The meeting was held in person. The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with an attendance roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** Patrick Killian Councilmember

Kyle NoonanCouncilmemberMark StewartCouncilmemberJesse A. Fish, Jr.Supervisor

ALSO PRESENT: Erin Trombley Town Clerk

Glen Bruening Town Counsel

Chris Abrams Highway Superintendent
Elizabeth Bennett Confidential Secretary
Jeremy Brogan Recreation Director
Kristian Mechanick Water Superintendent

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Michelle DelSignore, Jeremy Archart, Bill Ramsey, Greg Hewlett (The Pines), Charlene Hewlett, Dave Rogge (Lamplighter Acres), Richie Wiltshire, Kevin Ostrander, Maureen Dennis (Schermerhorn Real Estate Holdings), Alex Portal (Post-Star)

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

No future meetings were set.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

No comments were made.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Since Councilmembers Killian and Noonan were not present for the March 14, 2025 meeting and Councilmember Donohue was absent at this meeting, a vote to accept the March 14 minutes was tabled.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Supervisor Fish asked the Town Clerk to read a resolution.

"Be it resolved that the Town Board closes the public hearing on Sewer Rates."

**Resolution 159-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian to accept the resolution as read.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Donohue Absent
Councilmember Killian Aye
Councilmember Noonan Aye
Councilmember Stewart Aye
Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 4:0.

**Discussion:** The Supervisor said the Board had worked with the Town engineers to make some changes to the proposed EDU schedule, and asked if the Board wanted to discuss anything about the format of the EDUs. Councilmember Stewart said the updated document addressed some of the businesses previous discussed, and included language that would allow the Board to make additions if business types not included in the document join the district. Car washes and schools are different in that use would be calculated because developing an

accurate EDU would be too complicated, he said. Councilmember Killian agreed that use going through a meter made sense versus square footage calculations. Supervisor Fish added that in the case of a warehouse with no water or sewer, the rate would be calculated by square footage, and if water is added, the facility can be reevaluated.

The Supervisor asked the Town Clerk to read a prepared resolution. She read:

"WHEREAS Town Law Section 198 (1) (h) and (j) authorize the Town Board to establish charges, fees or rates to be paid for connections and related services required to access the Town Sewer System; and

WHEREAS Town Law Section 198 (1) (l) authorizes the Town Board to establish sewer use charges consistent with Article 14-f of the General Municipal Law to raise revenue to pay the expenses of the Town Sewer System; and

WHEREAS Moreau Town Code Section 115-70 requires the Town Board by Resolution to periodically establish sewer charges relating to (1) operation and maintenance costs, (2) capital costs, and (3) any additional charges including but not limited to those applicable to connections, tappings, permits, inspections, capacity, pre-treatment, late payments, and penalties; and

**WHEREAS** the sewer charges relating to operation and maintenance costs and capital costs are to be set using a schedule of equivalent dwelling units (EDU) based on the benefit conferred on the property by the Sewer System; and

**WHEREAS** the estimated operation and maintenance cost attributable to Sewer District 1 and Extensions 1 through 4 is \$138,000 in the current year without reserves, and the estimated capital cost attributable to Sewer District 1 Extensions 1 through 4 is \$0 (zero) in the current year; and

**WHEREAS** the estimated operation and maintenance cost attributable to Sewer District 1 Extension 5 is \$158,000 in the current year without reserves, and the estimated capital cost attributable to Sewer District 1 Extension 5 is \$278,000 in the current year; and

WHEREAS the Town Board commenced a Public Hearing on February 25, 2025, continued the hearing on March 11, March 25 and April 8, 2025 and, after hearing all interested persons, closed the public hearing this date; and

**WHEREAS** the adoption of this Resolution is a Type II action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act for which no further review is required.

## NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. The Town Board hereby adopts the schedule for assigning equivalent dwelling units (EDU) as set forth in the Equivalent Dwelling Unit Schedule attached to this Resolution.
- 2. The Town Board hereby establishes a sewer use charge of \$270 per EDU for all users of Sewer District 1 and Extensions 1 through 4. Any surplus remaining at the end of the year shall remain in a separate fund for use by Sewer District 1 and Extensions 1 through 4.
- 3. The Town Board hereby establishes a sewer use charge of \$650 per EDU for all users of Sewer District 1 Extension 5. Any surplus remaining at the end of the year shall remain in a separate fund for use by Sewer District 1 Extension 5.
- 4. The Town Board hereby establishes a schedule of all sewer charges, including any charges for

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Moreau was held at 7:00 p.m. on April 8, 2025 at the Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, Saratoga County, New York.

connections, tappings, permits, inspections, capacity, pre-treatment, late payments, and penalties, as set forth in the Schedule of Sewer Charges attached to this Resolution.

5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately."

**Resolution 160-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian to accept the resolution as read.

**Discussion:** Councilmember Stewart apologized and said he should have commented sooner, and that \$650 per EDU doesn't leave much above the operating cost of extension 5, and that figures used for calculation didn't include maintenance required by the Town. He expressed concern that at \$650 per EDU, long-term maintenance and emergency repairs would not be covered. He said with each grinder pump having a life expectancy of 7-12 years, and a conservative estimate of over 160 grinder pumps the Town is responsible for at approximately \$6,500 each, the financial obligation is over \$1,000,000 to change each pump once, and it's likely pumps will need to be replaced 2-3 times over the life of the loan. He said he did not believe the proposed rate would sufficiently cover these expenses. He also restated that the structure of the loan, the \$278,000 figure per year, will increase over the life of the 30-year loan to over \$400,000 per year. He said he thought some of the known maintenance cost should be charged at this time to avoid a large increase next year. He suggested raising the rate per EDU in extension 5 to \$750. He said this approximate \$75,000 delta would then be used on maintenance and repairs in the coming year, or be put aside for long-term maintenance the system will need.

Councilmember Killian said that maintenance on any motor is unpredictable and that he agreed with Councilmember Stewart that it was a better idea to increase the cost now in an effort to maintain transparency, rather than to say later that it was an expense that was missed in the early calculations. Councilmember Noonan said he had nothing to add. Councilmember Stewart proposed amending the third of the five resolved items to read, "3. The Town Board hereby establishes a sewer use charge of \$750 per EDU for all users of Sewer District 1 Extension 5. Any surplus remaining at the end of the year shall remain in a separate fund for use by Sewer District 1 Extension 5." He said this change was the Board doing its due diligence to protect the extension 5 users, adding that to retain the \$650 would be a good rate for now, but would be kicking the can of the actual expenses down the road. He said he believed the original figure proposed by the Town engineers was \$976 per EDU. He said they are working to provide the best overall solution based on all the factors at play.

The revised motion:

WHEREAS Town Law Section 198 (1) (h) and (j) authorize the Town Board to establish charges, fees or rates to be paid for connections and related services required to access the Town Sewer System; and

WHEREAS Town Law Section 198 (1) (l) authorizes the Town Board to establish sewer use charges consistent with Article 14-f of the General Municipal Law to raise revenue to pay the expenses of the Town Sewer System; and

**WHEREAS** Moreau Town Code Section 115-70 requires the Town Board by Resolution to periodically establish sewer charges relating to (1) operation and maintenance costs, (2) capital costs, and (3) any additional charges including but not limited to those applicable to connections, tappings, permits, inspections, capacity, pretreatment, late payments, and penalties; and

**WHEREAS** the sewer charges relating to operation and maintenance costs and capital costs are to be set using a schedule of equivalent dwelling units (EDU) based on the benefit conferred on the property by the Sewer System; and

WHEREAS the estimated operation and maintenance cost attributable to Sewer District 1 and Extensions 1 through 4 is \$138,000 in the current year without reserves, and the estimated capital cost attributable to Sewer District 1 Extensions 1 through 4 is \$0 (zero) in the current year; and

WHEREAS the estimated operation and maintenance cost attributable to Sewer District 1 Extension 5 is \$158,000 in the current year without reserves, and the estimated capital cost attributable to Sewer District 1 Extension 5 is \$278,000 in the current year; and

WHEREAS the Town Board commenced a Public Hearing on February 25, 2025, continued the hearing on March 11, March 25 and April 8, 2025 and, after hearing all interested persons, closed the public hearing this date; and

**WHEREAS** the adoption of this Resolution is a Type II action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act for which no further review is required.

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- 2. The Town Board hereby establishes a sewer use charge of \$270 per EDU for all users of Sewer District 1 and Extensions 1 through 4. Any surplus remaining at the end of the year shall remain in a separate fund for use by Sewer District 1 and Extensions 1 through 4.
- 3. The Town Board hereby establishes a sewer use charge of \$750 per EDU for all users of Sewer District 1 Extension 5. Any surplus remaining at the end of the year shall remain in a separate fund for use by Sewer District 1 Extension 5.
- 4. The Town Board hereby establishes a schedule of all sewer charges, including any charges for connections, tappings, permits, inspections, capacity, pre-treatment, late payments, and penalties, as set forth in the Schedule of Sewer Charges attached to this Resolution.
- 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The Supervisor called for a roll call vote, the results of which were:

Councilmember Donohue Absent
Councilmember Killian Aye
Councilmember Noonan No
Councilmember Stewart Aye
Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 3:1.

Supervisor Fish said that the Town's insurer had an agreement in place for the painting of the Little League concession stand. He asked where things stood with the color discussion. Councilmember Stewart said the discussion was of keeping a blue color but not having red battens. Recreation Director Brogan said the blue color would be darker than originally proposed. Councilmember Stewart added that the blue will coordinate better with existing signage.

**Resolution 161-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian to approve the South Glens Falls Little League volunteer, with required insurance, to paint the Little League Concession Stand navy-to-royal blue with matching trim, with the Recreation Director as the immediate point of contact for any changes.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Donohue Absent
Councilmember Killian Aye
Councilmember Noonan Aye
Councilmember Stewart Aye
Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 4:0.

**Resolution 162-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian to authorize the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Nothing But Paint, LLC.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Donohue Absent
Councilmember Killian Aye
Councilmember Noonan Aye
Councilmember Stewart Aye
Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 4:0.

## TOWN LOGO SUBMISSIONS

**Discussion:** Supervisor Fish said the Town had received a number of logo submissions which had been put in the Board members' mailboxes. He suggested they email any thoughts or suggestions the Board wanted to see, and that the Supervisor's office would contact the individual who made the submission to make changes. He said at the next meeting they could discuss what the Board did or did not want to do moving forward. Councilmember Noonan said he also had placed a copy of a logo the Town had paid a professional designer approximately \$400 for roughly 4 years prior, to include in the discussion. He also said that several of the submissions appeared to be AI-generated (made by artificial intelligence) with typos or distorted text. He asked if the Board had a direction they wanted to go. Supervisor Fish said they don't have to accept any if they don't like them. The Councilmember raised the issue of copyright, and said any logo generated by software that's not paid for the Town cannot be reproduced due to licensing restrictions.

## SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

"Be it resolved that the Town Board authorizes a three-year warranty renewal with Dell ProSupport in an amount not to exceed \$1,753.93, to be paid from account A1620.4, and **further resolves** to authorize the Supervisor to sign any documents necessary to complete the renewal.

**Be it further resolved** that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to execute any documents necessary to complete the renewal."

**Resolution 163-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian to accept the resolution as read.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Donohue Absent Councilmember Killian Aye Councilmember Noonan Aye A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Moreau was held at 7:00 p.m. on April 8, 2025 at the Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, Saratoga County, New York.

Councilmember Stewart Aye Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 4:0.

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Supervisor Fish asked the Town Clerk to read a second resolution. She read:

"Be it resolved that the Town Board authorizes the purchase and installation of a Turing Video Smartseries 32-channel NVR hard drive, a 5-year warranty, and a 3-year Turing Video Camera license for an amount not to exceed \$3,600.56 from account A1620.401

**Be it further resolved** that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to execute any documents necessary to complete the transaction."

**Discussion:** Councilmember Stewart said this is to authorize the replacement of cameras installed at Town Hall, which were installed in 2023. He said it sounded like there were software updates and back-up issues on the horizon which StoredTech is trying to prepare for. He said Principal Account Clerk (PAC) Cruz would work with StoredTech to determine a date after which support would no longer be available for the current cameras. He said with technology changing all the time, he would recommend waiting until closer to that date since the Town spent money on them recently. Councilmember Killian agreed after having spoken to PAC Cruz, and that this could be included in budgeting for 2026.

The Town Clerk read the following resolution:

"**Be it resolved** that the Town Board authorizes the purchase and installation of a Turing Video 5MP EDGE+ Fixed Turret security camera for the Nolan Road Water Tower from StoredTech, as well as a four-year license upgrade, for an amount not to exceed \$1,269.75, to be paid from account CW8310.4.

**Be it further resolved** that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to execute any documents necessary to complete the transaction."

**Resolution 164-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian to accept the resolution as read.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Donohue Absent
Councilmember Killian Aye
Councilmember Noonan Aye
Councilmember Stewart Aye
Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 4:0.

# TRANSFER STATION

**Discussion:** Supervisor Fish said the Transfer Station Working Manager asked that a part-time laborer be hired for the Transfer Station.

**Resolution 165-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian to authorize the advertisement of a part-time laborer position for the Transfer Station at a rate of \$15.50 per hour, with applications being received at the Town Clerk's office until April 25 at 9:00 a.m. for consideration.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Donohue Absent
Councilmember Killian Aye
Councilmember Noonan Aye
Councilmember Stewart Aye
Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 4:0.

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**Discussion:** Supervisor Fish said the Transfer Station Working Manager asked that the Transfer Station be closed for Memorial Day and Labor Day. Councilmember Noonan asked if they had been closed on those days before, to which the Supervisor said he did not know, but that Mondays are better for them to close than Fridays. The Councilmember asked if these dates had been included in the organizational meeting discussion. Supervisor Fish said they would table the topic to review the organizational meeting minutes.

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## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Discussion:** Supervisor Fish invited the Board to discuss the Big Three Summer Basketball program. Councilmember Stewart said he is in favor, that the school offers basketball at the same time, but that the program did well the previous year, that payments exceeded costs, and that he did not favor canceling a program that gets any kids out and involved in programs. Councilmember Killian said he agrees and said some families look forward to the program. Councilmember Noonan agreed.

The Town Clerk was invited to read the following resolution:

"**Be it resolved** that the Town Board approves the renewal of the Big Three Summer Basketball Camp, for grades 1-8, to be held for five consecutive weeks from June 30, 2025 to July 30, 2025 on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, with a rain day of Thursday. Additionally, the Town will charge \$50 per student, for each individual week of the camp or \$225 for the entire five weeks.

**Be it further resolved** that the Town Board authorizes Al Vasak III to serve as camp director for a stipend of \$1,500, Ethan Vasak to serve as assistant director for a stipend of \$1,125, and if 24 or more students register for the camp, an additional assistant coach would receive a stipend of \$1,125, which would all be paid out of account A7140.4."

**Resolution 166-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian to accept the resolution as read.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Donohue Councilmember Killian Aye
Councilmember Noonan Aye
Councilmember Stewart Aye
Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 4:0.

Supervisor Fish introduced the topic of vending machines at the Recreation Park and said Counsel had reviewed the contract. Councilmember Noonan questioned the exclusivity of the contract and whether the Town had an existing contract in place with another large company like Coca Cola. Counsel confirmed that the contract says any vending machines in the Town recreation park would have to be Coca Cola. The Councilmember asked how many vending machines were currently in the park. Recreation Director Brogan replied, "Zero." Supervisor Fish asked how many machines were in discussion. The answer was two, by Mr. Brogan, who explained they were looking to add machines at the Legion Field because there was nothing on that side of the park. He added that softball and baseball are mentioned in the contract, but would make their own decisions based on what the Town decides to do. He also said the contract was 5 years because it reduced the price, and that there must have been vending there before because there are cages that fit the machines already in place.

Councilmember Stewart asked if other vendors were contacted for pricing. Mr. Brogan said they were not. The Councilmember said to be fair, since an RFP did not go out, he felt other vendors should have an opportunity to provide pricing. He said he agreed with having vending machines there but thought it needed to be a fair process. The Councilmember also said he thought a clause should be added to exclude tournaments and other organizations that rent the park, that the current wording limits the entire park. Counsel agreed and said there is also an unlawful confidentiality clause that needs to be struck from the agreement. Councilmember Killian opposed the proposal as well since it was for five years.

#### WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT

Supervisor Fish said there had been inquiries and they needed to approve an Out-of-District User Agreement, as has been done previously within the Town. Supervisor Fish invited the Board to discuss the agreement or information received. With no comments offered, the Supervisor asked the Town Clerk to read a resolution. She read:

"**Be it resolved** that the Town Board authorizes the use of the User Out of District User Agreement template which shall be modified to the specifics of each property subsequent to the receipt of a sewer service application and approval by the Town Water & Sewer Operator.

**Be it further resolved** that the Supervisor is authorized to sign sewer out of district user agreements pending review by the Town's attorney."

Supervisor Fish explained that any new user who wants to join Town sewer would become an out-of-district user, and be added to the last line that was added, which is extension 5, and would incur the same fees and debt as other users in that extension. Development in extensions 1-4 would pay the out-of-distance user fee for the extension they are in. Councilmember Stewart asked how they would address those between extensions 1-4 and 5, if a new user wants to pay more to go into extensions 1-4 to avoid the extension 5 debt. Supervisor Fish said it would not be possible, they would go into the extension they are building near. Councilmember Stewart asked about Bluebird Road. Supervisor Fish said one side of the street would be the old line and the other is extension 5, but then suggested everything going to extension 5 would be extension 5, but a Schermerhorn property on Sisson Road would be extension 4 because extension 5 begins just past that location. He said all of Sisson Road to Harrison Avenue is extension 4. He also said the Industrial Park is extension 1 but if they are pumped South they would be extension 5.

Councilmember Stewart said it concerned him that extension 1 properties would be pumping through extension 5. He asked if a map would be established before the out-of-district agreement is approved. There was discussion about how to word things to be clear. Supervisor Fish simplified the issue by saying if the line goes South, it's extension 5, regardless of where they connect. Councilmember Stewart questioned if an agreement hadn't been made with a Fortsville Road user to connect to extension 5 and are not paying the debt service. Supervisor Fish

said they should be, and Confidential Secretary Bennett said they are paying the debt service. The Councilmember questioned if they paid a hook-up fee and debt service. Multiple people said yes. The Supervisor said that once the Bluebird pump station is upgraded, the Industrial Park will go North.

Town Clerk Trombley read the resolution again upon request.

Councilmember Stewart said the resolution doesn't reflect any of the discussion they just concluded. Counsel said it's in the agreement that had been drafted, but added that the Town cannot allow property to discharge into extension 5 and not charge them the same fees or more. The Councilmember asked if the resolution as read covered them in the ways discussed. Attorney Bruening said the issue being raised would need to be clear within the agreement, and he said he believed it did address what the Councilmember was concerned about. He said the resolution is just to allow the Supervisor to sign agreements, and that he recommended approving the template of the agreement, rather than reviewing each application as they are received. Counsel said if the template was insufficient that he would re-work it, but if the Board prefers to approve the agreements individually, it is their prerogative.

Councilmember Stewart said he did not see the agreement in question in the materials related to the meeting agenda. He apologized for the confusion but said he was being asked to approve something he hadn't read. Confidential Secretary Bennett said an Arrowhead agreement that had been approved previously had been emailed that morning. Attorney Bruening said he did not know the agreement was not in the packet. Councilmember Stewart questioned why they are approving the out-of-district user agreement that had been used before. Attorney Bruening said the intent was to make it possible for the Supervisor to sign rather than the whole Board approving each application individually. Councilmember Killian said he was also confused. Councilmember Stewart recommended tabling the item so the agreement could be reviewed by the public and Board.

Supervisor Fish said since changing over from Badger to Master Meter, it has cost \$1,000-\$2,000 per year for tech support. He said it is necessary and without it, if you call with an issue, the company won't even answer the phone.

**Resolution 167-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian to approve \$2,000 for tech support software from Harmony Mobile Software from Master Meter.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Donohue Absent
Councilmember Killian Aye
Councilmember Noonan Aye
Councilmember Stewart Aye
Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 4:0.

As a point of discussion, Supervisor Fish said Master Meter had reached out to the prior water administration about upcoming technology changes, which he said were ignored. The changes include an upgrade to Allegra Mobile Laptop Systems, new software, and training, but the Water Superintendent wouldn't agree. The new Water Superintendent has been asked to put pay locks on some meters but he cannot because the system was not updated, and that he is sometimes not able to pick up the meter radio signal as well due to the updates. The Supervisor said the 2012 salesman who sold the system to the Town said it should cost around \$7000.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

The Town Clerk read the following resolution:

"**Be it resolved** that the Town Board accepts March monthly department head reports from the following: Assessor's Office; Building, Planning & Development Office; Dog Control Officer; Historian; Recreation Department; Highway Department; Water Department; and Transfer Station."

**Resolution 168-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian to approve the resolution as read.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Donohue Absent
Councilmember Killian Aye
Councilmember Noonan Aye
Councilmember Stewart Aye
Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 4:0.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Greg Hewlett said he recognized the document was adopted and the public hearing was closed, but that he reviewed the past comments, and that earlier in the meeting, Councilmember Stewart said they needed to raise the rates. He said there were two choices; to raise rates, or to raise EDUs. He said the number of EDUs had not been altered more than 5% at any point. He said they have argued that the math didn't make sense at each step of the process, and each time the calculation changed but not the end result; rather than establishing the EDU criteria and applying it to the units to determine the number of EDUs, he said the Board had determined the number od EDUs first and changed the math to make it work. He said the result was multi-million-dollar businesses on vast acreage with the same EDUs as a single-wide mobile home on ¼ acre lot. He called it discriminatory. He said they told the Board they were up against a timeline to raise rents, and that at the last moment they raised the cost per EDU \$100. He said they cannot recover that expense until next year, and they can't recover it completely because they are subject to rent control. He said the last line of the document says, "Just trust us." He asked if every Board member felt good about this.

Michelle DelSignore said for the second time in 90 days she has had her basement flooded. She said she had addressed the Board on this issue in December. She said she had sent emails and called but the issue was not resolved. She said an underground pipe under Meadow Drive that is backed up and not structurally sound is the cause. She said the issue was decreasing the value of her home and creating unmanageable expenses. She said she had asked for damages and repayment for expenses incurred. She asked if the Supervisor was aware of the flooding the day prior, to which he responded that he was. She said the Highway Superintendent and his team worked hard and reluctantly looked at the damage inside the house. She said hers was not the only home on the street being impacted, that something has to be done, and that she must be compensated. She said she had spoken with an attorney and was disappointed she had not heard back in response to any of her communications. Councilmember Stewart asked if she had received a letter from the Supervisor after the prior incident. She said she had not. Supervisor Fish said he had told her they would look into it.

Councilmember Stewart asked Highway Superintendent Abrams if it was not a Town-installed pipe. Mr. Abrams said they could not find records of who installed the line. Supervisor Fish said this had been under Supervisor's items but he would discuss it at that time, that gravel had been coming out of the pipe, that it needed to be dug up, a section of pipe removed, replaced, and put back together. He said the Highway Department cannot do the work with their equipment. He said it had been his intention to get an RFP for some prices to get someone over to the site to clean it out. He said the line is in the right-of-way, the Town has been maintaining it, and in discussion with BPD Coordinator Westfall, he felt it was the Town's responsibility. Highway Superintendent

Abrams said the pipe is twelve feet deep and between 18 and 22 inches wide, requiring a 15-foot deep trench. Councilmember Stewart questioned that the development was built in 1992 and the Town has no record of the pipe. Mr. Abrams said he had no record of the pipe but said it was much older than the development, originally installed from Marine Drive. Councilmember Noonan asked if the flooding was from the pipe or a high water table. Mr. Abrams said the pipe was collapsed and that his team has been trying to pump it down until it can be repaired. In response to a question from Councilmember Killian, the Highway Superintendent said with water jetting, they were only able to go about 8 feet into the pipe in question with a camera. He said with additional pumping they hoped to use the camera again to get a better view of the damage.

Councilmember Stewart said he was sorry this had happened but said he wasn't clear about whether the Town can spend taxpayer dollars on an incident like this, since the Town has insurance, and whether it is the Town's obligation. He didn't think they could just resolve to pay someone without an engineering study and so on. Supervisor Fish said he didn't think they could complete engineering until the pipe was clear. He asked what engineers could tell them that he and the Councilmember couldn't tell by looking at it themselves. The Councilmember said they could dig it up and repair it only to have another collapse farther down the line and it could cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Councilmembers Stewart and Killian agreed that having an engineer making sure the repair is being done right will prevent it from needing to be redone. Ms. DelSignore said she was wasting money. Councilmember Stewart said he understood but that he did not believe they could just make an agreement to pay her for damages, that it would be a process that went through court or insurance. She replied it would go through court. Councilmember Killian apologized that this happened.

Maureen Dennis said on March 25 she had asked for detailed EDU counts. She asked if they had been prepared or produced. She restated the numbers of EDUs for extensions 1-5 and 5, and the math spelled out in the EDU rate documents, and compared the assigned EDUs of Schermerhorn's apartments vs. the Home of the Good Shepherd, and Bluebird Terrace vs. Hexion water use. She said the rate would go down if the EDU count was correct, which is why she asked for the detailed EDU counts. She said she knew they had been overcharged. She said the rate they had been charged was not in any Board resolution and that they were entitled to a refund. She also pointed out that the Nest phase 2 was vacant land, which was not being charged, but that vacant land in extension 5 was being charged. She calculated 1,009 EDUs, which would bring the cost per EDU to \$136, which is roughly half of the rate the Board passed.

Councilmember Stewart said that he had inquired of the Supervisor and Water Clerk about the properties Ms. Dennis had talked about at past public meetings, and had been in touch with Counsel about them as well. He said he also has not received an answer. Ms. Dennis said she had posed the questions to Councilmembers Stewart and Noonan prior to the new administration as well. Councilmember Stewart said he had asked about this previously and was told it was being handled. Ms. Dennis said her FOIL requests were also not responded to. Councilmember Stewart said the engineers had been in with lists of properties and reviewed them with the Supervisor, they were trying to arrive at numbers that were fair. Ms. Dennis said she just wanted to see the math. The Councilmember said the engineers should be there to defend their numbers.

Greg Hewlett asked if they could get the engineers to attend a meeting. Councilmember Noonan said he didn't know if they had been asked. Mr. Hewlett said they had been told that the engineers had been asked but they couldn't attend because they were out of town. Supervisor Fish said they hadn't been asked to attend that meeting. Mr. Hewlett asked if they had ever been asked.

<u>Dave Rogge</u> said the Board had just thrust a bill on him that he cannot afford to pay. Councilmember Stewart protested mildly. Mr. Rogge said two months in a row the figure had been \$650, at this meeting it was \$750, and that at a previous meeting he expressed that they cannot raise rents. He asked what he was supposed to do. He said his residents were already asking how high the rents were going to go. He said he knew this Board didn't shove the sewer down his throat, that they voted to have sewer, and that was because they were told there were more EDUs coming online soon. He said he just heard if a new user comes online in extensions 1-4, they would be added there. He said he thought the northbound line was at capacity. Supervisor Fish said it is not at capacity. He asked about three large parcels with older owners who want to sell. He suggested a Board in the future could

charge a low number of EDUs, then asserts that can't happen. He said they were sold on sewer based on their cost declining as EDUs were added to the extension. Mr. Rogge said he didn't understand the justification for jumping from \$650 to \$750 this year. He said it was done on a whim.

Councilmember Stewart said he had a very structured explanation for why he offered the \$750 figure, which included the operating cost and debt service. He said the original \$650 didn't take into consideration any long-term or emergency maintenance costs. He questioned whether, as a business owner, Mr. Rogge wanted the Board to pass a rate that would not pay the expenses. Mr. Rogge said for just this year. The Councilmember asked if he wanted the Town to operate in the red this year, adding the expense to the future. Mr. Rogge said there was already a cushion built into the \$650 figure. Councilmember Stewart said it was \$30,000, and asked how many times the Town had been out pumping and had line breaks. He said they had probably already spent \$30,000 on the line. He said the Supervisor has presented these numbers after working with the engineers, and said he could not say if they were right or wrong, but that the engineers would be coming to explain the figures.

The Councilmember said all he did was add \$74,100 to protect extension 5 users against maintenance costs they know will be incurred. He said in the worst case, that money is put aside for the future of the line. He mentioned again the debt payment would grow over time based on the way the loan was structured and that in the 30<sup>th</sup> year the payment would be \$400,000. Mr. Rogge asked what kind of loan they had gotten. Councilmember Stewart said he did not get the loan but it is the loan they were trying to figure out how to pay. He said he was offended by the assertion that he had proposed the increased figure without forethought, that the figure was changed on a whim. Mr. Rogge said at one time they calculated \$450 and \$550, he said every time he turned around the figure went up. Councilmember Stewart said to pull the records because he said he never said it would not be over \$650. He said it does not make sense to bill less than it costs to operate the line. He said he knows it is a bad deal.

Mr. Rogge asked how many EDUs a new development would bring, referencing the recently approved Jacobie Parkside Farm PUD. Ms. Dennis responded with the figure 187. Mr. Rogge asked what that would do to the rate. Councilmember Stewart said he hoped it would bring it down, but the increased debt payment and actual operating expense figures that will be available by then have to be factored in to make the calculation. Supervisor Fish said that Mr. Rogge had been to his office and was told that if the density makes it possible to reduce the rates, then it's the first thing they will do. Councilmember Stewart said the system allows the Board to reevaluate every year so they can make those adjustments. Mr. Rogge said the engineers need to be at the next meeting to defend the numbers. Councilmember Killian said however the Town got to this spot, there are there now and have to start somewhere to tackle it. Supervisor Fish said he had the original figures and what the previous Board tried to do was consolidate the extensions to bring down the rates. Mr. Rogge said that in the Supervisor's office he was told the figure was between \$600 and \$650, capped at \$650 and he had accepted that. He said he understands covering costs but that the change should have been disclosed before the meeting so there would be an opportunity to explore other potential options.

Mr. Rogge also questioned whether the 30-year loan could be restructured. He said he takes out mortgages all the time and the rate never goes up. Supervisor Fish said he believed they did it that way with the NYS EFC because they believed that the payment would be too high at the beginning of the loan when it has the fewest users. The Supervisor and Mr. Rogge agreed that the idea of \$100 million of growth that was promised when the sewer was proposed was high improbable based on their decades of experience with the Town and the slow rate of growth the Town has experienced in that time. Supervisor Fish said that the growth at exit 18 has taken 50 years, as an example. Mr. Rogge said that is why he is so stressed about this; his costs are not going to go down. He said there was a \$4,000 bill in Lamplighter for repairs, and asked if the Town could recoup the cost from the installer. Supervisor Fish said there was a \$3,000 repair nearby where the 2-inch and 3-inch lines connect where alcoholic beverage containers were found in with the line. He said they were drinking when they put it together and never tightened the connection.

Councilmember Stewart apologized for venting his frustration but said he didn't think they realized how much respect they put back on the mobile home park owners as the major users on the line. They agreed the engineers

needed to come so they can review the numbers, and he said if there was an error he would be the first to apologize and correct the rates. Mr. Rogge asked the Supervisor if the engineers would be at the next meeting. Supervisor Fish said he would make a call and let him know what they say. Mr. Hewlett took up the podium when Mr. Rogge was seated and confirmed that the original map plan figures were higher, and at the time, the project was projected to be \$16 million, to which a \$5 million extension was added. He said the good news was that the numbers came in lower than projected at \$13 million, so they expected a lower payment because instead of \$21 million, the total was \$13 million.

He addressed a comment to Councilmember Stewart addressing the question of forethought, saying he had brought multiple documents to the Board to compare figures to see if they believed they were correct, and not having seen the final figures, he believed the inconsistencies he saw had not been addressed. Supervisor Fish questioned why a facility of any size should pay more if it is putting the same amount of material into the system. Mr. Hewlett said he agreed, but on that basis, each mobile home in Lamplighter Acres should be less than 1 EDU. He said the homes historically average less than 98 gallons per unit per day. He said the single EDU is based on 300 gallons per unit per day. He said well users not using a water meter have an unknown amount of discharge into the sewer. He also cited the Hillman Trucking/Casella Waste property, which according to Town documents used 4,500 gallons. Supervisor Fish said there is no water meter on that property. Mr. Hewlett said it is assigned 1 EDU. The Supervisor asked the Water Superintendent if he had ever seen a water meter at that property. Mr. Hewlett asked how they are charging that property. Ms. Dennis asked if the property has septic. Mr. Hewlett said the way extension 5 is structured, they would have to connect or pay a fee. In summary, he said the biggest group shouldering the expense are the people living in affordable housing. Councilmember Stewart said if the engineers don't back up the numbers they will adjust the EDUs.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

# **Recreation**

Councilmember Stewart said he had met with the Supervisor the previous Friday. He said BOCES had done an amazing job at the Recreation Park clearing out trees and grading the land in preparation for a new playing field and some batting cages. At that point he said there were stumps and piles of debris that pose a safety risk going into the busy spring and summer seasons. He said they had contacted three trucking companies to get pricing for hauling away the material, and got two prices. The Councilmember said what he was proposing is for one of the companies to work with a Town employee on a loader to load a truck and trailer or tri-axel and dump trailer (his preference) because the material only needed to be hauled 1/8th mile to be dumped on-site. He said he thought a lot of material could be moved in a day and it might not take a whole day to move all of the material. He also said the expense had not been budgeted but they found a way to pay for it.

**Resolution 169-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian to hire Rozell Industries to provide a tractor, dump truck, and driver for 8 hours for a sum not to exceed \$1,784 pending availability to do the work by April 16, 2025, and if the vendor cannot complete the work within the given timeline, the Supervisor is authorized to sign a contract with Charles Freidman Excavating, Inc. for a truck and dump trailer for a sum not to exceed \$235/hr. for 8 hours.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Donohue Absent
Councilmember Killian Aye
Councilmember Noonan Aye
Councilmember Stewart Aye
Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 4:0.

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Moreau was held at 7:00 p.m. on April 8, 2025 at the Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, Saratoga County, New York.

Councilmember Killian received quotes but is waiting additional figures for 90-inch screens, monitors, and so on.

# Recreation Cont.

Recreation Director Brogan gave an update on Field 3 work. He said workers were expected the three days following the meeting to complete the work.

## **SUPERVISOR'S ITEMS**

Supervisor Fish spoke about the Route 9 sewer line repair referenced earlier in the meeting, and said there was another repair underway or completed in The Pines mobile home park.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution 170-2025** A motion was made by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Killian, to adjourn the meeting.

Asked if all were in favor, the responses were as follows:

Councilmember Donohue Councilmember Killian Aye
Councilmember Noonan Aye
Councilmember Stewart Aye
Supervisor Fish Aye

The motion carried 4:0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, *Erin Trombley*Erin Trombley, Town Clerk