

# Morehouse Town Board Meeting

December 12<sup>Th</sup> 2023

The December Town Board Meeting was called to order at 7pm By Supervisor William Farber on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Supervisor Farber opened the meeting by leading the Town Board and Guests in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Town Board members present include:

Bill Uebele

Brian Taylor

Sonya DeVuyst

Mary Ann Mosher

Town Supervisor: William Farber

Town Clerk: Stephanie Tichenor

Deputy Town Clerk: Deborah Passero

Guests include:

Dan Key, Ed & Linda Sherman, Wayne & Sheryl Fleming, Steve Babcock, Christopher Babcock, Julia Russo, Anthony & Karen Fernandez

Dan Key Brought up the subject on having a speed limit on French Road. As the vehicles that drive through there, drive very fast. Its very dangerous. Supervisor Farber stated that French Road is a county road and that the town will have to take this issue up to the County.

Anthony Fernandez who was appointed as the Towns new Supervisor for 2024 & 2025, Brought up the subject on the Town of Morehouse's yearly AUD not being done since 2012. He said that he has done a lot of research on this, and that the Town will have to get this all fixed. Anthony stated that it's going to take a lot of resources and time and man power to get this done. The Town will have to bring in accountants. Anthony asked the Town Board if they were all on board with him, to get the Town into shape. The Town Board all agreed.

Supervisor Farber's reply was "I sincerely apologize, I should have been firmer with the Town Board. The Town brought in an accountant to get some of them straightened out, then the Town wanted to keep the money local. So, they gave the Town Clerk more hours to help me work on getting the AUD's in order, Then Covid hit and the Town Clerk was no longer in the Office, I just got in way over my head. Please support Anthony in trying to get the Town's Yearly AUD's back in order."

Brian Taylor made a motion to accept the November minutes, Bill Uebele seconded it. Motion carried

Ayes:

Bill Uebele

Sonya DeVuyst

Mary Ann Mosher

Brian Taylor

Bill Farber

Nays: None

Bill Uebele made a motion to accept the Officers reports. Brian Taylor seconded it. Motion carried

Ayes:

Bill Uebele Sonya DeVuyst

Mary Ann Mosher Brian Taylor

Bill Farber

Nays: None

Bill Uebele made a motion to pay the General fund bills on abstract #12.1 vouchers 23/223-23/243 totaling \$15,544.89. and the Highway funds bills in abstract #12.1, vouchers 23/87-23/96 totaling \$16,441.7, Mary Ann Mosher seconded it. Motion carried.

Ayes:

Bill Uebele Sonya DeVuyst

Mary Ann Mosher Brian Taylor

Bill Farber

Nays: None

## **Old Business**

- **Tower update-** Supervisor Farber stated the applications to the APA will go in within the next 2 weeks for all 3 sites, ( Morehouse, Arietta and Hope). Farber also talked to the County about the County helping Morehouse to tear down the Old Fire Tower on the Beattie property after the cell tower is erected and operational.
- **Snowmobile trails and grooming update-** Supervisor Farber stated the weather has not been on our side in respects to the snowmobile trail. We have some trees down on the trails. JR is going on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> of December, to Mosquito Hill to look at the Dam situation. Jr has a colleague that is going to go with him to Mosquito Hill one day the week of the 24<sup>th</sup> to remedy the dam situation. The Highway workers have serviced all the sleds and they are ready for use. Supervisor Farber stated now that we have the UTV we should drop down to 2 snowmobiles and sell the 3<sup>rd</sup> Skandik.
- **Clerk Update-** Supervisor Farber stated “Thursday Stephanie Tichenor will be taking the training for tax collector, with the County. Farber Stated that he set Stephanie Tichenor up with Lisa Johnson (Hamilton County DPW) in regards to the CHIPS (Consolidated Highway Improvement Program) claiming for the Town, there are CHIPS balance to be able to use it to buy a loader or a tandem truck. I will be working with her so that she understands it.”
- **Board of Elections-** Supervisor Farber stated The Board of Elections mailed the Town a list of voters and their addresses, Stephanie Tichenor has been working on getting all the addresses corrected.
- **MVP-** Supervisor Farber stated “In looking back over the last years MVP renewals and with the increases in premiums, The last Town Clerk did not notify the retirees about the increases. So unfortunately, Stephanie and I wrote letters to Sharon Galcher and Raymond Darvoe about last year’s increase along with this year’s increase”. Supervisor Farber stated that the Town Board is going to have to update the threshold for non-fulltime employees, as the times are changing with the cost of living.
- Ed Sherman asked, “how many part time employees does the Town employ”? Supervisor Farber stated that we don’t have any part-time employees right now, that’s why it’s a good time to look into updating the threshold for MVP.



Mary Ann Mosher

Brian Taylor

Bill Farber

Nays: None

**-Feb Fest-** Supervisor Farber explained the Feb Fest should be on February 10<sup>th</sup> 2024, with a rain date of February 11<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Brian made a motion to have Feb Fest on February 10<sup>th</sup> 2024 with a rain date of February 11<sup>th</sup> 2024. Brian seconded it. Motion carried.

Ayes:

Bill Uebele

Sonya DeVuyst

Mary Ann Mosher

Brian Taylor

Bill Farber

Nays: None

- **Annual Meeting schedule-** Supervisor Farber asked which day would be better for everyone, December 27<sup>th</sup> or December 28<sup>th</sup> for Annual Meeting? Sonya Stated that Thursday December 28<sup>th</sup> would be better for her because she works nights on Wednesdays.

Sonya made a motion to schedule the Annual December Meeting on Thursday December 28<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 7pm. Mary Ann Mosher seconded it Motion carried.

Ayes:

Bill Uebele

Sonya DeVuyst

Mary Ann Mosher

Brian Taylor

Bill Farber

Nays: None

- **Organizational Meeting –** Supervisor Farber stated that the organizational meeting needs to be scheduled within 5 days of the New Year, He suggested having the Meeting on Thursday January 4<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Brian Taylor made a motion to have the Organizational Meeting of 2024, on Thursday January 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Mary Ann Mosher seconded it. Motion carried.

Ayes:

Bill Uebele

Sonya DeVuyst

Mary Ann Mosher

Brian Taylor

Bill Farber

Nays: None

Supervisor Farber stated ABC Fire Extinguisher would like the Town to think about ABC providing First aid kits for the Highway Dept, The Rec Center and the Town Hall. They provided information on how much and what they would consist of. ABC would Service them when they serviced the Fire Extinguishers. Farber asked for the Town Board to look at it and Farber will bring it up in a future meeting.

