

Town of Mount Morris
Regular Meeting
June 17, 2021

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

Also present: Highway Superintendent Sam Cipriano, Carl Swanson, Code Officer Shawn Grasby,
Attorney Ed Russell, Irene Bodnaruk, J.P. Schepp, and Town Clerk Christie Murphy

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

Supervisor DiPasquale stated that former Councilmember George Swanson passed away last month. Not only did he serve on the Town Council for two terms, but he was very active in this community in various ways including participation in the Fire Department and the Ambulance Service. Supervisor DiPasquale asked for a moment of silence in honor of Mr. Swanson and his contributions to Mount Morris community.

Engineer J.P. Schepp of MRB Group made a presentation to the Board regarding the status of the Town-wide Water Study. His firm looked at every road in the Town that currently doesn't have municipal water. They tallied homes, farms, and businesses then eliminated roads with very low density to be practical. It's cost prohibitive to extend water all the way out Short Tract Road and outer southern areas of the Town. This entire project is expected to cost \$30 million. It needs to be broken up and done in three phases. They honed in on the location of a substation at the Ridge. The proposal is to pump water from the treatment plant to the Ridge where there will be a pump station, a storage tank and three pressure-reducing valves. The first phase will distribute water mostly in a northerly direction to part of NYS Route 408, River, Ridge, Frost, Creek and Hendershot Roads. Each phase is estimated to cost approximately \$10 million. In Phase 2 water will be distributed to the Eastern side of the Town including Tuscarora and down to Route 36 which will require more pressure reducing valves. This will extend the water out Ridge, Moyer, Frost, Creveling, Barron, Scipio, Dutch Street, Townline, and Begole Roads. Phase 3 will require water pumped to another holding tank in Brooks Grove to extend water to the southwest portion of the Town including portions of Route 408, Alvord, Creek, River, Hoagland, Picket Line, Guile, Barron, Dudley, and Short Tract Roads. Maintenance costs are built into the "cost of water" and worked into the cost of water to the customers.

\$750,000 is budgeted to upgrade the Village's Water Treatment Plant in order to increase their output. Shawn Grasby asked about possibility of incentives from the state's Opportunity Zone in the Village. JP doesn't know, but will look into that possibility. The next step would be to hold an informational meeting for the community. If the project moves forward, construction would probably start in 2023.

A motion by Councilmember DiSalvo, seconded by Supervisor DiPasquale, to schedule a public informational meeting in August regarding the formation of Town Water District #2.

Vote: Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed

The date of August 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. was suggested.

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

Vote: Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed

Councilmember Guzzardi reported that trees are being removed and trimmed in the cemetery by Crosswinds Tree Removal. One third of the total bill is in tonight's vouchers for approval. Some of the cost of work in the cemetery will be reimbursed by EDF Renewables as historical preservation projects to mitigate viewshed issues connected with the Morris Ridge solar farm.

Highway Superintendent Cipriano informed the Board that the highway department will be "recycling" Swanson Road. Wildcat Road is ready for stone and oil, and the lower part of Hoagland from Creek to Begole Road. He also reported that the new Kubota is still not fixed. This is very frustrating since it's a brand new machine and without it his department can't do their usual work. They are losing County work for lack of this mower. He keeps calling the company, but gets no reply. He asked Attorney Russell to please send a letter on behalf of the Town.

Councilmember DiSalvo stated that the ambulance service had 100 calls last month. Advanced Life Support accounted for 35 calls, 25 were Basic Life Support, and 4 were to the prison.

Councilmember Disalvo asked Attorney Russell about the status of the fire hydrant contract. Mr. Russell replied that they have reached out to the fire district regarding this issue.

Assessor Knapp reported that Grievance Day was held in May. Only six property owners attended, and all went smoothly. The Final Assessment Roll will be completed by July 1, 2021. The increase in taxable value of property was over \$1 million. He's now preparing to do the 2022 Townwide assessment update.

Councilmember Woodworth informed the Board that three companies are coming out to Tuscarora Park to provide estimates on mulch and edging, and also playground equipment.

The Board reviewed minutes of last month’s meeting. A motion by Councilmember DiSalvo, seconded by Councilmember Guzzardi, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on May 20, 2021 as presented.

Vote: Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed

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

Vote: Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed

The Clerk informed the Board that a COVID vaccine clinic would be held at the Town Hall 10:00- Noon on June 23rd. This will be the Johnson & Johnson which is only one dose.

The Clerk also reported that there’s a problem with humidity in the basement Records Room. The small humidifier down there is inadequate for the job. Its water container overflows, and in some conditions, the unit ices up. A dehumidifier is needed that will drain directly into a drainpipe. Councilmember Huff will address this problem.

Abstract 6 and related vouchers were reviewed by the Town Board. A motion by Councilmember DiSalvo, to approve Vouchers 0134 – 0158 on General A Abstract in the amount of \$52,321.77; seconded by Councilmember Woodworth.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember Huff to approve Vouchers 0026 - 0034 on General B Abstract in the amount of \$10,438.98; seconded by Councilmember DiSalvo.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember Guzzardi to approve Vouchers 0063 – 0066 on the Highway DA Abstract in the amount of \$6,970.81; seconded by Councilmember DiSalvo.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember Huff to approve Vouchers 0008 – 0010 on the Highway DB Abstract in the amount of \$10,547.64; seconded by Councilmember Woodworth.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember DiSalvo to approve Vouchers 0015 - 0018 on the Recycling SR Abstract in the amount of \$1,239.71; seconded by Councilmember Huff.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember Woodworth, to approve Voucher 0011 on the Sewer SS Abstract in the amount of \$26.84; seconded by Councilmember Guzzardi.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

A motion by Councilmember Huff, to approve Vouchers 0015 – 0016 on the Sewer SW Abstract in the amount of \$2,265.33; seconded by Supervisor DiPasquale.

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

Total Abstract 6 \$83,811.08

Superintendent Cipriano informed the Board that the \$2,000+ voucher for USABlueBook on the water fund abstract tonight is for automatic flusher for Route 408.

Councilmembers Huff and Guzzardi were excused.

Code Officer Grasby reported that applications have been submitted for the 3 smaller solar projects. They will start construction at the end of the month. He’s waiting for the required letter of credit before issuing the permits. Also, EDF Renewables were issued a Draft Permit by New York State. PILOT agreement still needs to be finalized; Attorney Coniglio is working on that. Livingston County also wants a separate Road Use Agreement.

Supervisor DiPasquale reminded all that they need to discuss agenda topics with him prior to the meeting.

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

Vote Aye 5 No 0 Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine T. Murphy,
Town Clerk/Collector