

Town of Mount Morris  
Regular Meeting

July 15, 2021

DRAFT

Present: Supervisor Charles DiPasquale, Deputy Supervisor/Councilmember David DiSalvo,  
Councilmembers Don Huff, Nate Guzzardi, and Chelsey Woodworth

Also present: Highway Superintendent Sam Cipriano, Code Officer Shawn Grasby,  
Attorney Ed Russell, Irene Bodnaruk, Rick Payton and Town Clerk Christie Murphy

At 6:30 p.m. Supervisor DiPasquale opened the Town Board meeting at 103 Main Street, Mt. Morris, NY.  
Rick Payton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rick Payton introduced himself as the owner and operator of the Ridge Campground. He has heard rumors of a town-wide water distribution system and wants to know if there's any validity to these rumors. He was answered by Supervisor DiPasquale and Councilmember DiSalvo explaining the Town's hope to form a new town-wide water district within the next few years. If approved, this will be a \$30 Million project that will be completed in three phases starting in 2023. The Town is applying for grant funding, and EDF Renewables will be providing partial funding as well. Mr. Payton stated that his campground used 43,000 gallons of water in June, much of which he has to haul from the Town's bulk water dispenser. He would be happy to see a water district to supply the campground, but he'll need to redo much of his waterlines if this becomes a reality. He was informed of the public information meetings planned for August 12<sup>th</sup> at MMCS. He needs to know who he can talk to about plans to upgrade his campground system. Councilmember DiSalvo directed him to discuss this with J.P. Schepp of MRB Group who is heading up the Town's feasibility study. The Clerk pointed out that Mr. Schepp will be available at the public info meetings. Supervisor DiPasquale thanked Mr. Payton for his interest in this project.

The Board reviewed minutes of two meetings held last month. A motion by Councilmember DiSalvo, seconded by Councilmember Woodworth, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on June 17, 2021 as presented.

Vote:           Aye   5                    No   0                    Motion passed

A motion by Councilmember Woodworth, seconded by Councilmember DiSalvo, to approve the minutes of the special meeting on June 28, 2021 as presented.

Vote:           Aye   5                    No   0                    Motion passed

A motion by Councilmember Huff, seconded by Councilmember Woodworth, to approve the Supervisor's Report for June 2021 as presented.

Vote:           Aye   5                    No   0                    Motion passed

Councilmember Guzzardi reported that Steve of Crosswinds Tree Removal had a disagreement with him about his work and compensation, and quit his job in our cemetery. He's exploring other options for tree removal. The seasonal crew are working on removal of some of the downed limbs. Julian Martin took the bushes removed from the front of the Town Hall and replanted them around the firemen's monument in the cemetery; he took the initiative to do this and it looks really nice.

Code Officer Grasby informed the Board that the negotiations with EDF Renewable regarding emergency access to their facilities has been finalized. The Fire Code requires access to any building or facility to be a maximum of 150' in case of an emergency. The Code also gives the Fire Inspector the authority to exempt or modify this requirement in the case of ground-mounted solar facilities. Code Officer Grasby is waiving this requirement in exchange for the provision by the applicant to the Mount Morris Ambulance Service emergency access vehicles including a Utility Terrain Vehicle that can carry a stretcher and caregiver, along with a trailer and a vehicle to tow it to the scene of any emergency. These vehicles will be the first in the County of this nature and have a total value of about \$100,000. The Fire Department and Ambulance Service have been included in the conversation regarding these vehicles.

Code Officer Grasby also reported that the smaller solar projects have started putting in their access roads. MRB is performing a survey of the town roads prior to construction for comparison purposes once the projects are completed to identify any damage from the weight of the construction materials.

The vendors performing the Agrivoltaic Study requested another \$7500 to expand the parameters of their study. EDF Renewables has approved this extra expense. Texas A&M and Michigan State are doing peer reviews of this study. This study should be completed by September.

EDF Renewables has asked for figures to make improvements to the playground at Tuscarora Park. Councilmember Woodworth replied that she's been obtaining quotes and will have her final quote on Monday.

Councilmember DiSalvo reported that the ambulance service had 96 calls in June. Thirty were Advanced Life Support, 26 were Basic Life Support, and 4 were for the prison. Councilmember DiSalvo also stated that the three local fire companies are now joined together under the name of Mount Morris Fire & Rescue Department.

Councilmember DiSalvo also informed the Board that he met with Nicole Davis, who will be replacing the Town Clerk when she retires at the end of the year. This is an elected position, but Ms. Davis is the only candidate running for the position. She’s available to start training full-time starting December 1, 2021, so he asked the Board to hire her as an “intern” to start on that date. Clerk Murphy stated that this not necessary since she can hire her as a “Deputy Clerk” whenever Ms. Davis is ready. Councilmember DiSalvo also stated that he’s making plans to remodel the Clerk’s office with a counter, safety glass, and new windows to include an emergency exit.

Councilmember Huff thanked Highway Superintendent Cipriano for his extra effort in removing a big tree limb that was hanging from a tree at the Transfer Station, cleaning up tree limbs at the cemetery, and helping with the problem of water leaking into the Town Hall’s basement Records Room. The newest hire for the seasonal crew quit after only one week. Dylan Schwartz has returned to Mount Morris and has been rehired for the seasonal crew at a rate of \$14/hour.

Superintendent Cipriano informed the Board that his department will be doing oil and stone on Wildcat Road in August. They will also do a second run on Hoagland and Creveling Roads, and possible double chips on the lower part of Hoagland Road. They also have crossover pipes to install.

Councilmember DiSalvo reported that the Town will be receiving \$143,005 from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. The funds are being distributed based on population, so the majority of the funds for Mount Morris will be distributed to the Village.

Superintendent Cipriano reported that the Kubota was returned after yet another repair. Rich hit an RG&E box in Tuscarora with it today. He also stated that he hired Steve Callaro to take care of the falling tree limb at the Transfer Station.

Abstract 7 and related vouchers were reviewed by the Town Board. A motion by Councilmember DiSalvo, to approve Vouchers 0159 – 0186 on General A Abstract in the amount of \$61,082.90; seconded by Councilmember Woodworth.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember Huff to approve Vouchers 0035 - 0040 on General B Abstract in the amount of \$5,788.14; seconded by Councilmember DiSalvo.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember Guzzardi to approve Vouchers 0067 – 0077 on the Highway DA Abstract in the amount of \$6,382.87; seconded by Councilmember DiSalvo.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember Huff to approve Vouchers 0011 – 0013 on the Highway DB Abstract in the amount of \$2,920.85; seconded by Councilmember Woodworth.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember DiSalvo to approve Vouchers 0019 - 0021 on the Recycling SR Abstract in the amount of \$465.40; seconded by Councilmember Huff.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember Woodworth, to approve Voucher 0012 on the Sewer SS Abstract in the amount of \$27.34; seconded by Councilmember Guzzardi.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember Huff, to approve Vouchers 0017 – 0018 on the Sewer SW Abstract in the amount of \$3,338.00; seconded by Supervisor DiPasquale.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

Total Abstract 7 \$80,005.50

The Board reviewed the Clerk’s monthly report. A motion by Councilmember Huff, seconded by Councilmember Woodworth, to approve the Clerk’s June report as presented.

Vote: Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed

The Clerk informed the Board that the COVID vaccine clinic was held on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Two Health Department employees came and stated that they had 2 appointments scheduled. No one actually attended the clinic though.

A motion by Councilmember Woodworth, seconded by Councilmember Guzzardi, to adjourn this meeting.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine T. Murphy, Town Clerk/Collector

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