

**Town Board Special Meeting Minutes  
Town of Morristown  
07/18/2023**

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

**Others Present:** Dean Hoffman, Highway Superintendent; Jill Sullivan, Town Clerk.; Bill Billings, Indian River Lakes Engineering, PLLC, several community residents.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Shawn Macaulay and said by all.

**Town Highway Barn:** Dean Hoffman stated that the building has been ordered and scheduled for delivery in September. The floor plans need to be finalized so we can advertise for contracting bids for the concrete, heating & plumbing and the electrical. It seems like the materials are available right now, but some things may take longer to get.

Bill Billing presented a set of plans to the board and a copy was given to each board member. Bill explained the plans. There was discussion about the plans and questions regarding the structure and all the components involved with the building. The building will be connected to the building that is currently there. The doors have been quoted at \$72,000 including installation.

Dean Hoffman stated that they tried to keep the well in the building, but we are unable to. It looks like we'll have to move it to the outside of the building.

**MOTION**

**Supervisor, Frank Putman made a motion to accept the floor plans for the Town Highway Barn and advertise for bids on concrete, heating & plumbing, and electrical. Councilman Dave VanArnam seconded the motion.**

**Vote: Councilman VanArnam – Aye; Councilman Turner – Aye; Councilman Coffin – Aye; Councilman Macaulay – Aye; Supervisor Putman – Aye. Motion carried 5 Ayes.**

**Water Project Discussion:** Supervisor Putman stated he emailed Matt Cooper's comments, from the informational meeting, onto the rest of the council.

Councilman Coffin stated that after the public informational meeting he feels that the residents have given their opinion by presenting a petition for the water expansion project not to happen on River Road East, Morristown. That carries weight for the town not to proceed with the project. Supervisor Putman and all Councilman agreed. The petition is filed in the Town Clerk's office.

Peter FitzRandolph apologized for the outrage at the informational meeting. Rick Johnson thanked the council for listening to the residents.

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Supervisor Putman received lists of questions from two residents for the proposed Riverview Street water project. He asked if anyone else has questions, to please get them to him and we will work on getting them answered.

Councilman Coffin suggested the town send out a letter to the residents within the proposed water district. The letter will explain the project and include the details. This will help the town find out if there is interest. It was also suggested to include a map if the area being proposed.

Some residents felt the survey did not give enough information and some didn't even receive the survey.

There was discussion about looking for other funding for the project.

It was asked who pays for the lateral lines, and Supervisor Putman stated that the lateral lines are included in the cost of the project.

There is option 3 which is just the necessary repairs be fixed. The original water system was built in the 1960's and repairs are needed regardless of whether we expand the districts or not. The cost is 9 million. Our equipment is outdated, and the billing meters are not accurate, and they need to be updated.

It was questioned about whether homeowners will have to sign an easement. Supervisor Putman did not know about that and will find out.

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Putman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm. Seconded by Shawn Macaulay.