

A Public Hearing was held by the Town Board of the Town of Moreau was held on December 22, 2009 in the Town of Moreau Office Building, 61 Hudson Street, South Glens Falls, New York, for the purpose of hearing all persons for or against a proposed contract between the Town of Moreau and the Moreau Emergency Squad, Inc. for the calendar year 2010.

Deputy Supervisor LeClair opened the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m.

The Town Clerk called the roll, which resulted in the following Town Board Members being present or absent:

Town Board Members Present

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| Tom Cumm | Councilman |
| Bob Prendergast | Councilman |
| Gina LeClair | Councilwoman/Deputy Supervisor |
| Todd Kusnierz | Councilman |

Town Board Members Absent

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| Preston Jenkins | Supervisor |
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Also Present: Jeanne Fleury, Town Clerk; Jesse Fish, Water Superintendent; Nancy Ryan, Transfer Station Clerk (arrived at 6:50 p.m.); Paul Joseph, Highway Superintendent (arrived at 6:52 p.m.) and the following Town and Village Residents: Reed Antis, Gordon Hadsell, C. Fliny, David Bennett and Adele Kurtz who arrived at 6:52 p.m.

Deputy Supervisor LeClair led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Notice of Public Hearing appeared in the legal ad section of the Glens Falls Post Star Newspaper on December 10, 2009:

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, 61 Hudson Street, South Glens Falls, New York on Tuesday, December 22, 2009 at 6:45 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 2010. The funds to be paid by the Town of Moreau to the Moreau Emergency Squad, Inc. for those services is Two Hundred Eighteen Thousand Four Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$218,400.00). 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 in Moreau Town Hall.

Jeanne M. Fleury, Town Clerk
Town of Moreau

Deputy Supervisor LeClair asked if anyone present wished to be heard.

David Bennett from 12 Third Street in South Glens Falls addressed the Board and asked the following questions that he would like answers to:

- Does the Town have any idea what the salaries are of the employees from the top of the organization to the bottom of the organization? Who decides what the salaries are?

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- Are there financial audits done that are available to the taxpayers and are they turned into the Board?
- What is the procedure for giving money to the Moreau Emergency Squad? Is it by contract or agreement?

Mr. Bennett spoke about a volunteer ambulance service that also provides a paid service just like Moreau Emergency Squad and how the Towns of Chestertown and Hague have withheld payments from the ambulance service because there is a conflict of interest whereby board members in a paid position and volunteer position sit on one board making decisions all the way around and they are basically getting paid for something they shouldn't be. In his opinion they shouldn't be riding both sides of the fence.

Mr. Bennett read in the paper about another particular Town in the area where their EMS taxes have gone down due to billing Medicare, Blue Cross, Blue Shield and multiple aspects of the billing process. Are we recouping any of the money being brought in by the billing procedure? Is the billing procedure overseen by the Town or the Organization or both?

He asked the Town Board to check into these questions as a taxpayer. He said he isn't alone in this and there are others in the Town who would like to know also.

Deputy Supervisor LeClair advised Mr. Bennett that he could fill out a FOIL (Freedom of Information Law) request in the Town Clerk's Office and obtain a copy of the contract.

As for the other questions she stated many of the questions would have to be deferred to Supervisor Jenkins, but they will get him answers.

Mr. Bennett asked if this could be done prior to the signing of the contract.

Deputy Supervisor LeClair stated the board will have discussion on this.

Councilman Cumm asked Mr. Bennett if he was on the volunteer side and Mr. Bennett said he isn't a member of the Moreau Emergency Squad. He was some time ago, but decided to leave in good standing from the Organization. He had a lot of questions he couldn't get answered there, which he is also asking here in an attempt to get answers as a taxpayer. As a member he felt the door was shut in his face, because he couldn't get the answers.

Deputy Supervisor LeClair asked if anyone else wished to be heard.

There was no response.

Deputy Supervisor LeClair stated that she didn't believe they would close the Public Hearing and they would be opening the Regular Town Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Jenkins expected to attend, but was unable to attend so they would be holding the Public Hearing open.

Councilman Kusnierz said they needed a resolution to keep the Public Hearing open.

A motion was made by Councilman Cumm and seconded by Councilman Prendergast to keep the Public Hearing open.

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Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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| Councilman Cumm | Yes |
| Councilman Prendergast | Yes |
| Councilwoman LeClair | Yes |
| Councilman Kusnierz | Yes |
| Supervisor Jenkins | Absent |

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Fleury
Town Clerk