

**Town of Morristown
Regular Monthly Meeting
May 13, 2014**

Present: Gary Turner, David VanArnam, Shawn Macaulay, Howard Warren, Frank Putman

Also Present: Dean Hoffman, Sherry Shatraw, Kevin Crosby, Joe Lightfoot

Approval of Minutes A motion was made by Councilman Macaulay, and seconded by Councilman VanArnam to approve the minutes of April 2, 2014, and April 22, 2014 as presented.

G. Turner-Aye, D. VanArnam-Aye, S. Macaulay-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

Correspondence

Supervisor Putman updated the Board on the status of a District 2 sewer problem at the John Sever residence in response to a message received on May 12th.

A written request was received from Patrick Barse asking for permission to hay the acreage owned by the Town in the village fronting Main Street. The Board discussed the request. Mr. Barse will pay twenty dollars per acre. The Board stipulated that Mr. Barse must present proof of insurance that names the Town as an additional insured. A motion was made by Supervisor Putman, and seconded by Councilman Turner to give Mr. Barse permission provided that the insurance stipulation is met.

G. Turner-Aye, D. VanArnam-Aye, S. Macaulay-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

Public Comment

Phillipe Bertrand asked the Board to extend the exception by 100 feet on the High Street end of Mill Road along property he is selling. He additionally asked for the Town to open and maintain a road along the excepted distance. The Board indicated that they had already declined to do so on the other end of Mill Road, and suggested that Mr. Bertrand should negotiate a right of way when he sells the property in question.

Joe Lightfoot spoke to the Board on the County plan to realign office space at the County office building.

Old Business

1. Employee Handbook - A meeting was scheduled for May 27th at 6:30 PM.

2. Town Internet Initiative (Castle Cable) - Tabled

3. Municipal Solar Workshop- A flyer for a workshop in Oswegatchie was distributed to the Board.

4. Town Hall Project-A response from the Catholic Church was received concerning information requested by the Town. Supervisor Putman asked the Board to review the letter and discuss it at the next meeting.

5. Contractor's Agreement (Model Agreement)-The Board will review the agreement and be ready to discuss it at the next meeting.

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At this point in the evening(7:48 PM) Supervisor Putman temporarily suspended the meeting to open a public hearing to take comment for and against Local Law # 1 A local law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c. There were no public comments received from the public. The meeting was re-convened.

6. Tax Cap Law-A motion was made by Councilman Warren, and seconded by Councilman VanArnam, to move a resolution to adopt Local Law#1 of 2014 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 1/1/2015 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 1/1/2015 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.

Section 5. Effective date

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

G. Turner-Aye, D. VanArnam-Aye, S. Macaulay-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

7. Other Old Business-No other old business was brought before the Board.

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New Business

1. North Country HOME Consortium-Reauthorization for 2015-2017- The Board agreed that the Town will remain in the consortium to take advantage of the benefits of membership for Town residents.

2. Request for Approval for Work in NYS Right Of Way – The Board voiced its support for the Villages beautification efforts in the State ROW on State Highway 37.

2. Other New Business

1. Councilman Macaulay asked Mayor Shatraw about the status of dock repairs at the village docks.

2. The Board discussed the possibility of the new high water elevation affecting the septic replacement grant at Black Lake.

Department Reports

1. Highway Department- A written report was presented to the Board. Waiting for parts to ship for the repairs to the end of the salt barn. The fabric is guaranteed for 10 years. The fuel storage volume of record at the Town Barn was increased for 5 years by the State.

2. Code Enforcement-A written report was given to the Board.

3. Public Works-Kevin Crosby and Dean Hoffman will be going to E One grinder pump training in mid-May. Kevin asked for Town Highway assistance in cutting the State ROW on State Highway 37, between Chapman and High Streets, for the Fourth of July. The Board gave their permission.

The meeting was adjourned upon motion at 8:40 PM

Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by David Murray, Town Clerk