes?
- A. Councilman VanArnam-Board is looking at the data and still investigating.
- Q. Darrell Merkel-Has the engineering firm been responsive to the Town during the winter problems?
- A. Supervisor Putman-Yes. They have sent staff onsite during the winter to assist.
- Darrell Merkel-Has the Town had a conversation with the contractor?
- A. Supervisor Putman-No.
- Q. Darrell Merkel -When will the Town have definitive answers on the situation with the problems in the district?
- A. Supervisor Putman- Not able to give a date at this time. Process could take time.
- Darrell Merkel- Requested the Clerk to contact him when any meetings occur regarding the district.
- Supervisor Putman- It is not the Clerk's responsibility to be tasked with requests for personal notification of meetings. The Town advertises upcoming meetings in various media including the newspaper, Town website and on Facebook.
- Q. Darrell Merkel-Does scraping the snow back from the sides of the road cause freezing problems?
- A. Dean Hoffman- River Road East is narrow and the snow has to be pushed back.
- Q. My grinder froze once over the winter but I could use my system. Where did the effluent go?
- A. Dean Hoffman- we traced it to a neighbor's pot through a check valve. There was no spill.

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- Darrell Merkel-The Town needs to address not just the mains but the installations of all users.
- Frank Putman-Yes.
- Q. Rick Johnson-Has the Town retained legal counsel for this issue?
- A. Supervisor Putman-No.
- Q. Rick Johnson-Has the Town retained engineering counsel for the issue.
- A. Supervisor Putman-No.
- Q. Peter FitzRandolph-Do any other communities in the North Country have this type of system?
- A. Dean Hoffman-Yes. Some communities do and one is being installed in the area now.
- Q. Peter FitzRandolph-Is this the first winter the mains have frozen?
- A. Dean Hoffman-Yes.
- Bruce Dana- stated that he asked the contractor the same question and was told yes.
- Q. John Briggs-Will a solution for the district cover just the mains or both the main lines and the individual installations?
- A. Frank Putman-That has not been determined.

Old Business

1. **Sewer Districts**-Covered under public Comment.
2. **Town Hall Project**- Tabled.
3. **Employee Handbook**-The Board approved the discipline process and directed the Clerk to have it added to the Handbook.
4. **Ethics Review Board**-The Board was directed to canvas for some interested citizens for 5 open spots on the Ethics Review Board.
5. **Local Law # 2 of 2015-Override Tax Cap for 2016**- A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, and seconded by Councilman Macaulay, to advertise a public hearing for Local Law #2 of 2015 for 7 pm on June 9, 2015.
6. Vote: Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye. Motion Carried
7. **Local Law #3 of 2015-Revision to Fire and Building Code**-Tabled.
8. **Other Old Business**- No other Old Business

New Business

1. **Resolution #5 of 2015 Resolution to Expend Town Highway Funds**-A motion was made by Supervisor Putman, and seconded by Councilman VanArnam, to adopt Resolution # 5 of 2015 as follows:
AGREEMENT TO SPEND TOWN HIGHWAY FUNDS
TOWN OF MORRISTOWN- COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE

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Pursuant to the provisions of Section 284 of the Highway Law, we agree that moneys levied and collected for the repair and improvement of highways, and received from the state for the repair and improvements of highways, shall be expended as follows:

1. GENERAL REPAIRS. The sum of \$ 20,000.00 may be expended for general repairs upon 43.39 miles of town highways, including sluices, culverts and bridges having a span of less than five feet and boardwalks or the renewals thereof.

2. IMPROVEMENTS. The following sums shall be set aside to be expended for the improvement of town highways:

(a) On the road commencing at Morristown Village limit and leading to dead end, a distance of .5 miles there shall be expended not over the sum of \$ 22,000.00

Type Hot Mix Width of traveled surface 18 feet
Thickness 1 ½" Sub-base Improve and widen shoulders, re-establish drainage ditches

(b) On the road commencing at Gilmore, and leading to county route 6 a distance of 1.5 miles there shall be expended not over the sum of \$ 90,285.60

Type Hot Mix Width of traveled surface 18 feet
Thickness 1 ½" Sub-base Improve and widen shoulders, re-establish drainage ditches

(c) On the road commencing at Various locations – Overlay Patch Work, and there shall be expended not over the sum of \$

Type Hot Mix Width of traveled surface 18 feet
Thickness 1 ½" Sub-base

No moneys set aside for such improvements shall be expended, nor shall any work be undertaken on such improvements, until approved by the majority of Town Board.

This agreement shall take effect when it is filed with the County Superintendent of Highways.

Executed in duplicate this 12th day of May, 2015.

Revenue
Sales Tax \$260000

CHIPS \$105,500.68
Storm relief \$15378.89

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NOTE: This Agreement should be signed in duplicate by a majority of the members of the Town Board and by the Town Superintendent. One copy must be filed in the Town Clerk's office and one in the County Superintendent's office.

COPIES DO NOT HAVE TO BE FILED IN ALBANY.

This agreement shall take effect when it is filed with the County Superintendent of Highways.

Executed in duplicate this 12th day of May, 2015.

Vote: Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye.
Motion Carried

2. **Cemetery Contract Renewal-Advertisement for Bids**-The Board tabled action until they can review the issue and the way they want the bid to be presented.
3. **Other New Business**-No New business.

Department Reports

1. **Highway Department**-The Superintendent presented the Board with a written report. He also gave the Board some quotes for a vacuum trailer, and reported that the lawns affected by the winter repair work had been graded and seeded.
2. **Code Enforcement**-The Code Enforcement Officer tendered a written report to the Board. He reported that he was still conducting Town wide property maintenance inspections. He asked for some Board members to ride along with him to see what he was finding. He requested a meeting with the Supervisor, the Town attorney and the Town Justices to discuss the application of civil penalties. The Supervisor agreed to set up a meeting. The Board approved the request for a copier/scanner under contract for the Code Officer.
3. **DPW**-DPW Superintendent Crosby reported a few valve calls and lost prime calls.

Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned upon motion at 8:02 PM

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