

A public hearing was held by the Town Board of the Town of Moreau on December 8, 2015 in the Town of Moreau Municipal Building Located at 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, New York, for the purpose of hearing all interested persons for or against the proposed contract with the Moreau Emergency Squad, Inc.

The Supervisor called the public hearing to order at 6:45 p.m.

**Town Board Members Present**

Robert J. Vittengl, Jr. Councilman  
Bob Prendergast Councilman  
Todd Kusnierz Councilman  
Preston L. Jenkins, Jr. Supervisor

**Town Board Members Absent**

Gina LeClair Councilwoman

**Also present:** Tammy Daley, Deputy Town Clerk; Diane Foster, Deputy Town Clerk; Sandy Mahoney, Recreation Program Director; Members of the Moreau Emergency Squad - Steven VanGuilder, John Bonn, Ron Quinn, Joshua Jacobs and Helen Glen and Town Resident Reed Antis

The Supervisor welcomed everyone to the public hearing.

The following Notice of Public Hearing appeared as a legal ad in the legal ad section of the Post Star Newspaper as follows:

**TOWN OF MOREAU**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 184 of the Town Law and Section 122-b of the General Municipal Law, that the Town Board of the Town of Moreau shall conduct a Public Hearing at the Moreau Town Hall, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, New York on December 8, 2015 at 6:40 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public comment on a proposed contract between the Town of Moreau and the Moreau Emergency Squad, Inc. Under the proposed agreement, the Moreau Emergency Squad, Inc. will furnish emergency and general ambulance service within the Town during calendar year 2016. The funds to be paid by the Town of Moreau to the Moreau Emergency Squad, Inc. for these services is **TWO HUNDRED SIXTEEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY FIVE and 00/100 Dollars (\$216,485.00)**. In addition, the Moreau Emergency Squad, Inc., on behalf of the Town, will charge and collect fees, established by the Town Board for ambulance services in the Town. The Moreau Emergency Squad, Inc. will be solely responsible for billing and collection of the fees. The fees, as property of the Town of Moreau, will be deposited into the general fund of the Town of Moreau and, periodically, an equivalent amount of said fees deposited will be returned by the Town of Moreau to the Emergency Squad for additional compensation for providing ambulance services in the Town of Moreau. A copy of the proposed contract is available at the office of the Moreau Town Clerk located at the Moreau Town Hall.

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Leeann McCabe, Town Clerk  
Town of Moreau

Supervisor Jenkins gave a brief overview of the contract and stated that it was basically the same as last year except for the amount to be paid. The contract amount for 2016 is \$216,485.00. He asked if anyone had any questions regarding the contract.

Reed Antis asked how many calls there were per year and Mr. VanGuilder replied that right now they are at 2,100. Some are mutual aid, some are for Glens Falls. Mr. Antis asked about a building that was purchased for \$120,000. Mr. VanGuilder stated that a loan was taken from Glens Falls National Bank and that this property will be part of the expansion that they are working on. Mr. VanGuilder told Mr. Antis that if he would like to see their offices any time during the day, he could call his cell phone and he would get him in. Mr. Antis asked about shifts and staffing. Mr. VanGuilder stated that there are three shifts: 6am to 6pm – 6pm to 6am – 9am to 9pm. He stated that there are 4 employees per shift along with volunteers. Mr. Antis asked when the peek calls are and Mr. VanGuilder replied between 9am and 9pm. Mr. Antis referred to the Non-profit Revitalization Act and stated that an employee can't be a member of the Squad. Mr. VanGuilder stated that he was told by their Attorney that they are in compliance with the law. Mr. Antis stated that the Squad is bound to follow proper rules and regulations. He stated that it's immaterial that they wouldn't do their job properly, whether it be a mutual call or a local call. The problem has always been, that their finances haven't always been open. Mr. Antis asked the Board if they had ever seen a 990 form from the Emergency Squad. The Supervisor replied that he had. Mr. Antis stated that the rest of the Board should look at this form to see how they finance their business. He stated that the reports for 2010, 2011 and 2012, they spent more money than what they took in. He stated that they need to do a better job on their own before the Town gives them more money. Mr. Antis stated that their payroll is \$380,000 and if they add more shifts, the payroll will increase. He questioned the need for more personnel. He made the comment that wanting more money and needing more money are two different things. Mr. Antis also questioned the \$11,000 spent for fundraising and wondered if they got that money back. He stated that there should be more transparency and if they're looking for support from the community, he felt they would get more help if they were more open.

The Supervisor told Mr. Antis his 5 minutes was up. Councilman Kusnierz stated that there was mention of transparency and he made the comment that he's seen no indication of the Emergency Squad not being transparent.

A gentleman asked a question about the numbers of calls and Steve VanGuilder replied that with the addition of senior housing more calls are coming in. He also stated that he scrutinizes every penny that comes into the squad and Helen Glen stated that she could verify that.

Reed Antis directed a question to the Attorney for the Town. He asked if according to the non-profit laws, can someone be an employee and sit on the Board? He stated that it's a conflict of interest. Attorney Buettner stated that this was a question for their attorney not her. Mr. Antis directed another question to Steve VanGuilder and Councilman Kusnierz interrupted him and stated that public comments should be directed to the Town Board.

The Supervisor stated that the public hearing will remain open until the Regular Town Board meeting at which time it can be closed.

The public hearing adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Daley  
Deputy Town Clerk

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