

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Moreau was held on October 13, 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.

The Town Clerk called the roll.

Town Board Members Present

John Hogan	Councilmember
Kyle Noonan	Councilmember
John Donohue, Jr.	Councilmember
Alan VanTassel	Councilmember
Theodore T. Kusnierz, Jr.	Supervisor

Town Board Members Absent

None

Also present: Leeann McCabe, Town Clerk; Karla Buettner, Attorney for the Town

The Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the September 21, 2020 Town Board workshop were prepared and presented to the Town Board prior to the meeting, for their review, comment, correction and approval.

Resolution #2020-259

A motion was made by Councilmember Noonan, seconded by Councilmember Hogan and carried, approving the minutes from September 21, 2020 as prepared.

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

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Councilmember VanTassel	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

SET FUTURE MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

The Supervisor stated that he had no meetings or workshops to schedule at this time. He further stated, that should they need another budget workshop after October 15, 2020, it can be scheduled at that meeting.

COVID-19 UPDATE

The Supervisor gave a brief update on the Coronavirus.

On the County level he reported:

1,164 confirmed cases, with 55 in the Town of Moreau

17 deaths, with 1 in the Town of Moreau

71 active cases, with 8 in the Town of Moreau

1,076 recovered, with 46 in the Town of Moreau

5 hospitalized

117,437 have been tested

5,937 have been quarantined or isolated

598 currently quarantined or isolated

The 7-day rolling average positivity rate in Saratoga County is 0.71%

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ANNUAL INSPECTION OF FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

The Recreation Leader provided quotes as follows, for the annual inspection, servicing, and when necessary, replacement of portable fire extinguishers for all Town buildings, vehicles, etc. As well as the inspection and servicing of the K-type extinguisher in the Softball Quad concession stand at the Recreation Park:

B-LANN Equipment \$1,724.84
2288 5th Avenue
Troy, NY 12180

New York Fire & Security \$1,644.95
4 Glens Falls Technical Park
Glens Falls, NY 12801

American Safety Products No Quote
4948 Route 50
Gansevoort, NY 12831

The recommendation of the Recreation Leader was to use New York Fire & Security, as they had the lowest quote, and they're already familiar with the facilities.

Resolution #2020-260

A motion was made by Councilmember VanTassel, seconded by Councilmember Noonan and carried, authorizing an Annual inspection, servicing and, when necessary, replacement of portable fire extinguishers for all Town buildings, vehicles, etc., as well as the inspection and servicing of the K-type extinguisher in the Softball Quad concession stand at the Recreation Park. The work will be performed by New York Fire & Security at a cost of \$1,644.95, to be paid from various accounts.

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

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Councilmember VanTassel	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

CHAMPLAIN HUDSON POWER EXPRESS

The Supervisor stated that this topic has been brought to the Town Board's attention in the past. He stated that underwater power lines will be coming down from Canada, and in order for the lines to come into the Town and cross our roads, the Supervisor had to sign an agreement. The authority was given to the Supervisor by direction of the Town Board. The Supervisor read a letter he had received from the company representing Champlain Hudson Power Express. The letter described the plan and offered contact info for anyone looking for more information (www.chpexpress.com). There was no action required on the part of the Town Board.

The Supervisor stated that he had meant to point out at the beginning of the meeting, that we continue to hold our meetings through Zoom, as a result of an extension of the Governor's executive order, which extends the State of Emergency through November 3, 2020. The executive order extends the rights of municipal boards to hold meetings via video conferencing if they choose, through November 3, 2020.

MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT

The Supervisor stated, that in previous years, it had come to his attention, that the Town didn't have the legal authority to pay some of the Town's retirees the Medicare portion of their Advantage Plan. He stated

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that the Town has a retiree who has just signed up and is eligible for her first quarterly payment. The Supervisor stated, that they've prefaced on the situation, that all employees who are retired, now have on record a resolution that authorizes the Supervisor to pay them. He stated that they will also need a resolution to pay this retiree.

The Supervisor read the following resolution aloud:

WHEREAS, the Town Board has authorized the partial reimbursement of Medicare for eligible retirees on the Medicare Advantage health plan; and

WHEREAS, retiree Lori Pike enrolled in the Medicare Advantage plan on July 1, 2020;

So be it RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes Medicare Reimbursement payments for Lori Pike in the amount of \$289.20 quarterly.

Resolution #2020-261

A motion was made by Councilmember Noonan, seconded by Councilmember VanTassel and carried, to adopt the foregoing resolution as read into the record by the Supervisor.

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

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Councilmember VanTassel	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

SUPERVISOR'S ITEMS

The Supervisor stated that there were two items that he didn't get on the agenda and apologized. He stated that he would take care of them under Supervisor's Items.

The first being a request from the Highway Superintendent for authorization to have tree work for the Town done. The Town received three quotes as follows:

**Adirondack Tree Surgeons
353 Gurnspring Road
Gansevoort, NY 12831**

TREE REMOVAL

over 5" to 12" dbh	\$199 each
over 12" to 18" dbh	\$399 each
over 18" to 24" dbh	\$999 each
over 24" to 36" dbh	\$1999 each
over 36" dbh	\$2599 each

STUMP REMOVAL

over 5" to 12"	\$79 each
over 12" to 18"	\$99 each
over 18" to 24"	\$124 each
over 24" to 36"	\$199 each
over 36"	\$290 each

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Richard Sears Tree Experts, Inc.
PO Box 133
Glens Falls, NY 12801

TREE REMOVAL

over 5" to 12" dbh	\$425 each
over 12" to 18" dbh	\$600 each
over 18" to 24" dbh	\$1350 each
over 24" to 36" dbh	\$1500 each
over 36" dbh	\$2150 each

STUMP REMOVAL

over 5" to 12"	\$45 each
over 12" to 18"	\$95 each
over 18" to 24"	\$150 each
over 24" to 36"	\$225 each
over 36"	\$325 each

Tree Care by Stan Hunt
53 Boulevard
Queensbury, NY 12804

TREE REMOVAL

over 5" to 12" dbh	\$250 each
over 12" to 18" dbh	\$450 each
over 18" to 24" dbh	\$550 each
over 24" to 36" dbh	\$850 each
over 36" dbh	\$1150 each

STUMP REMOVAL

over 5" to 12"	\$55 each
over 12" to 18"	\$115 each
over 18" to 24"	\$140 each
over 24" to 36"	\$165 each
over 36"	\$240 each

The Highway Superintendent made a written comment that all of the trees were between 18" and 36" in diameter and therefore recommended Tree Care by Stan Hunt.

Resolution #2020-262

A motion was made by Councilmember Hogan, seconded by Councilmember Noonan and carried, authorizing tree work for the Town, not to exceed \$5,600.00, and for the work to be done by Tree Care by Stan Hunt. The expense will be paid from account DB5110.457.

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

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Councilmember VanTassel	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

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The Highway Superintendent also requested to purchase crack seal, however, the Supervisor stated that the account the expense would be paid from had insufficient funds in it to cover the request. He also commented that he didn't believe CHIPS money could be used for this purchase. This agenda item was tabled until the Highway Superintendent can provide clarification as to where the money would come from.

The Supervisor commented that the water line has been installed for the universal playground at the Park. He thanked the Water Superintendent and his staff, who were assisted by the Recreation Department, to get the water line in place. The Supervisor also stated, that while the backhoe was there, the Water Superintendent also dug the ditches for the electrical that will need to go in. The Supervisor thanked BOCES as well for their work on this project.

The Supervisor stated that he would be signing the purchase order tomorrow for the equipment the Town Board authorized a while back. He stated that this will keep them on track getting the equipment installed before the frost sets in.

The Supervisor reported that he had received some good news from the Laberge Group. He stated that he had an email from Nicole Allen, who handles the grants. She has heard from NYS Department of State, that the Town of Moreau Water Consolidation CREG grant was executed and given a contract number. He stated that it was good news and that they will have the money to help with the process. He thought that if the Town gets all the way through the process and does decide to consolidate, the grant will pay for up to 90% of the costs.

The Supervisor stated that he wanted to thank Mrs. Moore's 5th Grade class, who had reached out to his office to see if the Town was willing to donate masks for the students to decorate. He stated that he received a very nice note after the Town did provide the masks and read it aloud as follows:

Dear Mr. Kusnierz and Mrs. Sperry,

Thank you for donating white masks to the 5th grade class, which I am student teaching. The students had a great time tie-dyeing. It allowed us to put a positive spin on having to wear masks all day at school. It was great to start the year off in a positive way. We wouldn't have been able to do this activity without these donated masks and we really appreciate your generosity.

Sincerely,
Taylor Tilford
Mrs. Moore's Mohr's 5th Grade Class [amended 11/12/2020 lm]

The Supervisor stated that he has the thank you notes posted on his wall outside of his office.

The Supervisor stated that Jaeger and Flynn will be having a meeting with Town employees to discuss health insurance plans that the Town adopted. He stated that there will be an on-site meeting here at Town Hall on October 20, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. The Supervisor stated that they would be doing a separate meeting for the union employees over at the Highway Garage. He stated, that any employee wishing to participate, is welcome to join in.

The Supervisor stated that he had a notice from Saratoga County Department of Social Services in relation to HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program), for the 2020-2021 calendar year. He stated that the program is set to commence on November 2, 2020 for regular benefits and will close on March 15, 2021. He stated that the emergency benefit component will open on January 4, 2021 and will remain open through March 15, 2021. He stated that the furnace repair/replacement component for the 2019-2020 HEAP year, closed on September 30, 2020, and re-opened for the 2020-2021 HEAP year on October 1, 2020. The Supervisor provided information on the schedule of benefits based on income:

<u>Household size:</u>	<u>Monthly Income:</u>
1	\$2,610
2	\$3,413

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3	\$4,216
4	\$5,019
5	\$5,822
6	\$6,625
7	\$6,775
8	\$6,926
9	\$7,077
10	\$7,227
11	\$7,378

The regular benefit amount for:

- Deliverable Fuels (Oil, Kerosene and Propane) - \$675
- Deliverable Wood products (Wood, Pellets, Coal, Corn) - \$525
- Utilities/Municipal Electric Heat (includes Natural Gas) - \$350

The Supervisor suggested, that if anyone needed more information, they could reach out to his office. He also stated that this information would be posted on the Town's website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Hogan stated that he had spoken with the Highway Superintendent and he priced out signs for the crosswalks to be \$350.00 each. He had also told Councilmember Hogan that he would be happy to do the crosswalks for the School, as long as they purchase the signs. Councilmember Noonan stated that he would speak with the School as the liaison from the Town.

Councilmember VanTassel stated that Councilmember Noonan had brought up at a previous meeting about local, long distance and internet. He stated that they're working through the process with Jeff Cruz. They've identified all locations. He commented that telephone and internet is spread out among 4 different carriers. He stated that for consolidation, Spectrum is the only carrier that has the ability to directly consolidate over to the addresses the Town has. He stated that Magna 5 (formerly Cornerstone), who sells to Spectrum, can also take a look at it. Councilmember VanTassel stated that Jeffrey Cruz would compile the numbers before the next Town Board meeting. He stated that it looks like there's a potential for some cost savings, which may allow the Town to cover the cost for a wireless shot down to the Transfer Station, so that cameras can be installed.

Councilmember VanTassel stated that he and Councilmember Noonan have compiled a list of 30 applicants for the clerk position, and that 27 are Town of Moreau residents. He stated that they will be going over the applications and will give a recommendation.

Councilmember Donohue stated that they need to do something about the Code Enforcement Officer position. He suggested putting the position on Zip Recruiter or something similar. The Supervisor stated this position is one of the hardest jobs to find people for. He stated, that even though it's part-time, it's still a civil service position and the Town has to go off the list. He asked that the Personnel Committee work on this. Councilmember VanTassel stated that he understands the Building Inspector is very busy but reminded everyone that code enforcement is in his job description.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hogan, seconded by Councilmember Noonan and carried, to close the meeting for the evening at 7:30 p.m.

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

Councilmember Hogan	Aye
Councilmember Noonan	Aye
Councilmember Donohue	Aye
Councilmember VanTassel	Aye
Supervisor Kusnierz	Aye

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Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Leeann McCabe
Town Clerk