

Meeting Minutes
Town of Morristown
October 12, 2021

Present: Frank Putman, Gary Turner, David VanArnam, Chris Coffin, Shawn Macaulay
Also Present: Dean Hoffman (Highway), Gregg Mallette (Codes), Andy Silver (Town Attorney), Jay Moore (MVFD), Jill Sullivan, Joe Lightfoot (County Legislator), Karl Bender (Engineer)

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Shawn Macaulay

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Coffin asked for a correction of the minutes in Correspondence, page 1, to *could* contact the Army Corp of engineers. With the noted correction a motion was made by Councilman Coffin to approve the minutes of September 7, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilman VanArnam.

Vote: Gary Turner, Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

Correspondence

Public Comment

Old Business

1. Supervisors Update: The Supervisor is looking at swapping a surplus Town lot in the hamlet for a corner lot on Bay and North Umland Streets. The Town Attorney has advised that that would be legally fine to do. The Board agreed to have the Supervisor move forward with the negotiation. Supervisor Putman asked Karl Bender, AOK Engineering, to give a presentation on AARPA monies being received by the Town. Mr. Bender explained that his firm is experienced and capable of providing oversight, accounting, and compliance services for the Town. AOK Engineering can assist with tracking and accountability services during the disbursement of funds. The Board discussed the complexity of handling this funding with Mr. Bender and agreed they would like to work with AOK Engineering. The Board will wait for an agreement for their review.

2. Local Laws Enforceability: A motion was made by Councilman Macaulay to combine Item #1 and Item #5 under Old Business and to enter executive session to discuss matters relating to potential upcoming legal matters, and contract negotiations, under the Taylor Law.
Vote: Gary Turner, Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

The Board entered executive session at 7:20 PM and emerged at 7:45 PM. Supervisor Putman reported that no action was taken in executive session.

The Board discussed the reworking of the Town Zoning Law to include the former village with a plan to do it slowly. Councilman Coffin stated he wants to amend the current Town zoning law Article V1, E. Adult Stores, to add Cannabis Dispensaries, and to extend the distance for both to 3,000 feet.

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3. Capital Replacement Planning: Councilman Coffin stated that the tentative 2022 budget conforms to the suggested DANC recommendations for General and Highway funds.

4. 2022 Budget – Councilman Coffin said that special districts are difficult. The water district uses fund balance. The Highway will purchase a new pickup in 2022. Capital reserves will be used when needed. Under Special Districts - The Water District may raise water service fees by \$30.00. At this time usage fees remain the same. Sewer Districts – District 2 will flow through the new vacuum plant and some type of charge may apply.

5. Teamsters Contract: Addressed during the executive session.

6. Cannabis Sales: The Board received a Cannabis Guide for Government Officials from the Association of Towns.

7. Winter Fuel Oil Bid: 1 bid received from Morristown Fuel and Building Supply. Supervisor Putman opened the sealed bid. The bid is for #2 fuel oil delivered to the Town office at 604 Main Street and to the Town Highway at 136 County Route 2 at the variable daily rate minus 22 cents. A motion was made by Councilman Macaulay, to accept the bid from Morristown Fuel and Building Supply. The motion was seconded by Councilman Coffin.

Vote: Gary Turner, Aye, David VanArnam-Abstain, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

8. Winter Sand Bid: One bid was received from Stout’s Redi-Mix. The bid was for \$5.95 per ton picked up by the Highway Department. . A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, to accept the bid from Stout’s Redi-Mix. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Putman.

Vote: Gary Turner, Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

9. Cemetery Maintenance Bid: No bid received.

10. Cemetery Independent Contractor Bid: 1 bid was received from JP Lawn Care with rates for internments and lot sales. A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam, to accept the bid from JP Lawn Care. The motion was seconded by Councilman Macaulay.

Vote: Gary Turner, Aye, David VanArnam-Abstain, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

11. State Boat Launch: Highway Superintendent Dean Hoffman offered that the Town would have to write a letter to the State of New York offering to assume responsibility for the management of the Black Lake Boat Launch.

12. 2022 Ambulance Contract: A motion was made by Councilman VanArnam to authorize the supervisor to enter into the 2022 Ambulance Contract with the Morristown Volunteer Fire Company and the Morristown Fire District as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Coffin

Vote: Gary Turner, Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

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New Business

1. Life Flight Resolution: Councilman Macaulay moved resolution #14 of 2021 as follows:

WHEREAS: North Country Life Flight, Inc. is a not for profit, tax exempt corporation which is responsible for all aspects of patient care by providing medical equipment, training, medical personnel and administering the medical portion utilizing the New York State Police helicopter based in Saranac Lake, and,

WHEREAS: The New York State Police aviation resources do not provide a medically trained team or medical equipment for patient transports; and

WHEREAS: The people of Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, and St. Lawrence Counties receive a vital emergency medical service which is free of charge to critically ill and seriously injured patients, and, therefore municipal governments are asked to pledge monies for this worthwhile program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the **Town of Morristown** hereby authorizes the Supervisor to enter into a contract with North Country Life Flight, Inc. for the purpose of operating the medical component of the Medivac program, which will serve its residents and visitors, and paying the amount of \$150.00, which represents the Towns share for 2022; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the sum of \$150.00 is hereby appropriated to account No. A – 4989.4 for payment to North Country Life Flight, Inc.

The resolution was seconded by Councilman Coffin.

Vote: Gary Turner, Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

2. Tax Cap Local Law: A motion was made by Supervisor Putman to hold a public hearing at the November 9, 2021, Town meeting on Local Law #1 of 2021 A local Law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law. The motion was seconded by Councilman VanArnam

Vote: Gary Turner, Aye, David VanArnam-Aye, Chris Coffin-Aye, Shawn Macaulay-Aye, Frank Putman-Aye

3. Volunteer Transportation Center: The Board reviewed a letter and proposed contract from the Volunteer Transportation Center. No action was taken.

4. Second Amendment Resolution: The Board reviewed a letter and a sample resolution from the Town of Macomb concerning the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. No action was taken.

Department Reports

Highway Department: The Superintendent reported that all equipment was in service and running. He also reported that the surplus truck was sold at auction.

Code Enforcement: The Code Officer reported that two more houses are being built. He also reported that violations continue to be an ongoing process. Fire inspections were not done in 2020.

Assessor: No report available.

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Reports, continued

County: Joe Lightfoot reported on the county-wide broad band survey, problems with the Social Services department, and sales tax

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned upon motion at 9:05 PM

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