

# Town of Denning – Town Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Supervisor Brooks.

Held on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 at the Denning Town Hall.

Present: Supervisor Brooks

Councilmen: Paul Schoonmaker, Mike Dean, Kevin Smith and Gregory Vurckio.

Highway Superintendent Dan Van Sadlers

The Town Clerk Minute Book was signed prior to the meetings commencement.

The Town Clerk gave the Board members their copy of the agenda, as well as correspondence to the Supervisor.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading of last month's minutes by Town Clerk Joy Monforte.

Motion to adopt and approve as read by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean. All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

Correspondence – read by Supervisor Brooks

- The monthly donation from the YMCA in the amount of \$9,583.33 has been received and is gratefully acknowledged.
- A request from UCEM. Director Steven Petersen to track all storm related cost, due to the declared Ulster County State of Emergency.

Supervisor Brooks requests the Town Board and the Councilmen review the policies submitted for approval at next months meeting. He asks that any changes they would like are given to him prior to the meeting.

- The Policies are as follows: Credit Card User Policy, Social Media Use Policy and Information Technology Security Policy all are requested by New York State.

Projects Update: by Supervisor Brooks

- He informs all present of a meeting he attended last week regarding the Sundown Stream Restoration Project and the Town Hall Elevation Project.
- The Sundown Stream had a small hick up but he believes everyone is of the mind set, to put the stream, in the original location, and is hopeful it will be done next year, with permitting starting soon.
- The Town Hall Elevation Project is an issue on which he asks for any and all ideas as the building is in the flood way, which means it will flood.
- The new addition would have to be raised 2 feet, as it is at the 100-year flood mark and as an emergency center must be 2 feet over that. Further, they believe the "old schoolhouse" would not survive the process.
- Supervisor Brooks asks how everyone would feel if the "old schoolhouse" was torn down, he personally believes we should keep the historical building but it was brought up at the meeting.
- The Town Board and public is against it; it is the last schoolhouse in Denning.
- Relocation was also brought up, but Supervisor Brooks comments this is the center of Town and the Town does not own other property.
- Further, commenting, we need more space for the Code Enforcement, the Assessor and Court records, we must also consider to build up or out.
- Both of which comes with their own issues, further commenting he would still like to see the Court have their own separate space; offices, bathroom and entrance.
- Supervisor Brooks opens a general joint discussion and asks for any ideas.
- Councilman Vurckio suggests a public survey.
- Mr. Paul Hnatiw remarks that if it is historical it opens up a new avenue of funding for the restoration and preservation of the building.
- Councilman Vurckio asks if it is a designated historical landmark.
- Councilman Paul Schoonmaker inquires if anyone ever thought of moving the town hall?
- Supervisor Brooks replies we don't have any land to move it to, further commenting, at the very least we need to raise the generator.
- Paul Hnatiw suggests a berm, short discussion opened material used.
- Judge Follender talks about the effect of the court grants on the Town and he opens a brief discussion on security issues, also saying he was

unaware of the expansion talks. He informs those present of a court in Delaware County that is its own separate building and was done at no cost to taxpayers, he will check on their financing for the Supervisor.

- Supervisor Brooks opens a discussion on the Sundown Stream Project.
- Councilman Vurckio offers his hope it can be done prior to the bridge being replaced.
- Supervisor Brooks says he spoke with UCDPW engineer Andrew Emrich, who informed him some of the UCDPW bridge crew is retiring and they may not be able to do it "in house" so it may have to go to bid, which would delay because they would have to start all over.

Highway Report: by Highway Superintendent Dan Van Sadlers.

- Dealt with snow storms but no break down issues.
- He has ordered more salt and sand.
- Some brush trimming on Denning Road done.
- The old backhoe and dump truck are on the auctions site, which closes next Monday. Brief discussion follows.
- Supervisor Brooks informs all present he has spoken with Neil Carpenter of Morton Builders and delayed the new storage building until spring, probably May.
- Supervisor Brooks also informs all present of the new approved Sundown Unit Management Plan, including a new trail system, parking, moving of the roadway. Commenting further, in August, a law suit was filed against the DEC for the cutting of trees in the ROW, the DEC lost, they are appealing.
- Councilman Gregory Vurckio opens a brief discussion on the knuckle for the new backhoe asking if they are actually redesigning or retro fitting it?
- Hwy. Super. Van Sadlers replies he is unsure.

Planning Board Report - by Councilman Kevin Smith

- Surveyor Anthony Siciliano came with a lot line adjustment for Hovey and Laura Brock, giving her road frontage.
- Discussion on lighting at the U.C. Sundown Highway Barn.
- Supervisor Brooks has previously advised them to write a letter to UCDPW as the Town does have a lighting standard.
- No Kobayashi project update.
- Supervisor Brooks remarks he spoke with CEO Karl von Hassel and they, both, want to meet with the planning board and the Kobayashi project people.

Judge Follender congratulates everyone who was recently elected.

- He thanks the Board for Liaison Paul Schoonmaker marking he feels it is most helpful.
- Stating the first thing to change will be on 1-1-20 as the new bail modification reform law passed by the Legislature go into place, he states he is not in favor of them. Marijuana laws will change as well.
- Commenting further he took a six-hour class in October, the "liberalization and cancellation of bail for first offenders."
- The court will now air on siding with the defendants. DA's must show evidence right away and every defendant must have a defense attorney.
- Judge Follender then opens a discussion on the UCAT bus from Kingston, he sees groups of people standing together on route 28.
- He asks the Town Board if they are opposed to it?
- Supervisor Brooks replies no the Board is not opposed, under former UC Exec. Mike Hein it was a dead issue and no one at the County level would even discuss it. He continues to explain that he was asked by Carolyn Hargrove of Ulster County to look into what service is needed and can be utilized by the residents. He further states that after 3-months of requesting people express their interest we have had five people call.
- Judge Follender remarks even of the bus came once a month to start, it would help.
- Judge Follender then opens a discussion on his retirement credits. He informs those present he spoke with Cindy Michelson, the Bookkeeper and she is getting him forms to fill out. He states he didn't want to be a member and has tried to get out of the NYS Retirement System several times and was never able to.

- Judge Follender thanks the Board for their time, saying he has a conference call tomorrow and then court on the 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Supervisor Brooks remarks that Planner Alan Sorenson has all the needed material and is focused on it.

Supervisor Comments: See above

Supervisor Brooks calls for Councilmen Comments:

- Councilman Gregory Vurckio informs the Board he has not contacted Spectrum yet but will shortly.
- Supervisor Brooks informs the Board the new CWC/DEP building will have an additional building added for WAC.

Supervisor Brooks call for Public Comment:

- Mr. Mr. Hnatiw remarks it is now eighteen months the White House Road issue has been gong on and one month since the last meeting, he wants to know what the Town Board has come to a decision?
- Supervisor Brooks replies they have not come up with anything as of yet.
- Mr. Hnatiw suggests considering historical landmark and preservation status for the "old schoolhouse." He opens a discussion on berms.
- Councilman Vurckio replies they no longer want to discuss berms, and won't do them anymore.
- Discussion on berm material such as gabion baskets follows.
- Councilman Vurckio suggests a flood wall for consideration.
- Supervisor Brooks remarks there is a very stringent list of what they will pay for.
- Supervisor Brooks remarks the Town Hall is an emergency use building, if you can't get here, it is of no use.
- Mr. Hnatiw inquires about Town Ethics in regards to a Town employee getting into trouble.
- Supervisor Brooks states we have an Ethics Review Board and does not recall the outcome.
- Councilman Paul Schoonmaker believes it was dismissed, although he did miss a couple of court dates for appointments.

Supervisor Brooks call for any further comments or discussion. There is none.

Motion to adjourn 7:23 by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor,

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Monforte, RMC, Town Clerk, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 6 pm at the Denning Town Hall.

# Town of Denning – Town Business Meeting

Meeting held on Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Denning Town Hall.  
Called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor David Brooks.

Present: Supervisor David Brooks  
Councilmen: Mike Dean, Paul Schoonmaker, Kevin Smith and Gregory Vurckio.  
Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders.

The Town Clerk Minute Book was signed prior to the start of the meeting.

The Town Clerk gave the Board members their copy of the agenda, Budget vs. Actual thru November 2019 plus a copy of the final auction bid to the Supervisor.

## Pledge of Allegiance

Highway Pre Pay Vouchers presented by Hwy Super. Van Saders.

(see Warrant #12 Pre-Pay, voucher #37-39)

MVP Healthcare Inc. DA9060.8 \$11,275.81

Trust & Agency Account DA9030.8 \$935.95, \$792.58.

Whereupon a Motion to approve and pay Highway Pre Paid Vouchers by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker.

Motion carried 4 to 0 vote.

Highway Vouchers presented by Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders.

(see Warrant #12, voucher # 163-175)

American Rock Salt DA5142.4 \$18,901.14

Bottini A5130.4 \$4,140.97

Case Tire Service Inc. DA5130.4 \$121.32

Chemung Corp. DA5110.4 \$3,568.68

Donohue Trucking DA5142.4 \$2,494.83, \$

Fleetpride DA5130.4 \$386.49

Robert Green Auto & Truck, Inc. DA5130.4 \$445.90

Hudson River Truck & Trailer DA5130.4 \$334.02

Johnsons signs & Tees DA5110.4 \$798.05

Liberty Iron works DA5130.4 \$495.00

Shakelton Auto & Truck Center DA5130.4 \$640.69

Tractor Supply DA5130.4 \$61.94

Whereupon a Motion to approve and pay Highway Fund vouchers by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kevin Smith. Motion carried 4 to 0 vote.

Supervisor Brooks opens a discussion on the final bids submitted for the auction of both the GMC truck and the backhoe. Bid for the truck is \$10,500.00 and the backhoe is \$20,700.00.

Discusses: hours on backhoe, cost of insurance, cleaning up of highway yard, thereby creating more room, and if resubmitted for auction, if price would increase and the value of waiting.

Supervisor Brooks call for further thoughts and comments? There is none.

Motion to accept both bids for the GMC truck and the backhoe by Councilman Mike Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Greg Vurckio, All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Brooks asks Hwy. Super. Van Saders if all equipment is up and running and if he has enough salt and sand?

- Hwy. Super. Van Saders replies yes, and he has more salt and sand on order, and Mombaccus is bringing grit as the sand from Donohue has clay in it.
- Supervisor Brooks informs the Board the DASNY Grant for paving of the Highway yard has been approved for payment and the check will be cut on Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The grant will be closed following receipt of the check.
- Supervisor Brooks asks by Hwy. Super. Van Saders if the highway crew checks Dymond Road?
- Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders replies yes.
- Supervisor Brooks then asks if the plow crew can plow the snowmobile parking lot and Cross Road, as there is little room for parking.

Supervisor Brooks asks if anyone has anything further for Hwy. Super. Van Saders? There is nothing further.

Hwy. Super. Dan Van Saders leaves as his portion of the meeting has concluded.

- Supervisor Brooks opens a discussion on the previously reviewed and approved Progressive Electric contract.
- Stating he has done further research and the price with Central Hudson is lower than the contract cost, although the rate submitted was based on last years cost analysis.
- Brief discussion follows.

Whereupon a Motion to rescind approval and acceptance of the Progressive Electric Contract is made by Councilman Mike Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker and is unanimously approved. All in favor.

General Pre Pay Vouchers presented by Supervisor Brooks.

(see Warrant #12PP, voucher #88-94)

Central Hudson A1620.4 \$255.69, A5132.4 \$288.43, A8160.4 \$43.96.

Morton Buildings, Inc. A5132.2 \$44,775.00.

MVP Health Care Inc. DA9060.8 \$ 71.50, \$8,059.68.

TWC A1620.4 \$207.69.

Trust & Agency Acct. DA9030.8 \$248.81, \$679.57.

Whereupon a Motion to approve and pay General Fund Pre Pay vouchers by Councilman Mike Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker, All in favor.

General Vouchers, presented by Supervisor Brooks.

(see Warrant #12, vouchers #179-205)

Central Hudson A5182.4 \$112.16.

Claryville Post Master A1410.4 \$330.00.

Dill Safe & Locksmith A1620.4 \$365.00

Hudson Archival A1460.4 \$66.00

Carl Landon A1460.4 \$265.42

Teri Lockhart A1320.4 \$5,062.50

Cindy Mickelson A1240.4 \$39.00

Office of the State Comptroller A690 \$1,515.00

MVP A9060.8 \$71.50

Planit Main Street, Inc. A8010.4 \$540.00.

Postmaster A1620.4 \$150.00

Quill.com A1620.4 \$125.48. A1110.4 \$13.73.

Michael B. Sommer a1355.4 \$1,042.00.

Ye Ole Tri Valley Townsman A5010.4 \$21.80, A1410.4 \$93.00

Spectrum A5132.4 \$159.75

UCRRA A8160.4 \$1564.00, \$1,897.80

Discussion on late submittal of Linestar voucher, it is pulled by the Supervisor.

Whereupon a Motion to approve and pay General Fund vouchers by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Gregory Vurckio. Motion carried.

Supervisor Brooks requests a motion to permit the pre-paying of the NYS Retirement bill, saving the Town a few thousand dollars.

Whereupon a Motion to approve of and pre-pay the NYS Retirement bill for is made by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Mike Dean. Motion carried.

Supervisor Comment:

- Supervisor Brooks gives a review of the current budget standing.
- Supervisor Brooks remarks, as he has previously informed the Board, the new highway storage building has been rescheduled for May, however, he has applied for a partial payment from the DASNY Grant for the down payment.
- Further speaking of DASNY grant he is starting the generator/furnace grant for the highway barn. He will begin looking at the OGS website for accepted bids. He comments he will need specs drawn for the HV/AC unit.
- Supervisor Brooks informs the Town Board of a written complaint regarding the parking of equipment and vehicles on Yeagerville Road. The Town Board reviews both the written complaint and the photos attached.
- Discussion follows, includes the Special Permit for running the saw mill and a mountain of slab wood, taking up much of his property.
- The Code Enforcement Officer is directed to inspect and perform his duties.

Councilman Comments:

- Councilman Vurckio opens a discussion on the users of the credit card.
- Joint discussion follows.
- The Town Board decides to leave it, as is.
- General joint discussion on other policies to be approved next year.

Supervisor Brooks reports to the Town Board of the error and amendment to the minutes as needed, from November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019. An omission was made by the Town Clerk; she did not include minutes from the 2020 Town of Denning Budget Public Hearing, which are below.

- The Town of Denning 2020 Budget Public Hearing is opened by Supervisor Brooks. Supervisor Brooks does a line by line review, explaining increases, including double digit health, salary increases of 2%, including the revenue side of the budget. The Town has remained under the 2% Tax Cap.
- Supervisor Brooks calls for any comments or questions regarding the 2020 Budget? There is none. Motion to adjourn the 2020 Budget Public Hearing by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean. All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

Supervisor Brooks call for any further comments or discussion. There is none.

Motion to adjourn tonight's meeting at 7:18 by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Mike Dean. All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 roll call vote.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Monforte, RMC, Town Clerk, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Next Town Board meeting: Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6 pm at the Denning Town Hall. The Organizational Meeting to be held on Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 at 10 am.