

# Morehouse Town Board Meeting

April 9<sup>th</sup> 2024

The Meeting for the Morehouse Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Anthony Fernandez on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Supervisor Fernandez opened the meeting by leading the Town Board Members and the Members of the Public in the Pledge of Allegiance!!

## Members Present –

Bill Uebele

Sonya DeVuyst

Mary Ann Mosher

Supervisor- Anthony Fernandez

Town Clerk- Stephanie Tichenor

## Member absent

Brian Taylor

## Members of the Public

Marilyn Wilson

Charlie Rouff

Ed & Linda Sherman

Deborah Bushnoe

Wayne & Sheryl Flemming

Robert Ford

Melonie Luck

Denver Steinmetz

John Howard

Lynn Kerstner

Steven Babcock

Daniel Key

Lauren O'shea

Supervisor Fernandez opened the meeting to the members of the public for comments.

There was no public Comment.

Supervisor Fernandez closed the public comment.

Bill Uebele made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from March 12<sup>th</sup>,2024 Town Board Meeting and the meeting minutes for the March 27<sup>th</sup>,2024 Workshop. Sonya DeVuyst seconded it. Motion carried.

Ayes

Nays

B. Uebele

None

S. DeVuyst

M .Mosher

A. Fernandez

Absent-

Brian Taylor

Supervisor Fernandez Read the Highway report.

Bill Uebele made a motion to accept the Officers reports. Mary Ann Mosher seconded it. Motion carried.

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
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B. Uebele	None
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S. DeVuyst

M. Mosher

A. Fernandez

Absent-

Brian Taylor

Bill Uebele asked why there is no report from the Zoning and Codes Officer. Supervisor Fernandez stated that there are no new applications for 2024 so there for no reports. Mary Ann stated that there is work being done?? Supervisor Fernandez stated that will be taken care of.

Mary Ann made a motion to accept the payment of the General Fund invoices in the total of \$10,857.41 and the Payment of the Highway Fund in the amount of \$6,174.64. Sonya DeVuyst seconded it. Motion carried.

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
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B. Uebele	None
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S. DeVuyst

M. Mosher

A. Fernandez

Absent-

Brian Taylor

Bill Uebele made a motion to accept the Resolution 24-7 Authorizing creating and Funding accounts for bookkeeping. See attached Resolution. Mary Ann Mosher seconded it. Motion carried.

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
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B. Uebele	None
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S. DeVuyst

M. Mosher

A. Fernandez

Absent-

Brian Taylor

Bill Uebele made a motion to accept Resolution 24-8 The Transfer of funds for IRS payment. (see attached) Mary Ann Mosher seconded it. Motion Carried

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
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B. Uebele	None
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S. DeVuyst

M. Mosher

A. Fernandez

Absent-

Brian Taylor

Zoning Board of Appeals:

Bill Uebele made a motion to Appoint Richard Doel to the Zoning Board of Appeals from 4/9/24-12/31/26. Sonya DeVuyst seconded it. Motion carried.

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
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B. Uebele	None
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S. DeVuyst

M. Mosher

A. Fernandez

Absent-

Brian Taylor

(1) position is currently open

Open term as Follows- 1/17/17-12/31/21

Old Business

Snowmobile Trail Report: The trails are closed for the season. Stephanie Tichenor the Town Clerk has submitted the Phase 3 of the Snowmobile Grant. We are now just waiting for a response.

Hamilton County Accounting Services: The computer that was sent up to the County with the Enhanced Business Solutions application on it was scrubbed and all cleaned up. They took all the information that was on it and archived it. And started all fresh with 2024.

Supervisor Fernandez stated that there is an accountant at Enhanced Business Solutions that has worked on other towns AUD's He is going to get with her and see if she will Help us with getting our AUD's in order.

Town Clerk's computer backup: Supervisor Fernandez and Denver Steinmetz have been working to find a way to backup the Town Clerks computer incase something bad happens. Denver Steinmetz is working on it and said he may be able to get everything into the Cloud.

Health Insurance: Supervisor Fernandez stated he has been meeting with the Towns Attorney about changing the nonelected to part time in our handbook. There was a short discussion about the Health Insurance. Full time employees and elected officials will have the option to get health insurance fully paid for. Part time employees will not.

Work week- Work Hours: Supervisor Fernandez stated the work hours for full time employees for the Town of Morehouse are 30,35,40. Elected Officials make their own hours. Town Highway employees work 40 hours a week they will change their hours to summer hours 6am-4:30 with Fridays off. Starting at the end of April or beginning of May weather permitting.

Local Law Dog Ordinance: Supervisor Fernandez has been speaking with the Towns Attorney. Supervisor Fernandez stated he is having the Attorney look at our local dog laws and make an amendment to have Bill Uebele (Dog Warden) to be able to keep a lost animal until the owner is contacted. And make sure that the leash Law on Town Property will go into effect.

IRS Status: Supervisor Fernandez is still waiting to talk to someone in the IRS department within the 90 days. Supervisor Fernandez did receive letters that stated, the IRS has received the Towns letters and that they needed up to 60 days to get in contact with Fernandez.

Streetlights: The Town Board talked about a plan at the March 27<sup>th</sup> workshop, Supervisor Fernandez is going to meet with the streetlight advisor on Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup> of April, to get info on the costs that will most likely occur. The Town Board will then come up with a resolution at the next meeting to get the street lights changed.

Cell Tower update: Supervisor Fernandez stated that the Adirondack Park Agency is still in review of the applications, The APA was still accepting public comment until April 11<sup>th</sup> 2024. The APA is also working on getting a fiber line from Arietta to Morehouse so that they can communicate.

Webpage and IT services: The website is up and running well.

Workshop Meeting: Supervisor Fernandez stated the workshop meeting went well. And that he will not schedule another one until we have more to discuss.

Notice of Noncompliance, (COVID FUNDS): Supervisor Fernandez stated he is still looking into the US Treasury Departments Noncompliance letter for COVID funds. He has emailed them with no response. He did however get into the website. He is going to keep working on that.

Liability Insurance: There was a discussion on changing our liability Insurance to NYMER. Supervisor Fernandez is looking into this.

Supervisor Fernandez was approached about State Route 8 being fixed. Supervisor Fernandez called the State and the State said they will be doing maintenance on RTE8 from Lake Pleasant to Morehouse. The State will be patching the road.

**New Business**

Facilities Discussion: There was a discussion on getting all the buildings in Town up to date, Siding, Chimneys and boilers. and the church's attic has to be looked at.

Pest control: Supervisor had a guy come out from Orkin to take a look at the 3 buildings as we have mice and ants. The guy looked at everything and said he would get back to us with a quote.

Process regarding Building Permits: Supervisor Fernandez stated the building permit issue will be resolved next meeting.

Historian: Supervisor Fernandez stated he has talked to Melonie and he has talked to the Town Clerk Stephanie Tichenor and the Historian position will be resolved next month.

Supervisor Fernandez opened the meeting for public comment.

Marilyn Wilson raised some questions on the Dog Ordinance and the Leash Law. Supervisor Fernandez said that he is working with the Town's attorney about the Dog Ordinance and Leash Law

Marilyn also asked why the Historian hasn't gotten paid? Supervisor Fernandez stated that is because the Town hasn't reappointed her yet.

Marilyn Wilson also made a Formal Complaint about a Town Highway Employee blowing the truck's horn excessively. Supervisor Fernandez stated Thank you for the complaint and that He will look into it.

Supervisor Fernandez closed the meeting for public comment.

Sonya DeVuyst made a motion to adjourn the April 9<sup>th</sup> Town Board Meeting. Bill Uebele seconded it. Motion carried.

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
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B. Uebele	None
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S. DeVuyst

M. Mosher

A. Fernandez

Absent-

Brian Taylor

Respectfully yours,



Stephanie Tichenor

Town Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-7

**CREATING AND FUNDING ACCOUNT FOR BOOKKEEPING SERVICES**

**DATED: APRIL 9, 2024**

**BY:** William Uebele

WHEREAS, the Town of Morehouse has contracted with the County of Hamilton for accounting, bookkeeping and payroll services in 2024, and

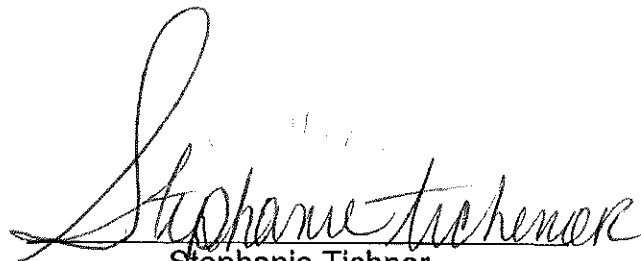
WHEREAS, the agreement was not known at the time of the 2024 budget implementation, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that expenditure account Number 1220.405, Supervisor Bookkeeping, be created and funded from General Fund Unappropriated Fund Balance in the amount of \$8,000.00 for the 2024 contract, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer, be so notified.

Seconded by: Mary Ann Mosher

DeVuyst: ✓ yes  
Mosher: ✓ yes  
Uebele: ✓ yes  
Taylor: Absent  
Fernandez: ✓ yes

  
Stephanie Tichnor

Morehouse Town Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 24-8

TRANSFER FUNDS FOR IRS PAYMENT

DATED: APRIL 9, 2024

BY: William Uebele

WHEREAS, the Town of Morehouse received notification from the Internal Revenue Service of delinquent 2022 payroll taxes in the amount of \$55,963.55 including interest and penalties, and

WHEREAS, the amount was due upon receipt and the Town had not budgeted for such an expenditure in the 2024 budget, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that \$55,963.55 be transferred from the Unappropriated General Fund Balance to account A.9030800, Social Security, to make said payment., and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer, be so notified.

Seconded by: Mary Ann Mosher

DeVuyst: ✓

Mosher: ✓

Uebele: ✓

Taylor: Absent

Fernandez: ✓

Stephanie Tichnor

Stephanie Tichnor

Morehouse Town Clerk