

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Moreau was held on March 24, 2020 in the Town of Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, New York.

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and stated, that due to the health emergency and to protect the safety of the residents and employees, the meeting would be streamed live on Facebook. He welcomed everyone watching.

The Town Clerk called the roll.

Town Board Members Present

John Hogan	Councilmember
Kyle Noonan	Councilmember
Gina LeClair	Councilmember
John Donohue, Jr.	Councilmember
Theodore T. Kusnierz, Jr.	Supervisor

Town Board Members Absent

None

Also present: Leeann McCabe, Town Clerk; Jeffrey Cruz, Principal Account Clerk; Karla Buettner, Attorney for the Town

The Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from March 10, 2020 were prepared and presented to the Town Board prior to the meeting for their review, comment, correction and approval.

Resolution #2020-139

A motion was made by Councilmember Hogan, seconded by Councilmember Noonan and carried, to approve the minutes from March 10, 2020 as prepared.

Asked if all in favor, the following responses were given:

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember LeClair	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

SET FUTURE MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

The Supervisor stated that the Town's insurance policy will expire as of May 1, 2020. He suggested that the Insurance Committee members set up a conference call with Dave Meager, who is the Town's current insurance agent.

COVID-19 UPDATE

The Supervisor thanked the Saratoga County Public Health staff, law enforcement and first responders, as well as the Town's local first responders, who are currently on the front lines of this pandemic. He commented, that at the County level, they're working many hours away from their families to service the Town's residents and to protect the public's health. He stated that these are very challenging times and thanked them on behalf of the residents of the Town.

The Supervisor stated, that as of midday today, there have been just over 91,000 individuals tested for the Coronavirus in New York State. Within that number, 12,000 were tested over the past 24 hours. There are

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3,200 currently hospitalized in New York State with 756 in intensive care units. He stated that this is a very serious pandemic with information that's changing rapidly. The updates are posted on the Town's website as they come in, so the public is informed. In Saratoga County, as of a several hours ago, 1,278 individuals have been tested. Of that number, at least 64 have come back positive. He stated that the number continues to grow. He stated that New York State is leading the Country in outbreaks and commented that the Town is taking this very seriously. The Supervisor outlined what has been done on the Town level. On March 18, 2020 the Supervisor declared a State of Emergency. Information received from the County was put on the Town's website. When executive orders were received from the Governor, the Town made the appropriate changes, as related to staffing at Town Hall. Non-essential staff went home and the essential staff, by the Governor's order, had to be cut by 50%. The Supervisor stated that the essential staff at the Town Hall is well below the threshold of 50%. The Highway Department employees, on days like today, were all performing their assigned duties. The Supervisor stated that he had given the Highway Superintendent the authority to determine, on any given day, what an essential service would be. He stated that there are guidelines on essential services and listed water & sewer, snow plowing, weather emergencies, repairs to infrastructure, building maintenance and cleaning. The Supervisor stated, that when the pandemic broke, the Town changed the way the Town Hall is being cleaned. He stated that the custodial staff has doubled the time they normally spend cleaning. He stated that it's his intention to have the local government continue to operate, but to reduce exposure, the Highway Department building, and the Town Hall will be closed to the public. The Recreation Park will be open to the public, however, there are notifications in the entrances that ask anyone using the Park to practice social distancing. In an effort to keep those from congregating, the basketball hoops have been dismantled. The Supervisor intends on keeping the park open, until he sees an order that the Governor has closed all State parks.

The Supervisor stated again that the Town Hall is closed to the public but operating at normal capacity. Anyone needing assistance can reach out to departments by viewing the Town's website. Phone numbers with extensions are listed, as well as email addresses. There is also a drop box at the front of the Town Hall building, which can be used for paying water bills and making tax payments. The Town Court is closed but the phones are being monitored by the Court Clerk to assist the public. The Dog Control Officer is still performing her regular duties. Her number is on the Town's website as well.

Councilmember Noonan stated that he calls in daily for updates and commended the Supervisor for his good work during this emergency.

SARATOGA COUNTY IMA RECYCLING CONTRACT

The Supervisor stated that the Town of Moreau is one of four recycling centers that receives funding from the County. He stated that he has the new contract for 2020 before him, which gives the Town \$35,000.00 in funding to keep the service available to the Town of Moreau residents as well as Saratoga County residents.

Resolution #2020-140

A motion was made by Councilmember Hogan, seconded by Councilmember Noonan and carried, authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with Saratoga County for recycling services.

Asked if all in favor, the following responses were given:

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember LeClair	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

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MOREAU COMMUNITY CENTER – RECREATION PARK

The Supervisor stated that he had received a request from the Moreau Community Center to have the fees waived for their use of the Town fields for their pick-up softball league.

Resolution #2020-141

A motion was made by Councilmember LeClair, seconded by Councilmember Noonan and carried, waiving the field use fees for the Moreau Community Center’s pick-up softball league.

Asked if all in favor, the following responses were given:

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember LeClair	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

MANAGED SERVICES FOR IT AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS – RFP

The Supervisor reported that there were two proposals received for IT and Telecommunication Services.

Silver Horizon Inc. 2234 East 24 th Street Brooklyn, NY 11229	\$52,800.00 annually plus \$120.00/hour for services outside normal business hours, outside the scope of the contract or for special initiatives. \$6,000.00 for Voice Over Internet Install & Setup
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Stored Technology Solutions Inc. 543 Queensbury Avenue Queensbury, NY 12804	\$20,400 annually plus \$95.00/hour for services outside normal business hours, outside the scope of the contract or for special initiatives.
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The Supervisor recommended that they go with the lowest proposal. He also commented that this was a budgeted item for 2020.

Resolution #2020-142

A motion was made by Councilmember Hogan, seconded by Councilmember LeClair and carried, authorizing the Supervisor to enter into an agreement with Stored Technology Solutions Inc. at a cost of \$20,400 annually and \$95.00 per hour outside normal business hours, outside the scope of the contract or for special initiatives.

Asked if all in favor, the following responses were given:

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember LeClair	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

TOWN HALL – LAPTOP PURCHASE

The Supervisor stated that this request was necessitated as a result of the directive from the Governor, that all non-essential staff work from home. He stated that his Confidential Secretary, who he believes is essential, works on the warrant as well as payroll, and at present is unable to do that working from home. She provided the Town Board with quotes for the purchase of a 15” laptop, so that she can work remotely. The laptop would also be used by other departments when necessary.

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Best Buy

HP Envy 360 15.6" 12 GB Mem \$1,099.99

Best Buy

Dell Inspiron 15.6" 12 GB Mem \$1,099.00

Staples

Samsung Notebook 15.6" 8 GB Mem \$1,133.99

Staples

Samsung Notebook 15.6" 16 GB Mem \$1,442.99

The recommendation was to purchase the HP Envy from Best Buy.

Resolution #2020-143

A motion was made by Councilmember LeClair, seconded by Councilmember Noonan and carried, authorizing the purchase of an HP Envy 360 15.6" 12 GB Memory from Best Buy at a cost of \$1,099.99. The expense will be paid from account A1620.2.

Asked if all in favor, the following responses were given:

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember LeClair	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Highway Superintendent submitted a request to attend the 2020 Highway School in Ithaca, New York, from June 1-3, 2020. The school is sponsored by the Association of Towns of New York and Cornell University Local Roads Program. The registration fee is \$110.00 if paid by May 15th. He stated in his request that there are funds allocated for this expense in account A5010.401, which were budgeted for last fall.

Resolution #2020-144

A motion was made by Councilmember Hogan, seconded by Councilmember LeClair and carried, authorizing the Highway Superintendent to register and attend the 2020 Highway School in Ithaca, New York from June 1-3, 2020, and that travel expenses for using his personal vehicle be a proper Town charge.

Asked if all in favor, the following responses were given:

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember LeClair	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

The Supervisor commented, while under the Highway Department agenda item, that he attended a pre-construction meeting on March 11th regarding the Highway Garage roof replacement project. At that time, they thought they would be beginning the work within 6-8 weeks, which would be from April 22nd to the 29th. The contract specified that the completion of the work be done by August 31, 2020. The Supervisor stated that he would keep everyone updated as the project moves forward. He also stated that he has scheduled construction meetings for every other Friday at 2:00 p.m.

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TOWN CLERK FINANCIAL AUDIT

Resolution #2020-145

A motion was made by Councilmember LeClair, seconded by Councilmember Noonan and carried, resolving that the Town Board acknowledges that the required examination of the Town Clerk's financial records for the year ending December 31, 2019, has been completed; and further resolves that the Town Board accepts and approves the report of the examination.

Asked if all in favor, the following responses were given:

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember LeClair	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

TOWN COURT FINANCIAL AUDIT

Resolution #2020-146

A motion was made by Councilmember LeClair, seconded by Councilmember Noonan and carried, resolving that the Town Board acknowledges that the required examination of the Town Court's financial records for the year ending December 31, 2019, has been completed; and further resolves that the Town Board accepts and approves the report of the examination.

Asked if all in favor, the following responses were given:

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember LeClair	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

SUPERVISOR'S ITEMS

The Supervisor received notification from the Saratoga County Planning Department, that the Town of Moreau has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$10,000 for construction of the trail from the Hudson River at Nolan Road to Old Bend Road. He stated that this is a matching grant and that money was earmarked for this project at budget time.

The Supervisor stated that he had met with Rick Chase, who is a Senior Public Affairs Consultant with Transmission Developers. He's the point man in reaching out to local governments in relation to the DC electric line that is going to be constructed within the next several years. It will come from Quebec and will bring low cost power to New York City. Most of the line will be under water, however, some of the line will have to go through municipalities and be buried. In the Town of Moreau, it will follow the rail right-of-way, from Fort Edward through the southern part of the Town. The Supervisor stated that negotiations are being finalized with the rail company. He stated that this is a capital improvement, and as a result, the Town will be receiving funding. He believed, based on the 2014 Assessment Roll, it would be around \$300,000.00. The Supervisor stated, that once things are finalized, it will require a resolution of the Town Board authorizing a use and crossing agreement.

The Supervisor received correspondence from Dominick Tom in relation to extra pay for certain County employees. The correspondence reflected that Mr. Tom was not supportive of this. The Supervisor stated that he had spoken on this matter publicly. Mr. Tom had asked that his comments be included in this

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evening's minutes. He stated that he would provide Mr. Tom's comments to the Town Clerk, so that she may include them in her minutes. Mr. Tom's correspondence is attached at the end of this set of minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Hogan stated that the work on the compactor at the Transfer Station is not complete yet. He stated that Mr. Monsour will keep him posted. Councilmember Hogan stated that he also had a conversation with Mr. Monsour regarding a person who brought in cut up pieces of a 20' x 20' carpet along with the underlayment, at the current fee rate. Mr. Monsour will provide Councilmember Hogan with a proposed fee that he would like to see changed.

Councilmember Donohue stated that it's difficult to determine the size of the carpets and that he had told Mr. Monsour that they may have to make a judgement call in the booth.

The Supervisor stated that anything they can do to take the gray area out of policies and make things black and white, is appreciated by the residents. He asked that the Transfer Station Committee give their recommendation once they have it ready.

Councilmember Noonan stated that we have received some information regarding water supply to the Village back from the Town's engineers. He stated that at some point, they'll need to have a meeting with the Water Committee, the Village, the Engineer and Jesse Fish. He stated that the Town's agreement with the Village runs out May 1st.

The Supervisor stated that there was an agenda item for discussion, but at that time it was being reviewed by the Town's engineer that handles the water and sewer for the Town. He had some concerns and some recommendations. He stated that after the Water Committee has their meeting with the Village and the engineer, they can bring information back to the Town Board.

The Supervisor stated that the Zoning Board meeting scheduled for March 25th this week, which had two public hearings scheduled, has been postponed indefinitely. He hopes, that once there is a mechanism in place that allows for the public to interact with the Zoning Board members, which is required for public hearings, they will be able to reschedule.

The Town Board meeting scheduled for March 31st at 6:00 p.m. with NYSERDA was canceled.

A motion was made by Councilmember LeClair, seconded by Councilmember Noonan and carried, to close the meeting for the evening at 7:40 p.m.

Asked if all in favor, the following responses were given:

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember LeClair	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Leeann McCabe
Town Clerk

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To: Moreau Town Board

From: Dominic Tom, Cedar Lane, Moreau

Re: Extra pay for county employees

Kindly read my following statement aloud at tonight's (3/24/20) regular town board meeting so it is part of the official record.

I am outraged over details exposed in a Times Union article, "Saratoga County officials angry over essential employees getting huge pay bump," from Monday, March 23.

I commend Mr. Kusnierz for his published comments in opposition to -- in my opinion -- the underhanded, unethical, immoral and possibly criminal behavior (does this constitute an illegal gift of taxpayer funds?) by certain unscrupulous elected county board of supervisors members and top appointed administrators. To summarize the article, more than 300 county employees are being paid time-and-a-half for working during the coronavirus pandemic.

To add insult to injury, the list includes the director of emergency services, sheriff and administrator Spencer Hellwig -- all of whom already receive a very high six-figure salary -- to do their regular job of managing county operations in regular and emergency situations. Outrageous! Politics raises its ugly head during a time of needed non-partisan decisions that should protect the health and welfare of county residents when one considers, for example, that the director of emergency services just happens to be chairman of the Saratoga County Republican Committee in his free time.

The \$1 million special allocation recently approved by the county board was designated to help fight the debilitating effects of this pandemic; instead, it's a slush fund for some devious elected officials currying favors from their constituents and labor force, while greedy pencil-and-paper-pushing administrators grab more taxpayer money without sullyng their hands by directly helping the citizens through this horrendous time.

Every extra penny made available by the county board should go toward procuring supplies, the best personal protective equipment available, hard-to-find respirators, virus-testing materials and other items that help the dedicated, hard-working, selfless front line health care workers. They are, quite literally, putting their lives at risk to directly treat and assist our county residents who are endangered by the coronavirus. These are the heroes who should receive extra combat pay, not the morally bankrupt bigwigs who are already overpaid for their patronage positions.

Therefore, I am requesting the town board adopt ASAP a resolution that condemns everyone responsible for this filthy money grab, calls for the resignation or firing, respectively, of pertinent elected and appointed officials; demands the extra pay policy be rescinded (except in the case of front line health care workers) and that all available funds be directed to the purchase of necessary materials that protect the health care workers and county residents.

I'm also making my views known to local, county and state elected and appointed officials, and requesting they take all necessary legal action to punish everyone responsible for this nauseating decision. I would

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say the offenders should be ashamed and embarrassed at this sickening practice, but that's not possible since they have no conscience or humanity.

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