

*A Regular Meeting was held by the Town Board of the Town of Moreau, Saratoga County,
at the Town of Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, New York
on the 23rd day of April, 2024.*

The meeting was held in person. The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with a roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Kyle Noonan Councilmember
Patrick Killian Councilmember
Mark Stewart Councilmember
John Donohue Councilmember
Jesse A. Fish, Jr. Supervisor

ALSO PRESENT: Ellen Buttles Second Deputy Town Clerk
Bill Nikas Special Counsel
Liz Bennett Confidential Secretary
Anna Labiak Water Department Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT: Aaron Shellow, Ann Purdue, Dominic Tom, Sue Lacy, Charlene Endal
Gary Endal, Nicole Haddadnia, Andrew Rittenauer (?), Dave Byrne, Alex Portal (Post-Star reporter)

FUTURE MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

Resolution 147-2024 A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Noonan, to set a special meeting for the purpose of an Executive Session to interview prospective engineering firms at 6:00 p.m. on May 14, 2024.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Killian	Aye
Councilmember Stewart	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Fish	Aye

The motion carried 5:0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Resolution 148-2024 A motion was made by Councilmember Donohue, seconded by Councilmember Killian, to accept the minutes from the March 25 Special Board meeting.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Noonan	Abstain
Councilmember Killian	Aye
Councilmember Stewart	Abstain
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Fish	Aye

The motion carried 3:0

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS

No comments were made.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Fish offered updates on recent issues brought to the Board by Town residents:

Regarding standing water on Gansevoort Road, Supervisor Fish said resident Tim Hudson took the initiative and paid to have a pipe cleaned out which cleared the water from three or four properties. Supervisor Fish said the Board thanks Mr. Hudson for doing that. Two or three additional properties are still having issues with standing water, he said, which the Town engineers will have to look at to see if there's anything the Town can do.

In reference to a property on Redmond Road which had been mentioned several times, Supervisor Fish said the Town code enforcer and new Town attorneys have working on a plan to get the property cleaned up in the coming weeks. It will be boarded up, and likely seized for non-payment of taxes, Supervisor Fish said. He thanked the attorneys for finding a path forward.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REQUESTS

Resolution 149-2024 A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Donohue, to allocate \$1,850.00 for the purchase of 36" culverts from account DB5110-493* [sic] under Saratoga County Contract #24-PWP-2112 from Lane Enterprises. *(The corrected account: DB5110-497.)

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Killian	Aye
Councilmember Stewart	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Fish	Aye

The motion carried 5:0

TRANSFER STATION REQUESTS

Resolution 150-2024 A motion was made by Councilmember Noonan, seconded by Councilmember Killian, to allocate an additional \$200 to the \$2,500 authorized by resolution on February 27, 2024 to complete ongoing repairs to the Transfer Station recycling building for a total expense not to exceed \$2,7000 from account TS8160.4.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Killian	Aye
Councilmember Stewart	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Fish	Aye

The motion carried 5:0

RECREATION DEPARTMENT REQUESTS

Memorialization of vote:

Resolution 151-2024 A motion was made by Councilmember Noonan, seconded by Councilmember Killian, to purchase 108 tons of red diamond clay from Hadeka Stone Corp. at a cost of \$5,724 from account A7140.4.

Discussion: Councilmember Stewart thanked the vendor for getting on the project quickly.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Killian	Aye
Councilmember Stewart	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Fish	Aye

The motion carried 5:0

A motion was made by Councilmember Donohue, seconded by Councilmember Stewart, to purchase four rolls of 17.5-foot and one roll of 12.5-foot road fabric from Albany Winwater for a sum not to exceed \$1,637.87 from account A7140.4 to expand the parking lot.

Discussion: Councilmember Stewart speaking on behalf of Recreation Director Brogan said the request was made for the project to be paid out of the capital fund now to get the work done but once a full plan is developed, he would like to be able to put the money back. The goal is for the project to be a group project working with Youth Baseball, The Town Recreation Department, The Recreation Committee, and the Supervisor's office. Some of the work is able to move ahead now with the assistance of the BOCES program.

No vote was held.

Resolution 152-2024 A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Donohue, to purchase approximately 400 tons of crusher run stone for the Little League parking lot from Peckham Materials for a sum not to exceed \$4,000 from account A7140.4.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Killian	Aye
Councilmember Stewart	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Fish	Aye

The motion carried 5:0

Resolution 153-2024 A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Donohue, to hire Dylan Keech as a part-time, seasonal Recreation Department employee at the rate of \$15.00/hr. after successful completion of a background check and pre-employment physical.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Killian	Aye
Councilmember Stewart	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Fish	Aye

The motion carried 5:0

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE REQUEST

Supervisor Fish asked the Second Deputy Clerk to read the letter into the minutes:

“Dear Supervisor Fish and Town Board Members:

The Senior Assessment Clerk in my office, Riley McGuiggan, has put in his two weeks' notice and his last day in the office will be April 24, 2024.

To keep the Assessor's office open at all hours and to best serve the public with phone calls and office visits, I respectfully request to temporarily have Kathy Perez assist me in the Assessor's Office until a full-time replacement for Riley has been found. Due to the timing of the Tentative Assessment Roll (May 1), approximately 5,000 change of assessments notices are to be mail the last week of April. These notices will bring an upswing of telephone calls to the Assessor's Office as well as residents visiting the office with questions. I would like to have the office approximately staffed with 2 people ensuring all phone calls and all concerns of residents are addressed.

I would request up to 30 hours of assistance per week with the money to be pulled from account A1355.4 at a rate of pay set by the Town Board. I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Leah M. Cronin”

Resolution 154-2024 A motion was made by Councilmember Killian, seconded by Councilmember Noonan, to authorize the retention of Kathy Perez as a Substitute Clerk in the Assessor's office beginning April 25 for up to 30 hours per week at a rate of \$20/hr. until a new full-time Clerk is hired.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Killian	Aye
Councilmember Stewart	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Fish	Aye

The motion carried 5:0

WATER DEPARTMENT REQUEST

Resolution 155-2024 A motion was made by Councilmember Noonan, seconded by Councilmember Stewart, to authorize payment of vouchers to Rob Campchero for daily Water Department inspections at a rate of \$50/hr. on a contract basis.

Supervisor Fish explained that no vouchers had been submitted for 6 months and Mr. Campchero was not hired during the January organizational meeting because it was unknown that he was providing services to the Town. Supervisor Fish said he has asked for vouchers to be submitted monthly.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Killian	Aye
Councilmember Stewart	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Fish	Aye

The motion carried 5:0

STOREDTECH RENEWAL

Resolution 156-2024 A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Donohue, to authorize the Supervisor to sign a three-year contract with StoredTech for internet firewall security at a cost not to exceed \$4,283.20 to be paid from account A1620.41.

Discussion: Councilmember Killian asked what had been done for this kind of service and renewal of contracts. Councilmember Noonan said he was unsure whether this renewal is of an expiring 3-year contract, but he referenced an incident where the Town was a victim of ransomware on Christmas, and this provider was contracted with to provide security service at that time. He added that the Town saves money by entering into a 3-year contract instead of a 1-year contract, and there have not been issues since the company began providing

the service. Councilmember Killian said it would have been nice to have something before there were 10 days left to decide, such as 6-months before the end of the contract. Councilmember Noonan asked if he wanted to enter into a 1-year contract instead and start all over again in 6 months. Councilmember Stewart said it was a good idea on all future contracts to look ahead before the end to have time if a change is needed, but also that StoredTech had not been problematic, so to save money on the three-year contract is good.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Killian	Aye
Councilmember Stewart	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Fish	Aye

The motion carried 5:0

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Dominic Tom reminded the Board that in January, as part of his wish list, he recommended the Town hire its own Water Superintendent, and this meeting, he said, provided proof that an on-site employee was needed in the Department. He cited a witness account of a Town employee who had taken a Town vehicle to go drinking. Now there's an employee, he said, who misunderstood or failed to follow directions on submitting his vouchers.

Mr. Tom went on to say he had caught the last part of a PBS program called "Poison Ground, a Tragedy at Love Canal." Thousands of tons of hazardous chemicals were buried near an established residential neighborhood there, near Niagara Falls. In 1981, when he was a reporter, he said he received a call from previous Town of Moreau Supervisor Gardner Congdon telling him about the "mini-Live Canal" in Moreau, and asking if he would like to come and see if the story was worth covering. He was referencing the Caputo dump site, which became a big media story eventually. A NYSDEC wildlife pathologist visited, he said, and then residents South of the Fort Edward General Electric facility called saying many chemicals, including PCBs, were found in their drinking and bathing water. The thing he said he learned from his experiences here and in the Love Canal program is that the people won, but also the chemicals at Love Canal are still there and a playground stands nearby. He hoped people and especially Town officials realize the toxic chemicals can't be cleaned.

Supervisor Fish said what's called Area 1 still has monitored wells. PCBs from a dump site leaked into that area, near Terry, Myron, and Castle, he said, so much so that he said GE lost a lawsuit and had to run a sewer line from the Village of South Glens Falls to the development near Bluebird Road and then discontinue using their wells, even for outside watering due to contamination. He thanks Mr. Tom for raising the issue.

SUPERVISOR'S ITEMS

Supervisor Fish said some mosquito dunks had been ordered and would be available to pick up at Town Hall. Councilmember Noonan asked what the dispersal method would be, can people get as many as they want? Supervisor Fish said each dunk covers so many square feet so a person needs to know how big an area they

need to treat. Councilmember Noonan said distribution was more or less regulated over the years, and at one point if someone came and asked for 100, they were given 100. Supervisor Fish said if you want 100 you can have 100 but you need to have to put them somewhere that needs 100. He went on to say it had been a few years since the Town provided any so the Town is getting some. Councilmember Killian asked if the information will be on the website, and Supervisor Fish said yes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Noonan asked what the purpose or agenda of the Special Town Board Meeting scheduled for April 25 would be. Supervisor Fish asked if he had received a memo from Jim (Martin). Councilmember Noonan said he did, and asked if members have already been selected for a Task Force. Supervisor Fish explained that what Jim Martin suggested a Task Force to engage people from different constituencies in the Town to gather ideas and help develop the upgraded Comprehensive Plan in Moreau manufacturing and industrial zones. Councilmember Noonan asked if the Board had reached out yet, and said he believed the group had already been chosen. He said he didn't think all the Board members were aware of the names yet. Supervisor Fish said the list is not finalized yet. Councilmember Noonan asked if the names would eventually be shared. Supervisor Fish said, "Absolutely." Asked when, Supervisor Fish said when the list is finalized it will be shared.

Councilmember Noonan asked who had reached out to prospective members of the Task Force, to which Supervisor Fish answered that he, his secretary, and Jim Martin had reached out. Councilmember Noonan asked of Supervisor Fish would share the names with Board Members. Supervisor Fish said if he would come to his office, he would be happy to provide Councilmember Noonan with the names. Supervisor Fish said he had asked Councilmember Noonan to come to his office two weeks prior when a question was raised but that he refused to do so, but now he wants to talk about it at a public meeting. Councilmember Noonan said that's what Board members do, talk about things in public meetings. Supervisor Fish countered that first the Board discusses issues and then they bring it to the public when it is "straightened out." Councilmember Noonan said the task force has an important responsibility and nobody knows who they are.

Councilmember Donohue said to Councilmember Noonan that this is just the beginning of the process, trying to get some people engaged, but they might not be the same people who make up the final committee. The back-and-forth discussion continued. Please refer to the [recorded audio](#) of the meeting for more details (at approx. the 34-minute mark).

Councilmember Stewart said clean-ups had taken place over the weekend, and he gave a nod to the Recreation Department staff, who had extra work to do as a result. He estimated 300-400 kids and at least as many parents present. He acknowledged Youth Softball, Youth Baseball, Boys Lacrosse, Lacrosse, Moreau Community Center, and a church group would be coming the following weekend. Again he thanked the staff for working the dumpsters and picking up all the clippings the volunteers generated. He encouraged everyone to go to the Rec to see the work that's been done, and praised Jeremy Brogan for the good work he's done getting the parking lot ready for baseball season. He estimated the work there would create an additional 60 parking spots in three weeks. Councilmember Stewart said parking had been an issue there for a long time. Youth Baseball, Recreation Director Brogan, the Supervisor's office, the Rec Committee will work together, and now see the possibility of adding a tee-ball field in a newly-cleared 5-acre area. In a month or so, he said he expected a plan to come forward for future work.

ADJOURNMENT

Resolution 157-2024 A motion was made by Councilmember Donohue, seconded by Councilmember Noonan, to adjourn the meeting.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Killian	Aye
Councilmember Stewart	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Fish	Aye

The motion carried 5:0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Trombley

Erin Trombley
Town Clerk