

**Town of Morristown  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
August 12, 2014**

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

**Also Present:** Chris Sherwin, Dean Hoffman, Joe Lightfoot

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Councilman Warren, and seconded by Councilman Macaulay to approve the minutes of July 08, 2014, as presented.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, D. VanArnam-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

**Correspondence:** Correspondence was reviewed.

**Public Comment:** Legislator Joe Lightfoot briefed the Board on the County's plans to rework the workers compensation formula.

**Old Business**

**1. Employee Handbook Revisions-**A copy of the revised handbook was given to the Board for review. The Board came to a consensus that smoking should not be allowed on Town property.

**2. Town Hall** –Supervisor Putman told the Board that the engineer is waiting for plans from the Church. Some Board members have made contact with the Town of Hopkinton to get information on a new town hall they are building.

**3. Wastewater Districts-**The Supervisor will contact the project engineer about the quotes for repairs for the Sever installation. DANC has not yet submitted a proposal for assuming the maintenance of the sewer districts. A pot was broken at the Shelato project during construction and it will need to be determined who broke it and how much they will be charged for the repairs.

**4. Code Officer Position-** A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, and seconded by Councilman Turner, to rescind a previous motion that split the Code Officer position into two separate positions and restore the position to a full time single position.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, D. VanArnam-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

The Board reviewed the certified list of eligibles for the position of Code Enforcement Officer. Since Christopher Sherwin is in the top 3 on the list the Board decided to offer him the position, effective immediately. A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, and seconded by Councilman Turner, to offer Christopher Sherwin the position of Code Enforcement Officer, effective immediately. Mr. Sherwin accepted.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, D. VanArnam-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

**5. SH 37/SH 58 Intersection-** The Board received a letter from the Village that was sent by the NYS DOT, informing the village that the request for some type of traffic control light at the Route 37/SH 58 intersection was not warranted after a study of the traffic conditions at that intersection.

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**New Business**

**1. Resolution #8 Support for Plan 2014-** Supervisor Putman moved resolution #8 of 2014 and was seconded by Councilman VanArnam, as follows:

Resolution in Support of the International Joint Commission's  
Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Plan 2014

**WHEREAS**, the ecological health of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River is paramount to the economy of the region, contributing billions through sectors including but not limited to tourism, commercial and recreational fishing, boating, shipping, and power generation, and

**WHEREAS**, landowners, public infrastructure, businesses, and communities are now threatened by erosion, and by lack of coordination in management of the shoreline, and have experienced flooding in the past, and

**WHEREAS**, the levels and flows of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River are regulated through a dam in the River in accordance with a regulation plan this over 50 years old, and

**WHEREAS**, the current regulation plan "Plan 1958D" has proven inadequate to address unforeseen conditions, requiring frequent deviations attempting to stabilize the Lake, and has caused clear environmental harm to wetlands, coastal habitats, and the myriad economically and environmentally important species of plants and animals they harbor, thereby degrading the quality of life for all citizens of the Lake Ontario- St. Lawrence River region, and

**WHEREAS**, the International Joint Commission has sponsored a 10-year, \$20 million process to develop a new regulation plan that addresses the concerns of all stakeholders in New York, Ontario and Quebec, and

**WHEREAS**, the International Joint Commission now proposes Plan 2014 as the new regulation plan for the Lake Ontario- St. Lawrence River system, and

**WHEREAS**, Plan 2014 will increase production of hydropower by the dams in the St. Lawrence

River, and maintain the benefits that regulation of the River and Lake has provided to international shipping, and

**WHEREAS**, by restoring some of the natural fluctuations in water levels, while avoiding extreme high and low levels, Plan 2014 will restore the plant and animal diversity of coastal wetlands *without public investment* and dramatically increase opportunities for hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing,

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Town of Morristown supports Plan 2014, and urges its swift adoption by the United States and Canadian federal governments.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, D. VanArnam-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

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**2. Resolution #9 –Support for Fort Drum-** Councilman VanArnam moved resolution #9 of 2014 and was seconded by Councilman Macaulay, as follows:  
Resolution in Support of Fort Drum

**WHEREAS**, the Army released a Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment (SPEA) for Army 2020 Force Structure Realignment in June 2014 to evaluate force reduction and realignment, and

**WHEREAS**, this proposed action will reduce and realign active component Soldiers and Army civilian employees to help the Army meet current and future national security and defense requirements, and

**WHEREAS**, the Army's proposal is to reduce end-strength to as low as 420,000, double the reduction proposed in 2013, and

**WHEREAS**, the Army's SPEA is looking to cut 16,000 jobs from Fort Drum; 15,417 Soldiers and 583 Army civilians which includes the loss of the 3<sup>rd</sup> BCT from the 10th Mountain Division which was announced last year, and

**WHEREAS**, this SPEA looks at the socio-economic impact of this action and it predicts a loss of \$877,512,000 in income, a loss of 19,102 jobs, and a decrease in population of 40,288, and

**WHEREAS**, Fort Drum and the surrounding communities have developed a unique relationship in regard to providing housing, education, health care, and infrastructure to support the installation, and

**WHEREAS**, this proposed force reduction under review by the Army would have a devastating impact jobs, education, health care, quality of life and the ability of local governments to provide essential services for its residents, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Morristown has welcomed Soldiers and their Families to our communities as visitors and residents, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Morristown recognizes the Army needs to review force reductions and realignments as part of a long term solution to the current fiscal situation;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of the Town of Morristown believes that the proposed cut of 16,000 at Fort Drum currently under review by the Army will have devastating and long lasting impacts on the local economy as forecast in the Army's own SPEA, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of the Town of Morristown asks that the Army, as part of their decision making process, consider our communities ability to continue to support Fort Drum and the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division and to provide those essential services needed by our citizens, and

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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of the Town of Morristown asks that, due to these socio-economic impacts, that no further reductions in personnel occur at Fort Drum or the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division beyond those that were identified in the 2013 Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, D. VanArnam-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye

**Department Reports**

- 1. Highway Department-** Superintendent Hoffman gave a written report to the Board. He also told the Board that he was working on his budget and the cost of road salt had risen significantly for 2015. He also stated that they will be repairing the smaller plow truck rather than trying to purchase a replacement at this time.
- 2. Code Enforcement-**A written report was given to the Board. A discussion was held on the possible replacement of the Code vehicle. Some Board members stated that they didn't want to purchase one at this time and some thought that a straight purchase with a trade in might work. There was also discussion as to what kind of vehicle should be considered such as a truck or a SUV. The Code officer stated that whatever is considered should have four wheel drive.
- 3. Public Works-** No report

A motion was made by Councilman Macaulay, and seconded by Councilman VanArnam, to enter into executive session to discuss matters relating to the employment history of a specific Town employee.

Vote: G. Turner-Aye, D. VanArnam-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, H. Warren-Aye, F. Putman-Aye The Board entered into executive session at 8:25 PM.

At 8:40 PM the Board came out of executive session. Supervisor Putman reported no action was taken while in executive session.

The meeting was adjourned upon motion at 8:40 PM.

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