

Town of Denning – Town Board and Business Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor Brooks.

Held on Tuesday, October 13th, 2020 at the Denning Town Hall.

Present: Supervisor Brooks

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

Also present: Hwy. Super. Van Saders

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

The Town Clerk gave the Board members their copy of the agenda, Resolutions No. 50 thru 52 of 2020, the Budget vs. Actual for September 2020, the CFD 2021 Draft Budget, along with correspondence.

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Brooks asks if everyone has reviewed the minutes, All have, he calls for any questions or amendments, there are none. Supervisor Brooks requests a Motion to accept and approve of last months' minutes.

Motion by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Kevin Smith. All in favor.

Correspondence – read by Supervisor Brooks.

- Notice from NYSDEC, saying the plastic bag ban will go in effect and be enforced as of October 19th, 2020.
- A letter from the NYSDEC to CEO von Hassel notifying him of the fuel tank anchor requirement, in the flood plain. Supervisor Brooks remarks the CWC has a program for that.
- Sexual Harassment and Discrimination changes to the policy and complaint form, as discussed previously. Supervisor Brooks asks if all have reviewed? The Board has.

Whereupon, a Motion is made by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean to adopt and approve of the amended policy and form. Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean AYE Councilman Paul Schoonmaker AYE

Councilman Kevin Smith AYE Councilman Gregory Vurckio AYE

Supervisor David Brooks AYE Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

- A letter to the owner of an opened trash bag is approved by the the Town Board. It had been deposited in the Recycling container, it had burst open, was then reviewed, with mail found.
- Supervisor Brooks, request's Board approval to use as the form letter.

Whereupon, a Motion is made by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker to adopt and approve of the letter as a form. Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean AYE Councilman Paul Schoonmaker AYE

Councilman Kevin Smith AYE Councilman Gregory Vurckio AYE

Supervisor David Brooks AYE Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

- An email is from resident Paul Hnatiw is read by Supervisor Brooks regarding the parking of a truck on the road by Mr. Van Wagner and his use of the snow plow turn around.
- Discussion is opened by Supervisor Brooks who remarks he has called and spoken with Mr. Van Wagner, who has told him, the truck is there while he is having vehicles removed form the property.
- Mr. Hnatiw replies, he moves stuff around and has moved vehicles onto Balace Road and to Mark Mitideri `s property. He, further states he has asked him not to use the snow plow turn around on his property but he continues to do so.
- Saying if he has to to, he will drop a tree across it.
- Supervisor Brooks remarks; we would have to cut that up.
- Mr. Hnatiw replies, he has no problem with the Town turning around in his driveway.
- Supervisor Brooks will call Mr. van Wagner, again.

Highway Report by Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders.

- Shoulder and berm repaired on New Road Hill.
- Chip sealing done on Denning and Red Hill Roads.
- Truck repairs and maintenance report recited.
- Discussion on the outside mechanic, currently used, is opened, suggestions made, including savings on towing and service calls by using Robert Orr.
- Discussion on several doors repaired by Dutchess Overhead Doors.

- New furnace being installed, should be completed tomorrow, some duct work to finish.
- Discussion opened on generator, size, will be natural gas, and the tank will be bought, as the Town purchases propane from the Ulster County bid.
- The Town Board reviews both estimates, after discussion the Town authorizes the higher bid of twenty-six thousand for the 35 kw generator with annunciators.
- The generator will be elevated on cement block, even though the area is not in the flood plain for safety and will have its own 500-gallon tank.

Whereupon, a Motion is requested by Supervisor Brooks for the approval to purchase the highway barn generator and fuel tank upon which he commences a Roll Call Vote:
 Councilman Mike Dean AYE Councilman Paul Schoonmaker AYE
 Councilman Kevin Smith AYE Councilman Gregory Vurckio AYE
 Supervisor David Brooks AYE Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Planning Board: Report by Liaison, Councilman Kevin Smith

- At the meeting the Russian Mule Brewery Permit was renewed and the Site Plan reviewed.
- The Logging Permit for Peekamoose Properties may need to be extended due to Covid.
- The Planning Board has asked him to inquire about a secretary, but he is aware that is not a budgetary feasibility.
- Supervisor Brooks, replies may be next year, the funds can be put back in the budget.

All of the vouchers have been audited and signed by the Councilmen, as presented by Supervisor Brooks and/or Hwy. Super. Van Sadars.

Highway Pre Pay Vouchers presented by Hwy. Super. Van Sadars.
 (see Warrant #9 Pre-Pay, voucher #32-35)
 MVP Healthcare, Inc. DA9060.8 \$11,275.81
 Trust & Agency Acct. A9030.8 \$783.87, \$783.85,726.22.

Highway Vouchers presented by Hwy. Super. Van Sadars.
 (see Warrant #9, voucher #109-122)
 Bottini Fuel Corp. DA5110.4 \$1,356.17.
 Callanan Industries DA5110.4 \$9,400.33.
 Campbell Supply Co. DA5130.4 \$140.69.
 Case Tire Service, Inc. DA5130.4 \$1,738.32.
 Fleetpride DA5130.4 \$197.32.
 Health Care Reimbursement Acct. DA9060.8 \$2,500.00.
 Home Depot Credit DA5130.4 \$217.03
 H. O. Penn DA5130.4 \$281.71.
 Hudson River Truck & Trailer DA5130.4 \$1,879.83.
 Kimball Midwest DA5130.4 \$276.62.
 Liberty Trading Post DA5130.4 \$61.96.
 Mombaccus Excavating DA5110.4 \$391.13.
 Superior Building Supply DA5130.4 \$128.77.
 E. Tetz & sons DA5112.2 \$19,749.76.

General Pre Pay Vouchers presented by Supervisor Brooks.
 (see Warrant #9PP, voucher (#70-78)
 Central Hudson A1620.4 \$143.60, A5132.4 \$259.51, A8160.4 \$37.63.
 MVP Health Care DA9060.8 \$8,059.68, \$71.50.
 Time Warner Cable A1620.4 \$210.88, A5132.4 \$160.49.
 Trust & Agency Acct. A9030.8 \$260.00, \$761.16, \$307.43, \$260.00.

General Vouchers, presented by Supervisor Brooks.
 (see Warrant #9, vouchers (139-146)
 Central Hudson A5182.4 \$126.09.
 Health Care Reimbursement Acct. A9060.8 \$2,500.00.
 Grahamsville First Aid A4540.4 \$2,405.75.
 MVP A9060.8 \$71.50.
 Office of the State Comptroller A690 \$5,760.00.
 Postmaster A1110.4 \$64.00.
 Time Warner Cable A5132.4 \$160.61.
 UCRRA A8160.4 \$3,377.84.
 Dutchess Overhead Doors A 8160.4 \$3,185.00

Capital Vouchers, Sewage Disposal, presented by Supervisor Brooks.
(see Warrant #C9, voucher) –None-

Resolution No. 50 of 2020

WHEREAS New York State General Municipal Law Sections 103 and 104-4 permit the pre-audit function of vouchers, as a form of internal controls in the checking of claims and supporting documentation. And

WHEREAS the Sections 118 and 119 of New York State Municipal Law also authorize the auditing authority to approve of Said vouchers. AND

WHEREAS the Office of the New York State Comptroller Division of Local Governments and Accountability: Budgets and Finances also approves of this method.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Denning Town Board **HEREBY** approves of and authorizes payment of the following Warrants:

Highway Fund Warrant No. 10 Prep Pay Vouchers #32-35.

Highway Fund Warrant No. 10 Vouchers #109-122.

General Fund Pre- Pay Warrant No. 10 Vouchers #70-78.

General fund Warrant No. 10 Vouchers #139-146.

Capital Sewage Disposal Vouchers Warrant No. 10 None

Whereupon, the Resolution was put to a vote, and recorded as follows:

Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Kevin Smith,
2nd by Councilman Gregory Vurckio. Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean AYE Councilman Paul Schoonmaker AYE

Councilman Kevin Smith AYE Councilman Gregory Vurckio AYE

Supervisor David Brooks AYE Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution No. 51 of 2020

WHEREAS on June 30th, 2020, \$3,148,268.75 was received from the Community Wastewater Management Program for the Hamlet of Claryville per an Agreement with the Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC) signed in 2015.

WHEREAS, the funds are to be set up into a Community Wastewater Management Capital Project.

WHEREAS Resolution No. 44 of 2020 appropriated \$148,268.75 to cover voucher payments.

NOW THEREFOE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Denning Town Board **HEREBY** authorizes the Supervisor to increase estimated revenue H510, and H2189 Other Home & Community Services Income, and Appropriations H8130.2 Sewage Treatment Disposal Capital Outlay with the balance of \$3,000,000.00.

Whereupon, the Resolution was put to a vote, and recorded as follows:

Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Mike Dean,
2nd by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker. Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean AYE Councilman Paul Schoonmaker AYE

Councilman Kevin Smith AYE Councilman Gregory Vurckio AYE

Supervisor David Brooks AYE Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution No. 52 of 2020

WHEREAS, the Town of Denning Town Board desires to be fiscally responsible.
And

WHEREAS New York State Town Law §4-1 places the responsibility of general management and control of finances of the Town on the Town Board. And

WHEREAS the Coronavirus has created significant stress on the Town of Denning budget, through an increase in expense, in addition to a loss of revenue; from a loss of sales and mortgage taxes, permits, fines and fees, as well as, the donation from the Frost Valley YMCA, plus a substantial decrease and loss of New York State aid. A depletion in revenue sources has resulted. And

WHEREAS the Town of Denning Town Board has no desire to shift the burden onto the taxpayers of the Town of Denning. And

FURTHER, New York State Town Law §4-2 pertains to the responsibility of the Supervisor, provides that the office of Town Supervisor acts as CEO, CFO of a Town and §29 authorizes the Supervisor to be the budget officer.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Denning Town Board **HEREBY** adopts and approves of a "Spending Moratorium".

THEREBY making all spending needing mandatory prior approval from the Town of Denning Supervisor, in order for payment to be made.

Whereupon, the Resolution was put to a vote, and recorded as follows:

Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Kevin Smith,

2nd by Councilman Gregory Vurckio. Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean AYE Councilman Paul Schoonmaker AYE

Councilman Kevin Smith AYE Councilman Gregory Vurckio AYE

Supervisor David Brooks AYE Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Judge Follender has not arrived, as per his request to be placed on the agenda.

Supervisor Comments:

- Supervisor Brooks informs the Town Board, of the video chat with the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers, Chazen, DEC and himself regarding the Sundown Stream Project, the project will go to bid this winter.
- Supervisor Brooks informs the Board he has discussions with UCDPW regarding the weight limit of the Sundown Bridge, funds had been allocated however, many of the UC bridge crew members have retired, so it will need to go to bid. The County will shore up the bridge.
- Supervisor Brooks opens a discussion on the permits for the Blue Hole going to seven days a week, he is trying to get rid of food but does not believe it will work as it would be the only State park not allowing it.
- He further, states that next year a towing policy and towing arrangements will be in place.
- Brief discussion on effectiveness and plowing over the winter with the jersey barriers and linear posts which are installed on Peekamoose Road.
- Supervisor Brooks comments that NYSDEC wanted the road snow-blown, however, as that is a County job, it is their decision, 3200 linear posts have been installed.
- The NYSDEC has been working on putting a parking lot on Denning Road, and clearing the trail to the Red Hill Fire Tower, the neighbor is concerned with trespassers, he has been told to post his property.
- Supervisor Brooks has spoken with the DEC representative and had told him to speak with the neighbors before implementing their plan and they did not.
- Supervisor Brooks opens a brief discussion on the lighting of the fire tower and its 100 anniversary, there was a lot of participation.

Supervisor Brooks calls for Councilman Comments:

- Councilman Vurckio; the CWT meeting was cancelled.
- Supervisor Brooks remarks CWC programs are on hold due to lack of funding
- Councilman Paul Schoonmaker and Supervisor Brooks have a brief discussion on Councilman Schoonmaker attending court, Supervisor Brooks says he should not with the majority of the cases coming from NYC, which is a hot spot.
- Councilman Mike Dean inquires if the parking lot on Dinch Road for the Tower will be closed, now?
- Supervisor Brooks responds no, the new lot is to ease traffic on Red Hill, further commenting the new lot will be a harder hike.
- Brief discussion follows on the out of state professional trail crew brought in the the NYSDEC.

Supervisor Brooks calls for Public Comments:

- Resident Paul Hnatiw states it has been 28 months since the start of the issue on his road. He says he appreciates the Supervisor going up and talking to him.
- Mr. Hnatiw opens a discussion on the traffic on Peekamoose Road, saying traffic to the Blue Hole has never been this way, the same amount of traffic during the week as there is on holiday weekends and they fly down the road.
- Discussion on the Rangers, lack of U.C. Sheriff Dept. enforcement, which had been requested multiple times and co-operation.
- Supervisor Brooks remarks he has called the U.C. Sheriffs although they did not respond, when the Ranger called for back up.

Supervisor Brooks requests a Motion to enter into the 2021 Budget Workshop at 6:41 pm.

Whereupon, the Motion was moved by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean, to enter into the 2021 Budget Workshop and close the regular Town Board/Business meeting, All in favor. Motion carried.

Town of Denning – 2021 Budget Workshop

Called to order at 6:42 p.m. by Supervisor David Brooks.

Held on Tuesday, October 13th, 2020 at the Denning Town Hall.

Present: Supervisor Brooks

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

Also present: Hwy. Super. Van Sadlers

Supervisor Brooks commences a line by line budget review.

- He states the Town has a \$120,00.00 short fall before he began work on the budget due to Covid 19. He further, states the loss of NYS aid by 20% and CHIPS lost 20%, is an issue, since it was 2% of the Town budget, the Town with the decrease the percentage will drop and the Town could loose all of the AIMS funding next year.
- All employees will receive a 1% increase except for the Judge and the Town Clerk, they will get a five-hundred-dollar raise.
- All Councilman and himself did not get a raise.
- He removed the funds for a new laptop from his equipment line and took the \$500 from the Town Clerks .4 contractual line, she does not go over her budget.
- Refuse and Garbage has been increased, garbage is costing the Town \$50,00.00 plus a year.
- Medical increase of \$50,000.00 each for the General and Highway Budget line.
- Supervisor Brooks remarks it is unsustainable and something will have to be done next year.
- Revenue side of the budget has seen a decrease in sales tax. He further comments he is thankful the proposed sales tax agreement was voted down, it had been a plan to divvy sales tax up by population, he made is thoughts known to Legislator John Parete who voted no.
- Donations are at \$35,000.00, he spoke with YMCA Director Huncosky, who said he hoped to open for summer camp, next year.
- The Highway budget is lowered since CHIPS has been decreased by 20%.
- Mowing will be done in house by department employees.
- Reduced the equipment line to \$5,000.00.
- Medical insurance increase is \$50,000.00.
- Supervisor Brooks reminds all, the contract for the Sundown Fire Protection District expires next year and he is confident there will be an increase.
- Discussion opened on the CCSWD budget.
- Councilman Mike Dean remarks there should be a salary for you, suppose there is a flood, the amount of work will be incredible and you are not taking one now, doing the work and you should.
- Supervisor Brooks asks what Councilman Dean feels is an appropriate number?
- Discussion follows.
- The Board will appropriate \$5,000.00 to personal services .1.

Supervisor Brooks seeks comments from Hwy. Super. Van Sadlers and the Town Board.

- Hwy. Super. Van Sadlers replies the snow line remained the same, he will work around the rest.
- Supervisor Brooks remarks you are under budget for this year and asks Councilman Mike Dean to be Liaison to the the Highway Department for any questions or to talk things out.

- Supervisor Brooks states we are currently over the Tax Cap by \$7,600.00 or 2.9%. He proposes an annual transfer station permit fee of \$25.00.
- Joint discussion follows, as a result, the Town will now be under the Tax Cap.
- A notice will be put in with the tax bills, check or money order ONLY, NO CASH, as it is not an approved method by the NYS Comptroller. All permits to be purchased thru the Town Clerk's Office. Everyone who wants to use the facility must pay.
- It is thought that this may also catch some non residents using the facility.
- Discussion on the separate C&D charge, that will remain, as the Town is charged for the items.

Whereupon, a Motion is requested by Supervisor Brooks for the approval and adoption of an annual Transfer Station use fee. Whereupon he commences a Roll Call Vote:
 Councilman Mike Dean AYE Councilman Paul Schoonmaker AYE
 Councilman Kevin Smith AYE Councilman Gregory Vurckio AYE
 Supervisor David Brooks AYE Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Supervisor Brooks call for further Councilman comments, on the Tentative 2021 Budget?

- Councilman Dean comments it is a well thought out and put together budget.
- Supervisor Brooks thanks him and reminds everyone that next year's health insurance has to be a topic for discussion.

Motion to adjourn the the Workshop and at 7:40 and return to the regularly scheduled Board meeting by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Brooks call for any further comments, topics or questions? There is none.

Motion to adjourn the regular Town Board / Business Meeting at 7:41 by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Monforte, RMC, Town Clerk, October 15th, 2020

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 10th, 2020 at 6 pm at the Denning Town Hall.
 The Preliminary 2020 Budget Public Hearing prior to the meeting.

