

**Town Board Meeting Minutes  
Town of Morristown  
July 12, 2022**

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

**Others Present:** Dean Hoffman, Highway Superintendent; Gregg Mallette, Code Enforcement Officer; Jill Sullivan, Town Clerk; Donnie Aldrich & Wayne Moquin, Highway Dept; Jill Aldrich, Brier Hill Fire Dept.; Jay Moore, Morristown Fire Dept.; Joe Lightfoot, County Legislator; Matt Cooper & Taylor Jennings, Barton & Loguidice; Peggy Mousaw, AOK; Christine Harvey, NYS Deferred Comp.

**Called to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Putman at 7:00 pm.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilman Coffin suggested some revisions to be made to the minutes such as adding the actual Resolution of the Property Sale, and some corrections to wording. A motion was made by Councilman Coffin to approve the June 14, 2022 Town Board meeting minutes as presented with the revisions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Turner.

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

**Correspondence:**

- 1) A thank you note was received from Caroline Shepard for the use of the one room School.

**Public Comment:**

**Joe Lightfoot, County Legislator** stated that County stated that the Board of Legislators approved an additional employee for the sheriff's Department as well as an additional K-9 Unit which will need \$13,000 to get it up and running. The board also approved 80.7 acres of land throughout the county as part of the Agricultural district. Prime land is being used more for solar farms than to produce agriculture products. The board opposed the entire bill package proposed for firearms. The state is no longer paying half the cost to house criminals while they await a psychiatric exam, so the county is paying 100% of the cost and so far this year it has cost the county \$855,000. The county has not raised taxes in 7 years due to the fund balance, which is great. There is 34 and ½ miles of county roads are being paved and with the increase of sales tax revenue, additional roads will be done as well.

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**Supervisor's Update:** Supervisor Putman stated that the Local Curfew Law will be sent to the Sheriff's and State Police.

Signs are being made for sale of the town property Lot #1, #2, #3, and #5.

**Old Business:**

1. **Water Study:** Matt Cooper and Taylor Jennings from Barton & Loguidice presented the board with the results of the water study for the Water Improvement project. The existing problems with the current water system are freezing lines, tanks need repairing, the treatment plant outdated, meters need to be replaced and lack of redundancy in the distribution system (wasn't in the RFP) but found to me a major issue under the bay. The board has expressed interest in extending the water and sewer system into the hamlet of Brier Hill. The expansion would not be cost effective right now due to the number of improvements that need to be done to the current districts. Matt and Taylor explained how the grant application process works. The more problems you propose to solve the more points you score. So we want to reach the highest number of points possible to achieve the most project. Barton & Loguidice are proposing to fix/improve the current existing problems and extend the district out as far as the State Park. The proposed project with the extension to the park would cost \$16.3 million and \$9 million without extending to the park. The larger the project achieve more points. As adding the state park and that will also bring the cost down for existing users. Multiple grants can be used on a project and there is also hardship funding available. The time frame is 3 years from start of receiving grants. We are currently in a good grant cycle. The next step to move forward is to survey those who would be new and see if they are interested. Then an Environmental Review will need to be done. The information taken from the survey responses could be beneficial and add points. There are different ways to form the district. The most common or typical way is permissible referendum and the least common is to get a petition.

2. **Financial Report:**

a. **Budget Mods:** Councilman Coffin addresses the budget mods that need to be made, one was for \$1,800 to the Board of Assessment Review contingency and the other was for the Historian salary of \$1,600 to the personnel salary.

**MOTION**

**Councilman Shawn Macaulay made a motion to approve the budget modifications as presented. Councilman David VanArnam seconded the motion.**

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

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1. **DANC Reports:** Copies of the DANC reports for the months of June 2022 were distributed to all Board Members. There is nothing out of the ordinary in the monthly reports.
2. **LWRP** – This was tabled until additional information is obtained.
3. **ARPA Funds:**
  - a. **LUCAS Equipment:** Jill Aldrich, Brier Hill Fire and Jay Moore, Morristown Fire spoke about the LUCAS Emergency Equipment. Each unit is priced at \$21,956.04 and that includes a 4 - year service contract, a charger, a case, and a battery. They are proposing to purchase two units, one for each department.

Peggy Mousaw stated APRA Funds can be used to purchase them but a RFP will need to go out so a resolution is needed to authorize her to draft a RFP for the LUCAS and proceed as necessary for ARPA funds.

**MOTION**

**Councilman Chris Coffin made a motion for a resolution to be made giving Peggy Mousaw authorization to draft a RFP and for the Town to proceed as necessary to purchase the LUCAS equipment. Supervisor Frank Putman seconded the motion.**

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

- b. **Morristown Public Library:** Supervisor Putman informed the board that he received a funding request letter from the library. They are asking for APRA funds. Supervisor Putman is suggesting that we ask for their budget to see where funding is going. We should also ask if they received any other APRA funds or considered funding from the school as well. They are able to apply for ARPA funds themselves. After discussion it was suggested to send them a letter requesting the budget information and suggest the other funding options available to them.
- c. **New Town Office:** Carl is going to meet with Dean Hoffman to review some plans and costs to renovate the Village office.
- d. **Walkway:** The average cost for a 1,000' long by 12' wide walkway with concrete solar lights is \$75,000.00.

There was discussion about the different projects. Peggy Mousaw stated that the board has until December 2024 to decide on what projects they want to pursue, and they need to be completed by December 2026.

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**New Business**

1. **New York State Deferred Compensation:** Christine Harvey explained Deferred comp and how it works. There is no cost to the Municipality, and it is pre-taxed. Employees can contribute what they would like and manage their account. The only thing the Town is responsible for is the resolution allowing the program to be offered to employees and the a few forms to fill out on the employees. Contributions are on a payroll deduction and made on a regular basis. The employees will pay an annual fee of \$20 for funds under \$20,000 and \$80 for \$200,000. The resolution to be signed was read by Christine Harvey and a copy is on file with the minutes.

**MOTION**

**Councilman Shawn Macaulay made a motion to sign the resolution to adopt the NYS Deferred Compensation Plan for Employees. Councilman David VanArnam seconded the motion.**

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

**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 including a list of permits and violations. Russ Lawrence working on the field work. We have one new house being built this month. Gregg will compile another list of complaints to be processed. Gregg's goal is to back to work on August 1, 2022.

**Highway Department:** Dean Hoffman reported that the paving on Oak Point Road is completed. We will hire Phil's Paving out of Adams to do the Stowe Road. The destruction of the by kids has seemed to be calm for the time being. We have put signs up in the park and encouraged people to call the law. Next month sand bids will be put together.

**Assessor:** A written report was distributed.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned upon motion by Councilman Coffin and seconded by Councilman Macaulay at 8:44 pm.

Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by:  
Jill Sullivan, Town Clerk  
July 12, 2022