

A budget workshop was held by the Town Board of the Town of Moreau on October 18, 2017 in the Town of Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, New York.

The Deputy Supervisor called the workshop to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Town Board Members Present**

Alan VanTassel	Deputy Supervisor
Gina LeClair	Councilwoman
Todd Kusnierz	Councilman
Bob Prendergast	Councilman [arrived at approximately 5:50pm]

**Town Board Members Absent**

Gardner Congdon	Supervisor
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**Also present:** Leeann McCabe, Town Clerk; Francine Thibodeau, Principal Account Clerk; Jeffrey Cruz, Principal Account Clerk

The first order of discussion was with the Moreau Emergency Squad. Those present representing the Squad were Steve VanGuilder and Ron Quinn. Mr. VanGuilder stated that he had initially put in for a 2% increase but then spoke with the Supervisor and modified the request. He mentioned that they are working on getting a USDA loan. Mr. VanGuilder also stated that they've done a letter drive to raise funds. Councilman Kusnierz asked if Mr. VanGuilder was o.k. with the \$231,015 because he was committed to stay within the 2% tax cap. Mr. VanGuilder stated that he was o.k. with it but was unsure about the USDA loan. There was a brief discussion over the Squad's new building project and Mr. VanGuilder stated that it was a 3.2 million dollar project, with an anticipated yearly loan of \$120,000 for 30 years. There was discussion of the revenues and it was decided to increase A4540.409 to \$750,000. Councilman Kusnierz mentioned that the 2% increase will reflect a \$5,000 increase in their budget. Mr. VanGuilder stated that he has approached the Supervisor with regard to Recreation Fees. Councilman Kusnierz asked what they were getting from Northumberland in 2018. Mr. VanGuilder replied that he had spoken with the Supervisor and that they would be getting a 2% increase or about \$84,900. Councilman Kusnierz asked if Northumberland equates to 1/3 of their calls. Mr. VanGuilder stated that he didn't have exact figures but that the Town of Moreau and Village of South Glens Falls reflect most of their calls. He stated that they had 1,933 calls as of the end of September. Councilman Kusnierz asked about staffing and Mr. VanGuilder stated that staffing for both paid side and volunteer side have stayed the same. He did mention that some will go from volunteer status to paid status and then they fill the volunteer spot. He also mentioned that they are always actively recruiting. Councilman VanTassel asked why there was a substantial increase in the Workers Compensation portion of their budget and Mr. VanGuilder replied that a claim had been filed from one of their volunteers. Councilman VanTassel questioned their line item for interest expenses and being that Mr. VanGuilder didn't have exact figures, he was asked to get that information to the Board. There was discussion related to their proposed project for the property purchased next door to the Squad building. Mr. VanGuilder stated that they are waiting to hear on grant money. Councilwoman LeClair asked if they were financing their architect fees and Mr. VanGuilder replied that they were and thought it was around \$7,000 to \$9,000. Councilman VanTassel asked for clarity on the numbers. Councilman Kusnierz asked Mr. VanGuilder to provide the number of paid staff members & volunteer members (junior and or fully credited), along with a comparison to last year. Mr. VanGuilder also stated that they are applying for a CBG grant again and will need a public hearing in 2017. Councilman VanTassel asked how long the Workers Compensation increase will be for and Mr. VanGuilder replied that he thought it was for about 4 years. Councilman Kusnierz asked again if a 2% increase would work for them and Mr. VanGuilder replied that it would. Councilman Prendergast asked where they were at with their building project and Mr. VanGuilder replied that they are waiting on the architect's report. The Moreau Emergency Squad portion of the workshop concluded at 6:03 p.m.

The next order of discussion was with the South Glens Falls Fire Company SF3410.4. Those present were: Wayne Palmer, President; Brian Abare, Treasurer; Board Members: Ron Quinn, Chip Flint and Ben Vaillancourt. Mr. Palmer stated that they are asking for a substantial amount of money. Councilman Kusnierz stated that the Board's intention is to stay within the 2% tax cap. Mr. Palmer replied that Fire Companies don't have to stay within the cap, per the Comptroller's office. He stated that other Fire Districts have gone above the cap and not been penalized. Francine Thibodeau stated that she was told

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that it had to be included. Councilman Kusnierz stated that Fire [Protection] (amended 11/15/17 lm) Districts wouldn't have to but South Glens Falls isn't a Fire [Protection] (amended 11/15/17 lm) District and the Town is required by law to include them. There was discussion relating to the purchase of fire trucks and Mr. Palmer commented that they can't afford to finance any more money and that they need money to pay for the trucks. He stated that he has contracts to replace two fire trucks that are over 20 years old. He stated that his thought process was to find a way to get a million dollars this year and then cut it back next year. He stated that he needs the money to pay for the trucks and that he's halfway there right now. Councilman Kusnierz asked if he needed \$500,000 and Mr. Palmer replied that he needs closer to \$600,000. He stated that he wouldn't know the exact number until the end of the year. He stated that the used trucks are already sold and that with the money out, it comes out to 1.13 million dollars for two trucks, delivered. Mr. Palmer stated that they've scaled back this year so that they can put more money into their replacement fund. He stated that he's hoping to end the year with \$500,000 in the truck replacement fund. Mr. Palmer stated that the 1.13 million is after the sale of the used trucks and mentioned that he didn't get much from them, only \$110,000 for the pair. Councilman Prendergast asked if it would be worth it to refurbish one of the trucks and Mr. Palmer replied that it wouldn't be. He stated that he would have a 20 year old truck and \$300,000 into refurbishing it. Mr. Palmer stated that NFPA states this is the way it should be and if you don't follow their guidelines you can go to jail. He stated that there are chiefs in NYS that haven't followed the guidelines and have gone to jail. He stated that he's not willing to do that. Mr. Palmer stated that NFPA requires that tires have to be replaced every 5 years and fire gear ever 7 years. They follow the guidelines. He gave an example that fire gear costs about \$12,000 per member. Mr. Palmer stated that their call volume is about 500-550 per year and that if you look at the surrounding areas, he felt they were behind the times and under budgeted by about \$500,000. Councilman Prendergast asked what determines whether they go to a call or not. Mr. Palmer stated that if they're activated, they go. Councilman Prendergast asked if they feel that all of the calls they go on should have been dispatched to them. Mr. Palmer replied yes and that once one of them is on the scene, the calls can always be canceled. Councilman Kusnierz stated that he understands the requirements put upon the Fire Co. and that the expenses are outpacing the revenues. He stated that they can look at the budget more closely and maybe give them a one shot but it won't come anywhere near \$500,000. Mr. Palmer stated that one way or the other, the taxpayers are going to pay for it. Mr. Quinn stated that they have an aging building that needs a lot of work, which will need a lot of money. Mr. Palmer stated that the parking lot is needing repair and they're going to need a new heating system. Mr. Quinn stated that they had brought to the Town Board the option of creating a Fire District so they would have their own tax. Councilman VanTassel asked them where they were at with that. Mr. Quinn stated that when they left the last meeting, they were asked to bring back a Fire District budget. He stated that they aren't the Fire Commissioners and aren't able to do that. He stated that he could give their budget as a Fire Company but a Fire District budget would have to go through Commissioners to decide and since they don't have that, it would be impossible. The conversation went back to necessary repairs and Mr. Palmer gave history of the age of the building and stated that the parking lot is sinking and that they'll have to replace the storm drains. He did say that the emergencies take priority over things like the parking lot. Mr. Quinn stated that the mandates keep increasing. He stated that they're in more debt than they've ever been and it can't keep accumulating. Mr. Palmer asked what would happen if they decided they couldn't do this anymore. He stated that the Town would have to take their budget and multiply it by 6. He stated that's what it would cost the Town. Councilman VanTassel stated that the problem, is coming up with such a large increase, in such a short period of time, when it wasn't planned for. Mr. Palmer stated that he's been preaching for this as long as he's been in the Fire Company. He stated that it's always 2%. He stated that the \$585,000 is what the Fire Company should have been running on 20 years ago. Mr. Palmer stated that he would be having the same discussion with the Village and commented that they aren't paying their fair share. He stated that the Town taxpayers are paying for the fire protection in the Village. Councilman Kusnierz stated that it's not uncommon for his Senator to use municipal grants. Mr. Palmer stated that they've reached out to no avail. Councilman Kusnierz stated that he might be able to help. Mr. Palmer stated that there's one grant coming up that they're in the running, along with a dozen other agencies, but it's 3 years out. Mr. Palmer also stated that you can't use the grant money for projects that have already started. Councilman Kusnierz stated that it's an 18-24 month period, after being awarded a grant, before the money is received and it can only reimburse for money that's spent. He suggested that he didn't see why the next Supervisor couldn't help them with the grant process. Mr. Palmer stated that 93% of fire fighters in NYS are volunteer but the stress of all this is chasing people out of the business. Mr. Palmer stated that he didn't think, if they went door to door, that anyone would be upset if the fire protection tax

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went from \$130 to \$260. He stated that the Library is getting more than they are and it isn't even in our district. Councilwoman LeClair stated that they have no control over the Library. Mr. Palmer commented that he thought about 75% of the people in the community think they sit in the firehouse and wait for calls when in fact they get called out in the middle of the night, go home to take showers, and then go to work. Mr. Palmer stated that they don't need to get this all figured out tonight but they do need to figure it out. Mr. Quinn asked the Board if there was something they didn't like about the Fire District. Councilman VanTassel asked Mr. Quinn if he got the impression, when they left the last meeting, that the Board as a whole was against the Fire District. Mr. Quinn replied yes. Mr. Palmer stated that their lawyer felt that way as well and so did the woman from the fire district commission. Mr. Palmer stated that those people have been to over 250 meetings like that one and they told him that they've never had to deal with a Town or Village Board the way the Town of Moreau was. He stated that they told him good luck and walked out the door. Councilwoman LeClair stated that she didn't feel that way and was interested in what information they were to come back with. Mr. Quinn stated again, that they aren't able to create a budget for the commissioners. Mr. Palmer stated that they can give their own budget but can't speak for what the commissioners would allow. He did say that the maximum number by State law would be \$1.3 million, which is the amount based on assessed values in the Town. Councilwoman LeClair stated that she wished the Fire Company had come back to the Board and explained the reason why they couldn't produce the budget, which was requested. Mr. Palmer stated that he thought there were a couple people on the Town Board who might be interested in the Fire District but didn't think that there was anyone on the Village Board that was. Mr. Palmer did state that they were still working on it and trying to educate the general public. Councilwoman LeClair asked if there was a way they can do that together. Mr. Palmer stated that he had wanted to do the meeting in his own setting and he wasn't allowed to do that. Mr. Palmer stated that he's new to the Fire District discussions but the Fire Company has been working on this for 10 years. He stated that he felt that neither the Village Board nor the Town Board are willing to give up control of the money. Councilwoman LeClair stated that she didn't feel that way and Mr. Quinn stated that it didn't feel, to him, that the Town Board was interested. Councilman VanTassel stated that he didn't remember the Fire Company rejecting to the Board's request of asking for a budget, so he didn't know that they felt they couldn't do it. He stated, that when they left, he thought they were all agreeable to the next steps. The first time he's hearing that they couldn't get a budget together was tonight. Mr. Palmer apologized because they didn't realize they couldn't accommodate the request until after they had further discussions. Councilman VanTassel stated that there's been a lack of communication. Mr. Palmer stated that they will work on the Fire District issue after November. Councilman VanTassel stated that they would take their concerns into consideration but that they only have a certain amount of money. Mr. Palmer stated that they should go back to the way it was before and not use sales tax to pay down the fire tax. He stated that he wants people in the community to know what they're paying for. He stated that people don't know what they're actually paying and what the costs are for fire protection. Mr. Palmer stated that the fire tax went way down last year and thought that taxpayers looked at it as though the Board cut the budget for emergency services by a large amount. Councilman Kusnierz strongly disagreed with Mr. Palmer. He stated that they got more money last year, while saving the taxpayers in their tax rate. Mr. Palmer stated that the people he has spoken to, don't see it that way. He stated, that with the tax rate going down, people think the Fire Company was given less money last year. Mr. Palmer stated that it's the buzz around Town with election time and the mailer that came out today. Councilman Kusnierz stated that the mailer is true and Mr. Palmer replied that he knew but he's received 22 phone calls from people who aren't happy. Councilman VanTassel stated that people need to be educated on the process. Mr. Palmer stated that he didn't tell anyone that the Fire Company wasn't taken care of last year because they were and he was happy with what they received. Councilman Kusnierz asked Mr. Palmer if he realized that their funding went up the most it ever had, last year. Mr. Palmer replied that he knew that. Mr. Palmer stated that he understood what the Town did last year but has had to explain it to a lot of people. Councilman VanTassel asked Mr. Palmer if he had a detail of their expenses. Mr. Palmer stated that he didn't have it, but could put it together for the Board. He did say that everything was flat except for truck replacement and buildings and they were looking to up their truck and building funds, so he can start planning for the ladder truck. Councilman VanTassel asked how much they asked the Village for last year. Mr. Palmer stated that he asked for \$115,000 and got \$72,000. Councilwoman LeClair asked if it's possible to share a ladder truck with other municipalities. Mr. Palmer stated that they share when they have mutual aid calls for big fires, when they need multiple ladder trucks but with the building going on in the Town & Village, they need to have their own ladder truck. He stated that the Village didn't listen to the Fire Co. and a building was built on Harrison Avenue and the ladder truck can't reach 95% of the building. In closing,

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Mr. Palmer stated that he didn't expect to get what he asked for but wanted to show the figures realistically. The Fire Company left at 6:40 p.m.

The next order for discussion was Recreation Programs A7310.1. Sandy Mahoney was present and shared with the Board a projected Budget for personal services and programs within her Youth Programs account. Ms. Mahoney started with Basketball. She stated that last year she had 216 enrolled and based her numbers for 2018 at 250 and at \$20.00 per person. Her revenues for this program are estimated to be \$5,000.00. She showed the referee expense based on 2 referees for \$10.00 each for 108 games (\$2,160.00). Councilman VanTassel asked if she had a sense that the numbers would increase that much. Ms. Mahoney stated that some people were looking to go to Wilton Rec. but their costs are much higher and she's thinking that they will stay with the Town of Moreau. Councilman Prendergast asked why they would be going to Wilton and Ms. Mahoney stated that they have a more competitive program. Ms. Mahoney commented that the Junior NBA in Wilton is \$100 or more. Councilman VanTassel stated that her numbers are based on a projected amount of participation and asked that she come back with the hard numbers of players and games that they could plug in. He stated that if they don't have the number of students signed up, they won't need as many referees.

Ms. Mahoney's projected soccer revenue was estimated at \$4,000 for next year's fall soccer and \$400.00 for next spring. She stated that they have 360 signed up for this fall. She stated that we're expecting a check for \$3,600.00 based on 360 students. Councilman VanTassel asked if they should use her figures that are an overestimate and they agreed that they would rather underestimate. They changed the expected revenue to be \$3,500 for 2018. Ms. Mahoney stated that she asked Mr. Motsiff to send a roster along with his payment to the Town. There was a brief discussion relating to spring soccer and if the program was set up like the fall. The Town Clerk stated that she believed he ended up paying by field usage. Councilwoman LeClair pointed out that the fall soccer program isn't a Town program and asked Ms. Mahoney not to print their flyers for them next fall. Ms. Mahoney thought that maybe we could offer to put their flyer on the Town's website. The Board seemed to be in agreement. Councilman VanTassel asked Ms. Mahoney to find out about Mr. Motsiff's summer soccer camp and get back to the Board with an anticipated revenue for that program.

They went over flag football next and asked if 85 was a projected number for participation and Ms. Mahoney replied that she had 85 this year. Her figures were based on \$20.00 per student for a total of \$1,700.00 in revenue and with referees based on 2 per day for \$50.00 a day for 9 Saturdays (\$900.00).

Ms. Mahoney went on to her Arts & Crafts program. She stated that the Town gets reimbursed for one week and she's looking to charge for the second week. Her revenues included 20 children at \$10.00/child for the week (\$200). Ms. Thibodeau explained that the money the County sends to the Town is for all seasonal employees not just Arts & Crafts. Ms. Thibodeau stated that it's State aid and has nothing to do with the County. Ms. Mahoney stated that the first week will remain free at the beach and she suggested that the second week be at the Park to try and draw people into the Park. It was the consensus of the Board to have the second week remain at the beach, since she had good turn-out. Ms. Mahoney stated that the \$200 they pay the Arts & Crafts person was well worth it. She stated that she does a great job and is interested in coming back next year. Councilman Kusnierz and Councilwoman LeClair both thought that she could charge for both weeks. Councilwoman LeClair stated that instead of charging \$10 per week for the paid week, they might just charge \$5 per week for both weeks. It was asked if they should start at \$5 per week this year and raise it to \$10 next year. Councilwoman LeClair thought that would cause hard feelings. It was agreed to charge \$10.00 per student per week. Councilman VanTassel stated that they need to at least cover the \$450 expense. Ms. Mahoney stated that it would be \$400 for the specialist if they do 2 weeks plus the supplies. Councilman Prendergast suggested that they go back to the 1 week @ \$10.00 per student. It was agreed that they would host 1 week at \$10.00 per week for an estimated revenue of \$200.00.

Ms. Mahoney stated that the Kayak Class was something that had been requested. Her projected revenue was based on 5 students at \$100.00/week for a total of \$500.00. It was reported that there are 5 kayaks in the old Sheriff's building. Councilman VanTassel thought this was brought up last year and there were safety concerns. He asked if it was going to be in a roped in area. Councilwoman LeClair stated that Queensbury used to have lessons and they used to teach the kids to roll in the pool before they got out on

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open water. Ms. Mahoney stated that she spoke with Steve at Queensbury and he was going to get her the name of the gentleman that taught the program. Councilman VanTassel suggested that they don't include the Kayak program in the budget but if Ms. Mahoney comes back with information and the program is self-funded, they can approve the program later. Councilman VanTassel stated that he's not a fan of putting people in kayaks in the river. Ms. Thibodeau stated that they need to look into the liability issue.

Ms. Mahoney stated that tennis was something that a member from the community had requested, in order to reach out to the students who don't play baseball and softball. She stated it might even be something an adult may want to participate in. It was agreed to treat the tennis as they did the kayak and leave it off the budget. But asked Ms. Mahoney to come back to the Board with numbers when she has them.

Ms. Mahoney stated that her proposed 4 week summer camp won't interfere with the Moreau Community Center camp because their camp is for the whole day and the Town's will only be for 2 hours per day. She stated that the cost would be \$75.00 per student per week for 4 weeks. She thought that 2 hours would be split between table top activities and physical activities. They discussed the hours for the program and thought that 4 hours would give them more time for each activity. Councilman VanTassel again asked if this program should be treated like the kayak and tennis in that it should be left off the budget. Ms. Mahoney was concerned with the turn-around time and asked how quickly she would have to have information to the Board to get it out to the school. Councilwoman LeClair stated that Ms. Mahoney should give herself enough time to come to the Board and get her approval long enough to get material printed and off to the school. Ms. Mahoney asked again, how much lead time would the Board need. Councilwoman LeClair stated that when she has all of her information together, come to the Board. Councilman VanTassel stated that the programs don't need to be in the budget in order to get approval.

There was a brief discussion relating to swimsuit purchases. Ms. Mahoney stated that she usually buys at the end of the year because they're cheaper. She stated that she has some suits left right now. Councilman VanTassel asked if she had any money remaining in her budget this year to buy more. Ms. Thibodeau replied that she did. There was discussion of the number of hours the lifeguards are working. Ms. Mahoney stated that the hours are greater on weekends and depending on how busy they are. There needs to be so many lifeguards per person and they need to take breaks. The discussion went back to swimsuits and Ms. Mahoney was asked to get prices and come back to the Board with her recommendation and her plans on how she would give them out. Councilman VanTassel stated that if she purchased this year, it would keep it off next year's budget. Ms. Mahoney stated that she already has the whistles and fanny packs paid for with the grant money.

There was discussion relating to the goose droppings at the beach and the amount of time the lifeguards spend cleaning up before the beach opens each day. Councilwoman LeClair suggested putting out a fake coyote to keep the birds away. Ms. Thibodeau stated that it won't work in her experience. Ms. Mahoney stated that she heard of some kind of flashing light that's supposed to work. She also stated that along with the lifeguards spending time cleaning up after the geese, someone had been attacked by one. She stated that one of the lifeguards was protecting a child from a goose and the goose nipped at her. Ms. Mahoney stated that she would bring the cost of the light back to the Board. They asked if Ms. Mahoney was all set with programs and she asked if someone would be checking into the liability for the kayak program.

Councilman Kusnierz stated that they adopted \$12,000 for lifeguards in 2017 and Fran has \$18,000 in the budget for 2018. Ms. Thibodeau stated that she based the figures on actuals from this past year. It was stated that the increase was due to increased hours at the beach and an increase in salaries. Councilman Prendergast asked if they went over budget and Ms. Thibodeau stated that there's not enough left in the budget this year to pay Sandy. Ms. Mahoney stated that the beach is open until 7:00pm now and it used to be 6:00pm. Councilman Prendergast stated that they need to cut the hours back at the beach. Ms. Mahoney was asked what time the lifeguards start and she replied that they go in at 9:30am and first clean up after the geese before the beach opens at 10:00am. Councilman Kusnierz suggested closing at 5:00pm and putting up a sign after that, to swim at your own risk. Ms. Mahoney stated that they do that now anyway. She stated that the gates get locked and she's seen people in there laying on the beach. The Board was in agreement to change the hours to 9:30am to 5:00pm and to post a sign, after hours, that

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people will be swimming at their own risk. Ms. Mahoney asked if the Village might be able to contribute so that they didn't have to cut the hours. It was relayed to her that the Village residents are already paying for recreation in the Town budget and shouldn't pay again through the Village budget. Councilman Prendergast stated that maybe there's a service they might help us with instead. Councilwoman LeClair stated that the budget is up \$9,000 over the past two years. The conversation was directed back to the beach hours and Councilman Kusnierz asked why they have to close the gate. Ms. Mahoney didn't have an answer, other than, that's what she was told to do when she started. Councilman Kusnierz suggested, that whomever is reaching out to Dave Meager on the kayak issue, should ask him about patrons swimming at their own risk. Councilman VanTassel stated that there could be more concentrated effort on controlling the hours scheduled. Ms. Mahoney was asked if she had anything else she wanted to address and she asked about her salary. Councilman Kusnierz stated that they discuss salaries all at one time. There was a brief discussion over Ms. Mahoney's hours. She stated that she thought the job entailed more than 19 1/2 hours per week but didn't think that it entailed enough to be a full time position. She asked Ms. Thibodeau to provide her with her average hours over the past year. She commented that she doesn't always put down all the hours that she's worked. Councilman Kusnierz asked Ms. Thibodeau, if the Town wanted to have a Master Plan for Recreational facilities, what account would it come out of. Ms. Thibodeau stated that she was supposed to call the Association of Towns on this matter. She didn't think that it could come out of the HP account but rather it would come out of HT. Councilman Kusnierz asked Ms. Thibodeau to clarify how they will expend funds for professional services to provide a 5 year Master Plan for Recreational facilities.

Ms. Mahoney asked the Town Clerk if she would take the Survey Monkey off of the Town's web page and the Town Board agreed with the request. The previous Recreation Program Director had set this up and they can't find a password to access it. The Town Clerk stated that she would remove it.

Ms. Mahoney left the workshop at 7:55 p.m.

The next order of discussion was with Ted Monsour and the Transfer Station (TS8160). Mr. Monsour stated that people are entering the Transfer Station after hours and taking things. He asked for surveillance. He was asked if he had contacted the Sheriff's Department and he stated that he did. There was a discussion relating to the keys and what was being taken. None of the items taken belonged to the Town. There was money budgeted that hadn't been used for 2017, so it was agreed that Mr. Monsour could use that for 2 security cameras. He was also asked to look at the cost of a motion light. Councilwoman LeClair asked if Mr. Monsour has had compactor management done and he replied that he had in 2015. Councilwoman LeClair stated that it may need to be done this year, so there may be an expense for that. She stated that she's waiting to hear back. She also stated that we may need to do confined space training as well. There was a brief discussion over tonnage. Councilman Kusnierz went back to the security camera discussion and asked Mr. Cruz if he would get prices from an electrician to install 2 security cameras and to install a motion sensor light before year end. Councilman Kusnierz asked that the \$2,000 in the tentative budget for 2018 be removed.

Mr. Monsour stated that his hours are down to 6-7 per week and he would like to work a guaranteed 2 hours per day. If they can't accommodate the hours, he would like a raise that would make up the difference. Councilman Prendergast asked Mr. Monsour to come down to the Town Hall when he's done with his work at the Transfer Station. He thought there would be something for him to do to make up the hours. Ms. Thibodeau stated that when he works at the Town Hall, it comes out of the General Fund and when he works at the Transfer Station, it comes out of the Transfer Station fund. Councilwoman LeClair suggested that he could use his leaf blower at the Transfer Station to keep it cleaned. Mr. Monsour asked what the Board expected him to do after he clocks in at the Transfer Station. Councilman Prendergast asked him to find something to do that needs to be done to keep the Transfer Station clean. He also suggested that he might be able to do training for the other employees. Councilman Prendergast stated that he's been a dedicated employee and he wants to accommodate his request for 10 hours per week. The Town Clerk stated that she could have Mr. Monsour do all of his own ordering. This would help him with his hours and would lighten the workload in her office. Mr. Monsour left the budget workshop at 8:25 p.m.

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Councilman Kusnierz asked about the \$17,000 in the Solid Waste Management Facility Reserve. Ms. Thibodeau stated that budgeted amount is for monitoring. Councilman Kusnierz asked what is left in the Transfer Station reserve fund and she stated that she thought \$700,000. She was asked to check with CT Male for a good estimate for this year, for the monitoring. Councilman Kusnierz asked about the interest on the fund balance. Ms. Thibodeau stated that our contract with Glens Falls National is up next year. She stated that the Town needs to keep at least \$900,000 in a non-interest bearing account in order to get \$1,200 worth of checks and deposit slips.

The next topic of discussion was with the Town Clerk. She started with account A1330 first, Tax Collection. She stated that she had requested On-line Tax payments at a cost of \$6,400. This would include the set up and annual maintenance. She stated that it would be a convenience to the taxpayers. The Town Clerk explained the cost to the taxpayers and stated that for School Taxes, less people use credit cards because of the 3% fee. She did state that for smaller expenses, people don't hesitate to use their cards. She thought that for water billing purposes, there would be a good number of people using the on-line payment. Councilman Prendergast thought that for on-line tax payment, there would be a great expense and it would only serve a small number of people. Councilman Kusnierz asked the Town Clerk if she was aware of any other municipality that charges a convenience fee to cover the cost of the program. The Town Clerk wasn't aware of any. She also stated that if this budget item weren't approved, it wouldn't be a hardship to her. She stated that she asked for on-line payment for the convenience to the taxpayers. She stated that she understands that this would be a large increase to an already tight budget. Councilman Kusnierz stated that he liked the idea but didn't think the Town was ready to incur the cost yet. The Town Clerk asked if the Board felt the same about the On-Line Water payments. The vendor had given a quote that had no cost involved for the module itself. She did state that it wouldn't make sense to the taxpayers, that we would offer on-line payment for one item and not for all. She suggested that if they weren't willing to do it for taxes, she didn't think they should do it for water either. Councilman Kusnierz asked the Clerk to reach out to other municipalities to see how they cover the costs for the programs. He stated that he didn't have a problem with the service. He didn't want to pay for something that the majority of the taxpayers won't use. He suggested that if there is a way to recoup the money over a two year period, they might be able to include this in the budget.

The Town Clerk stated that she had put in a request for shelving under her records management account (A6989). She stated there's room for one more row of shelving, which would complete the records storage room. There was a brief discussion over space for records. Councilman Kusnierz asked if we could use the old Town Hall building. The discussion continued and it was asked if the Town Clerk follows the retention schedule and if she stores any of her documents electronically. The Town Clerk explained the process of using the retention schedule and commented that there just isn't enough time to keep up with records management. She also stated that she does scan material so we don't have to keep hard copies but mentioned that with more scanning comes more space needed on the server. Councilman VanTassel stated that he had a conversation with Wade Sherman today and asked when the last time an assessment was done. He stated that they need to have this done and plan for the next two years. The Conversation went back to the shelving. The Town Clerk stated that she had asked for \$3,305 for that last row of shelving and also included \$786, which would cover the cost of security doors for 2 sections of shelving. She explained that the Court should have space for storage in the basement but they can't co-mingle their records. She stated that no-one can have access to Court records but Court personnel. Councilman Kusnierz asked if the shelving is more important than a handicapped accessible door. The Town Clerk replied no. She stated that she would rather see the handicapped accessible door than shelving.

The Town Clerk stated that she was asked to provide information on a folding machine at budget time. She provided the same information on new vs. leased units as she did a few weeks ago. It was determined that there was enough money in the Water Department budget to buy a new unit this year. The Town Clerk was asked to put this before the Town Board at the next regular Town Board meeting.

Councilman Kusnierz asked Ms. Thibodeau where they were at with the budget. She stated that they need to decide at the next regular Town Board meeting, how much sales tax money they want to send back to the County and they have to set the elected official's salaries. She also stated that they'll need to set a date for the public hearing, which can be no later than November 9<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the Board will need to

A budget workshop was held by the Town Board of the Town of Moreau on October 18, 2017 in the Town of Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, New York.

have at least one more budget workshop if not even two. Budget workshops were scheduled for October 25th and 26th at 6:00 p.m.

The Town Clerk stated that she had given some information to the Town Board relating to the Town's internet and the internet speed. Councilman VanTassel stated that they will be looking into combining services for a possible reduced price. He also stated that we should be able to get faster internet for the same amount of money. The Town Clerk stated that it would be an additional \$30.00 per month for the increased speed. She asked the Board if they would be agreeable to the \$30.00 increase per month until they get quotes for combined services. The Board had no problem with the additional \$30.00 per month as long as it didn't require a contract. Councilman VanTassel asked that the Town Clerk ask for a new modem as well because the old one is outdated.

Councilman Kusnierz stated that they need to budget money for Prentiss & Carlisle. Councilman VanTassel stated that they also need to know what numbers to add for engineering and also commented that they need to have a conversation with Jim Martin to see what his role will be in 2018. Ms. Thibodeau stated that he might be able to meet with the Board on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Thibodeau stated that the Highway Superintendent billed for brush pick-up this year, in the amount of \$10,791. She stated that there is only \$7,500 budgeted for next year and that it won't be enough. The line item for brush pick-up was increased to \$11,000.

Ms. Thibodeau stated, that it was reported to her, all Mobile Home Park renewals have been paid, for 2017. Ms. Thibodeau stated that we missed 2016. The Board questioned whether or not they could bill for 2016 and directed Ms. Thibodeau to check with Attorney Buettner.

Ms. Thibodeau stated that she didn't know what will happen with medical insurance. She stated that was another hole in the budget. Councilman VanTassel stated that they're waiting to hear back from Attorney Buettner.

There were questions about the wood chipper at the Transfer Station. Ms. Thibodeau reported that it was purchased in 2003 for \$17,149, with grant money. She stated that it's now fully depreciated. They were looking into selling it to the Recreation Department. Ms. Thibodeau stated that the Transfer Station always wants it back. Rec uses it for BOCES training and when they're done, Transfer Station asks for it back. Councilman Kusnierz stated that we were never supposed to take anything at the Transfer Station over 4" and when they were slow at the Transfer Station, they were supposed to chip the material, with the chipper they purchased with grant money. He stated that they started allowing larger limbs and larger trucks at the Transfer Station, which meant more to chip. This got the Town into having to pay someone to come in with a tub grinder to chip the material. Ms. Thibodeau recalled that it cost the Town \$5,000 - \$6,000 to have the material ground each year. Councilman Kusnierz stated that we shouldn't be taking in lot clearing. He stated it should only be incidental branches after storms. Ms. Thibodeau stated that the Board needs to know if they can purchase the unit from the Transfer Station and for how much. Councilman Kusnierz asked why Transfer Station can't just loan it. Ms. Thibodeau stated that she didn't think the Transfer Station had a need for it any longer, since they have the brush ground yearly. Councilman VanTassel asked why the Transfer Station wanted it back if they don't need it anymore. Ms. Thibodeau stated that she would look and see where the money was paid into from the grant. She stated that maybe Transfer Station doesn't own it.

The budget workshop concluded at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leeann McCabe  
Town Clerk