

**Town of Morristown
Regular Monthly Meeting
August 11, 2009 7 PM
Meeting Location: Town Offices, 604 Main Street**

Present: Frank Putman, Gary Turner, Mark Blanchard, David Stout III, Howard Warren, Dan Moyer

Also Present: Michael Bogart, Kay Davis, Kathryn Bateman, Jim Lowery (BHFD), James T. Phillips, Jr., Joseph Lightfoot

A motion was made by Councilman Blanchard, seconded by Councilman Stout to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2009 meeting as presented.

Vote: F Putman – Aye, G. Turner – Aye M. Blanchard – Aye D. Stout – Aye H. Warren – Aye
Motion Passes

Public Comment Period

Old Business

1. **Sewer Extension Project-** A resolution was moved by Supervisor Putman, seconded by Councilman Warren as follows:

Resolution # 12 of the Year 2009 – River Road East Sewer Project Easements

WHEREAS, the Town of Morristown understands that it will need to secure easements to allow the construction of the River Road East Sewer Project when funding becomes available;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board formally recognizes the need to secure such easements as are necessary for the construction of the River Road East Sewer Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board shall authorize the Supervisor to make all necessary arrangements for negotiating and securing all such easements at the appropriate time.

Vote: F Putman – Aye, G. Turner – Aye M. Blanchard – Aye D. Stout – Aye H. Warren – Aye
Motion Passes

2. **Employee Contracts-** Tabled

3. **Brier Hill Fire District-** A motion was made by Supervisor Putman, seconded by Councilman Turner to hold a special public meeting on August 18th immediately after the three scheduled public hearings to consider the three resolutions before the Board.

Vote: F Putman – Aye, G. Turner – Aye M. Blanchard – Aye D. Stout – Aye H. Warren – Aye
Motion Passes

4. **Time Warner Cable Contract -** Attorney Silver has sent a letter to Time Warner requesting changes to the contract.
5. **ZBA and Planning Board Vacancies-** Supervisor Putman asked all Board members to submit 2 names for consideration.
6. **Teamsters Contract –** moved to later in the meeting.

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7. **Notice of Highway Defects Law** – Councilman Stout made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Putman to hold a public hearing on September 8, 2009, at 7 PM to take comment on Local Law #1 of 2009 as follows:

**Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2009
Notice of Highway Defects**

A local law providing for written notification of defects and obstructions on town highways, bridges, streets, sidewalks, crosswalks and culverts in the Town of Morristown.

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Morristown in the County of St. Lawrence as follows:

Section 1. No civil actions shall be maintained against the town or town supervisor, town council or town council members, town superintendent of highways or any town employee for damages or injuries to person or property sustained by reason of any highway, bridge, street, sidewalk, crosswalk or culvert being defective in any way, out of repair, unsafe, dangerous or obstructed unless prior written notice of such defective, unsafe, dangerous, or obstructed condition of such highway, bridge, street, sidewalk, crosswalk or culvert was actually given to the town clerk or town superintendent of highways, and there was a failure or neglect by the town within a reasonable time after the giving of such notice to repair or remove the defect, danger or obstruction complained of. No such action shall be maintained for damages or injuries to person or property sustained solely in consequence of the existence of snow or ice upon any highway, bridge, street, sidewalk, crosswalk or culvert, unless written notice thereof, specifying the particular place, was actually given to the town clerk or town superintendent of highways and there was failure or neglect to cause such snow or ice to be removed, or to make the place otherwise reasonably safe within a reasonable time after the receipt of such notice.

Section 2. The town superintendent of highways shall transmit in writing to the town clerk within five days after the receipt thereof all written notices received pursuant to this local law and subdivision 2 of section 65-a of the Town Law. The town clerk shall cause all written notices received pursuant to this local law and subdivision 2 of section 65-a of the Town Law, to be presented to the town board within five days of the receipt thereof or at the next succeeding town board meeting whichever shall be sooner.

Section 3. This local law shall supersede in its application to the Town of Morristown subdivisions 1 and 3 of section 65-a of the Town Law.

Section 4. This local law shall take effect immediately upon its filing in the office of the Secretary of State.

Vote: F Putman – Aye, G. Turner – Aye M. Blanchard – Aye D. Stout – Aye H. Warren – Aye
Motion Passes

8. **Building Electrical Concerns** – CEO Kay Davis explained the electrical work that needs to be done as per the new quote for additional work received from Mason Mechanicals. The concerns are important but not immediate at this time.
9. **Town Hall** - The Board directed the Clerk to contact Attorney Silver's office to find out what the delay is in closing on the property for the New Town Hall.

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10. **New Town Hall** – Councilman Warren will contact Mark Bender and ask him attend the September meeting to discuss a less expensive concept for a new town hall.

New Business

1. **Budget Modifications** – Tabled
2. **Drainage District Expiration** - The Board was informed that the drainage district would expire in 2009 and funds would need to be returned to members of the district.
3. **Liquor License Renewal**- The Board received a liquor license renewal notice from Turner Inn. There was no comment on the renewal.
4. **Sales Tax Revenue Projections** – The Board received a projection document from the County for their information.

Committee Reports

Wind Energy – Councilman Warren reported on the last meeting which featured a speaker on home wind systems.

Department Reports

Code Enforcement - CEO Davis presented a report to the Board and discussed a sidewalk issue in the village the Board asked about.

Assessor – Assessor Bateman presented a report and stated that the 6 year program is continuing.

Highway Superintendent – Superintendent Bogart presented his report.

Superintendent Bogart asked for permission to solicit bids for the sale of surplus overhead doors the Town owns and for winter screened sand.

A motion was made by Supervisor Putman, seconded by Councilman Turner to authorize putting the Towns surplus overhead doors out for bid and to authorize advertising for bids for screened winter sand, bids to be opened at the September 8 meeting.

Vote: F Putman – Aye, G. Turner – Aye M. Blanchard – Aye D. Stout – Aye H. Warren – Aye
Motion Passes

Superintendent Bogart asked for permission to purchase a 1 way plow from Route 11 Supply for \$5,900. A motion was made by Councilman Stout, seconded by Councilman Blanchard to authorize the purchase of a 1 way plow from Route 11 Supply for \$5,900.

Vote: F Putman – Aye, G. Turner – Aye M. Blanchard – Aye D. Stout – Aye H. Warren – Aye
Motion Passes

Supervisor Putman made a motion, seconded by Councilman Warren to accept lead agency status for a grant application from the Local Government Efficiency Program.

Vote: F Putman – Aye, G. Turner – Aye M. Blanchard – Aye D. Stout – Aye H. Warren – Aye
Motion Passes

Old Business –Teamsters Contract – A motion was made by Supervisor Putman, seconded by Councilman Warren to enter into executive session to discuss matters relating to contract negotiations with the Teamsters.

Vote: F Putman – Aye, G. Turner – Aye M. Blanchard – Aye D. Stout – Aye H. Warren – Aye

Motion Passes Entered into executive session at 9:10 Pm and returned at 10:15 PM.

Supervisor Putman adjourned the meeting at 10:20 PM

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by David Murray Town Clerk