

**Present:** Gary Turner, David VanArnam, Chris Coffin, Shawn Macaulay, Frank Putman  
**Also Present:** Dean Hoffman (Highway), Gregg Mallette (Codes), Debbie Murray (Town Historian), Joe Lightfoot (County), Jody Wenzel (County), Jill Sullivan (Next Town Clerk)

**Pledge of Allegiance:** led by Shawn Macaulay

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Councilman Macaulay to approve the minutes of July 13, 2021, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman VanArnam.

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye The motion passes.

**Correspondence:** Minutes of Recreation Committee, Introductory letter from Usource Energy.  
**Public Comment:** No comment received.

### **Old Business**

1. **Supervisor Update:** The supervisor reported on the REDI Grant and the 2022 Budget process.
2. **REDI Grant:** The Highway Superintendent reported that a meeting was held with the county engineers and the contractor. The water and wastewater lines have been bored under the bay and installed.
3. **Capital Replacement Planning:** No report.
4. **Surplus Properties:** Waiting for the surveyor to complete the work. Board also discussed a possible lot on Bay Street that could be sold.
5. **2022 Budget:** The budget committee will meet with the Highway Superintendent soon.
6. **Teamsters Contract:** No response or proposal received from teamsters at this time.
7. **Water Services Analysis Agreement:** The Board agreed that they wanted to move forward. Councilman David VanArnam moved a resolution to execute the Water Services Analysis Agreement between the Town and the Development Authority of the North Country as follows:  
**Whereas,** the Town of Morristown desires to upgrade the water system in the Hamlet of Morristown, and  
**Whereas,** it is necessary to have an analysis of the existing water system to identify the components of that system that need replacement and/or upgrades, and  
**Whereas,** the analysis is required to complete an engineering study as part of the grant application process, therefore  
**Be It Resolved,** the Town Board authorizes the supervisor to execute the Water Services Analysis Agreement between the Town of Morristown and the Development Authority of the North Country.

The resolution was seconded by Councilman Gary Turner

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye The resolution passes.

### Old Business Continued

- 8. Cannabis Sales Local Law:** The Board asked County Legislator Joe Lightfoot to discuss the implications of opting to ban cannabis sales in the town. Legislator Lightfoot explained that opting out means the town will lose its share of sales tax throughout the county. The Board were unanimous in their agreement to move forward with opting out of permitting cannabis sales in the Town of Morristown.

### New Business

- 1. 2020 Court Audit Acceptance:** Councilman VanArnam moved a resolution to accept the 2020 Court Audit Report as presented.

**Resolved,** The Town Board accepts the report of the audit committee, as presented, for the 2020 Audit of Town of Morristown Justice Court.

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye The resolution passes.

- 2. St. Lawrence County Risk Management:** A presentation was given by Jody Wenzel, risk manager from the County Self Insurance Plan. Mr. Wenzel will be conducting safety audits of all town facilities. Mr. Wenzel also explained how workers compensation rates are calculated.

- 3. Cemetery Maintenance Contract:** A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam to authorize advertising for bids for cemetery lawn maintenance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Macaulay.

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye The motion passes

- 4. Cemetery Independent Contractor** A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam to authorize advertising for bids for a cemetery independent contractor to perform internments and dis-internments. The motion was seconded by Councilman Macaulay.

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye The motion passes

- 5. Usource Energy Consultants:** The Board may wish to speak with a representative from the company in the future.

- 6. Change of meeting date for September:** The Board approved a change in the September monthly meeting date to Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at 7 PM

- 7. 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House:** The Historian set the date for the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary open house for October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM at Town Office #2, 402 Gouverneur Street. Light refreshments will be served.

### **Department Reports**

**Highway Department:** Dean Hoffman reported that July was a busy month. Most town paving has been completed. The Town Highway department also assisted Hammond and Oswegatchie with paving. The new plow truck is in. Water and sewer districts have been quiet. One problem reported was that one of the main tanks at the sewer plant is plugged and will need to be pumped out.

**Code Enforcement:** A written report was available in the board's meeting materials. The Board discussed the perceived lack of support for Code Enforcement from the Town Justice. They discussed rewriting the Land Use Code to make it more enforceable. Property maintenance issues have become very serious as well as abandoned properties. The Board directed the Clerk to attend the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss making local laws more enforceable at the local justice level.

**Assessor:** Councilman Coffin asked to have the Assessor provide reports to the Board on what he has been doing.

**Other:** The Board discussed securing a new IT service provider. Joe Lightfoot suggested shared service with the county.

Councilman Coffin asked if payments were being received from Ridgeview Tel for their equipment on the water tower. The Clerk was directed to find the current contract.

**County:** Joe Lightfoot on sales tax for the first half of 2021, the county audit report (no deficiencies), the department of Social Services investigation and the numerous services the City of Ogdensburg wants the County to assume responsibility for.

**Executive Session:** A motion was made by Councilman Macaulay to enter executive session to discuss matters relating to the work history of a particular Town employee. The motion was seconded by Councilman VanArnam.

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye The motion passes

Executive session started at 8:40 PM. The Board left executive session at 8:55 PM. Supervisor Putman reported that no action was taken while in executive session.

A motion was made by Councilman Macaulay to set the spay for the sole justice position to \$17,000 per year, retroactive to June 1, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilman Coffin.

**Vote:** Gary Turner-Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye The motion passes

**Adjournment:** With no other business before the Board the meeting was adjourned upon motion at 9:10 PM.

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