

**Town Board Meeting Minutes
Town of Morristown
August 9, 2022**

Present: Supervisor, Frank Putman; Deputy Supervisor, Chris Coffin; Councilman Gary Turner; Councilman Shawn Macaulay; Councilman Dave VanArnam.

Others Present: Gregg Mallette, Code Enforcement Officer; Jill Sullivan, Town Clerk; Joe Lightfoot, County Legislator.

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Putman at 7:04 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance Led by Shawn Macauley and said by all.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilman Coffin to approve the July 12, 2022 Town Board meeting minutes as written and presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Macaulay.

Vote: David VanArnam – Aye, Gary Turner – Aye, Chris Coffin – Aye; Shawn Macaulay – Aye; Frank Putman – Aye. Motion carried 5 Ayes.

Correspondence:

- 1) The Morristown Recreation Committee, July 19, 2022 meeting minutes were distributed.
- 2) A thank you note was received from Judy Wright for the flowers sent in memory of Ron.
- 3) A report was received from NYS DEC for the Annual Wastewater Treatment Facility Inspection.

Public Comment:

Joe Lightfoot, County Legislator stated that County has used a half million dollars out of fund balance for the highway department. The county has paid more than \$400,000 for solid waste so far this year.

There will be a meeting with the Bono Deo Group and Department of Social Services Commissioner regarding the department issues. The Commissioner is working on the response and a plan of action with the recommendations made.

The county has appropriated slightly over \$500,000 for a new Mobile Command Unit.

The county is looking to hire a mental health service provider to prescribe meds and provide other services as needed. Currently the County is paying \$129,000 through SUNY Upstate for this service.

The county property auction will be coming up in September.

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There is controversy about a bond for St. Lawrence University. They need a vote from the legislators to borrow 80 million dollars. The local governing agency must approve a decision to find bonding for maintenance of buildings. The County is not lending and is not responsible for anything.

The Highway Supervisors are looking for increases in town and villages plowing agreements.

Supervisor's Update: Supervisor Putman stated that the Morristown Public Library representative will attend next months meeting.

After looking into merging the courts we found it not to be cost effect so we will not pursue that idea any further.

Old Business:

1. **Financial Report:** The Financial report was provided to all members and there were no concerns.
2. **DANC Reports:** The July report has not been received as of meeting time.
3. **LWRP** – There has been no progress. The State urges us to amend our plan. But at this point it will not get us points for our grant applications and we should focus on the current grant projects.
4. **ARPA Funds:** No other bids were received any bids for the LUCAS units so they were purchased from the proposals.

New Business

1. **Re – Dedication of Boat Launch:** Supervisor Putman suggested re-dedicating the boat launch to Ronnie Wright. The Village had dedicated it to David Martin. There was discussion and the Council was in favor and would like it to be dedicated to Ronnie.
2. **Investing of Funds:** Councilman Coffin contacted Renee Cole our County Treasurer for some guidance on investing of municipality funds. She recommends going back a number of years and get monthly bank balances and then conserve the lowest amount to invest for some interest. Community and Key banks are who the county works with and she recommends them because they do know the municipality regulations/laws. NY Class is cooperative and handles investing of funds and is easy to withdraw funds if needed. The first thing that should happen it to get an investment policy in place.

The Council encouraged Councilman Coffin to proceed with the investing of municipality funds.

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- 3. Open Meeting Law & Video Conferencing:** This allows the public and council members to participate for video conferencing of meetings. We are current with this law and the minutes will continue as is.
- 4. NY Forward Program:** Councilman Coffin spoke about the NY Forward Program. There is 10 million dollars of grant funds available to Villages/Hamlets to restore their communities. There is an application process starting with a letter on intent is due August 10th, 2022. Councilman Coffin has drafted a letter of intent for submission. If the 5-page letter of intent is accepted, then the state will provide professional services to complete the application. Submitting a letter of intent does not bind us into anything.

Members were in favor of submitting the letter of intent and proceed as necessary.

Other Business: There was no other business.

Department Reports: All written reports are on file.

Town Clerk: Jill Sullivan presented a written report to the board.

Code Enforcement: Gregg Mallette presented a written report. Gregg stated that he has been busy with small permits. Some violations have been re-issued to the supreme court with a 20-day time frame. Gregg will meet with Andy Silver on Monday to sign more complaints to be sent to Supreme Court.

It was suggested that once these supreme court cases are complete we get some news coverage for the town.

Highway Department: A report was not available.

Assessor: A written report was not available.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned upon motion by Councilman VanArnam and seconded by Councilman Macaulay at 8:10 pm.