

TOWN OF DENNING TOWN BOARD BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Held on Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 at the Denning Town Hall.

Present: Supervisor David Brooks, Councilman Gregory Vurckio, Councilman Mike Dean, Councilman Kevin Smith, Councilman Scott Mickelson and Highway Superintendent Leonard Johnson.

No Public Present

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm by Supervisor David Brooks. The only order of Business at this meeting is the Audit of Highway, General and Sewer District Vouchers for the month of October 2026.

October 2026 Highway Vouchers presented to the Board by Highway Superintendent Leonard Johnson.

September 2026 General and Sewer District Vouchers presented to the Board by Supervisor David Brooks.

Review and discussion of all Vouchers.

Resolution No. 53 of 2026 - Approval and Payment of Highway, General and Sewer District Vouchers will be voted on at the Regular Meeting of the Town Board this date at 6:00 pm.

Supervisor Brooks requests a Motion to adjourn the Business Meeting. Councilman Scott Mickelson motions to adjourn the Business Meeting at 1:35 pm, seconded by Councilman Gregory Vurckio. All in Favor. Meeting Adjourned.

TOWN OF DENNING

TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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

Held on Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 at the Denning Town Hall.

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

Present: Supervisor David Brooks, Deputy Supervisor Gregory Vurckio
Councilmen: Kevin Smith, Scott Mickelson, Mike Dean
Highway Superintendent Leonard Johnson
Public Present: None

Pledge of Allegiance

The Town Clerk provided all Board members with a copy of the Agenda and Resolutions No. 53 and 54, and the Budget vs. Actual through September 2026. The Board members were also provided with a copy of the Tentative 2027 Budget.

The Town Clerk Minute Book was signed prior to the meeting commencement. Motion to adopt last months' minutes as presented by Town Clerk Nancy Parrow made by Councilman Mike Dean, and seconded by Councilman Gregory Vurckio.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Mike Dean AYE

Councilman Kevin Smith AYE

Deputy Supervisor Gregory Vurckio AYE

Councilman Scott Mickelson AYE

Supervisor David Brooks AYE

Motion carried.

Supervisor Brooks welcomes Michael Garigliano representing the Grahamsville Fire Department to discuss the Sundown Protection District Budget increase for the new contract period beginning 2027. Mr. Garigliano explains the percentage of increase in calls for Sundown in the past five years and the fact that the Grahamsville Fire Department has gone over the tax cap for the past 3 years. Supervisor Brooks confirms that the Town has also exceeded the tax cap for the past 3 years as well.

Discussion follows. Mr. Garigiano states that the requested Sundown Protection District contract between the Town of Denning and the Grahamsville Fire Department for the year 2027 is proposed at \$18,750.00. Mr. Garigiano states that a one-year contract will suffice and will be revisited during next year's budget preparation. Discussion follows and Supervisor Brooks requests any further comments from the Councilmen. There are none. Supervisor Brooks and all Councilmen agree to the new one-year contract amount. Town Clerk Nancy Parrow will prepare the proposed contract and email it to Mr. Garigiano for review and signature as soon as possible. The Board thanks him for his presence at the meeting tonight.

Correspondence – by Supervisor David Brooks:

- Check received from NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance for AIM in the amount of \$91,858.00.
- Check received from the Frost Valley YMCA for the October 2026 donation in the amount of \$8,300.00. The Town Board members express their thanks to CEO Riel Peerbooms and the Frost Valley Board of Trustees for their continued support.
- Check received from Ulster County for Sales Tax Excess of Budgeted Revenues January to December 2025 in the amount of \$18,732.82.
- Letter received from the Ulster County Board of Elections outlining Polling site access/voting system setup. Councilman Kevin Smith will be available on November 3rd at 5:15 am to greet Inspectors and open the polling site in Claryville and close up after voting is completed at 9:00 pm. John Barnum will do the same at the Sundown Church Hall polling site.
- Letter received from the Coalition of Watershed Towns regarding the outcome of the 2026 election of CWT Executive Committee. Gregory Vurckio was elected as a Regular Member for Ulster County.
- Dennis Deyo submitted his bill of \$9,700.00 for the deck repairs at Town Hall. Supervisor Brooks requests Board approval to pay Mr. Deyo as a pre-pay for the November audit of bills. All Board members agree.
- Supervisor Brooks presents a proposed letter from the Town of Denning Town Board regarding Verizon's proposed retirement of POTS (Plain Old Telephone Service) in Denning. The letter outlines the Board's position that the landline phone service in Denning cannot be retired until all residents have alternative phone service that is established and works in every day and emergency situations including power outages. The Councilmen are in agreement and all sign the letter. Supervisor Brooks thanks Jenny Lee for her tireless attention to these very important communication issues in the Town of Denning.
- Survey for Verizon's POTS (Plain Old Telephone Service) information for Denning provided by Jenny Lee for inclusion in the Resident News portion of the Town of Denning website as well as paper surveys available at Town Hall for review and pickup. Surveys must be completed and submitted by the deadline of Monday, October 19, 2026.

Highway Report - Highway Superintendent Leonard Johnson reports:

- Brush and mowing: roadside brush cut back on Sugarloaf, Peekamoose and Red Hill Knolls Roads. Overhanging Limbs trimmed to improve sightlines and reduce storm debris. Other roadside mowing completed where vegetation was encroaching on shoulders and drainage paths. Other brush cleared around culverts and ditch lines to maintain water flow ahead of winter.
- Winter preparation: Culverts inspected and cleaned on Sugarloaf, Peekamoose, and Red Hill Knolls to prevent freeze-ups. Ditches opened and shaped to reduce ice buildup and shoulder erosion. Winter equipment inspected: plow blades, chains, hydraulics, lights, and cutting edges. Salt/sand mix staged and storage areas checked and prepared. Remaining hazard trees identified for removal before snow season. Planning to blow out ditches after all leaves are off the trees.
- Superintendent Johnson presents 3 quotes for regular cab trucks to the Board for a Chevy, Dodge Ram and Ford. The Ford would be available in 4 to 6 weeks and the Chevy and Ram wouldn't be available until next year. General specification information for all vehicles: color – red, remote start, undercoat package with bedliner sprayed, and truck wired for existing

Denning equipment. No quotes for extended warranty were requested at this time. Truck will replace Deputy Superintendent Totten’s truck. Discussion follows.

- Superintendent Johnson reports bridge damage at Tison’s current logging operation. He reports that he spoke directly to Klein logging and notified the owner that he will place cones at the bridge for driver awareness and that repairs will need to be made by the logging company at the conclusion of the logging operation.
- Supervisor Brooks reports to Highway Superintendent Johnson that the Denning fleet vehicle parked at the Town Hall should be used for Highway errand running to keep the battery charged and the car in use.

Planning Board Report - by Liaison, Councilman Kevin Smith:

- Councilman Smith reports that surveyor Tony Siciliano was present representing John Hamilton for a proposed lot line adjustment. The matter was put forward to the October meeting after it was determined that the maps presented got “cut off” in the printer and were not complete.
- Continued discussion on the Hutter lot line adjustment regarding the recent approved subdivision.
- Councilman Mike Dean asks if the Klein Logging Notification for work at Tison’s on Denning Road was ever presented at the Planning Board meeting. Councilman Smith will request information at tomorrow night’s meeting.

Highway Pre-Pay Vouchers presented by Hwy. Super. Johnson.
(See Warrant #10 Pre-Pay, Voucher Nos. 30 - 32)

MVP Health Care, Inc.	10PP-30	DA90608 · Health Ins.	-14,704.34
Trust & Agency Acct - FICA	10PP-31	DA90308 · Social Security/Medicare	-749.17
Trust & Agency Acct - FICA	10PP-32	DA90308 · Social Security/Medicare	-574.64
		Grand Total:	-16,028.15

Highway Vouchers presented by Hwy. Super. Johnson.
(See Warrant #10, Vouchers Nos. 92 - 106)

Advance Auto Parts	92	DA51304 · Machinery Contr	-198.00
Bottini Fuel Corporation	93	DA51104 · Maint Of Streets - Contr	-4,935.26
Tyler Brooks	94	DA51104 · Maint Of Streets - Contr	-200.00
Chemung Supply Corp-1	95	DA51104 · Maint Of Streets - Contr	-1,535.09
Chemung Supply Corp-2	96	DA51104 · Maint Of Streets - Contr	-2,303.20
	97	DA51104 · Maint Of Streets - Contr	-249.00
		Chemung Supply Corp. – 2 Total:	-2,552.20
Hoffman Equipment	98	DA51304 · Machinery Contr	-181.64
Liberty Trading Post	99	DA51304 · Machinery Contr	-11.96
Monticello Black Top Corp.	100	DA51122 · Perm Improv-HW Equip,Cap Outlay	-103,320.27
	101	DA51104 · Maint Of Streets - Contr	-1,005.35
		Monticello Black Top Corp. Total:	-104,325.62
Morlyn Asphalt Corp.	102	DA51122 · Perm Improv-HW Equip,Cap Outlay	-6,352.53
Neversink Tire and Auto LLC	103	DA51304 · Machinery Contr	-263.25
	104	DA51304 · Machinery Contr	-1,843.52
		Neversink Tire and Auto LLC Total:	-2,106.77
NY Labor Law Poster Service	105	DA51104 · Maint Of Streets - Contr	-99.50
Town of Neversink	106	DA51104 · Maint Of Streets - Contr	-2,963.54
		Grand Total:	(125,462.11)

General Pre-Pay Vouchers presented by Supervisor Brooks.
(See Warrant #10 Pre-Pay, Vouchers Nos. 79 - 91)

Central Hudson	10PP-79	A5182.4 · Street Lighting - Contractual	-201.67
Central Hudson	10PP-80	A8160.4 · Refuse & Garbage-Contractual	-35.01
Central Hudson-3	10PP-81	A1620.4 · Buildings-Contractual	-269.83
	10PP-82	A5132.4 · Highway Garage-Contractual	-445.93

Councilman Kevin Smith AYE
Supervisor David Brooks AYE

Deputy Supervisor Gregory Vurckio AYE

Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution No. 54 2026

WHEREAS the Town of Denning Town Board wishes to record its deep sorrow over the passing of Clayton Morgan Brooks; and

WHEREAS Mr. Clayton Morgan Brooks served his community throughout his 26 years of public service in the Town of Denning beginning on the property tax assessment review board and ultimately serving as Town Supervisor from 1992 to 2000; and

WHEREAS Mr. Clayton Morgan Brooks worked tirelessly to protect watershed communities, helping to bring about the historic Memorandum of Agreement between New York City and the upstate watershed communities. He was also one of the founders of the Coalition of Watershed Towns and the Catskill Watershed Corporation. These organizations continue to represent and support watershed communities; and

WHEREAS the Town of Denning Town Board is grateful for the many contributions made by Mr. Clayton Morgan Brooks as an outstanding citizen of the Town of Denning.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Denning Town Board **HEREBY ORDERS RESOLUTION NO. 54 OF 2026** to be entered into the official record of the Town, and that a certified copy of this Resolution is to be sent to Mr. Clayton Morgan Brooks' family in recognition of his faithful service to the Town of Denning.

WHEREUPON the Resolution was put to a vote, and recorded as follows: Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Kevin Smith and seconded by Councilman Mike Dean.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean AYE
Councilman Kevin Smith AYE
Supervisor David Brooks

Councilman Scott Mickelson AYE
Deputy Supervisor Gregory Vurckio AYE

Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Supervisor Comments – Supervisor David Brooks

Supervisor Brooks requests a motion to schedule the 2027 Preliminary Budget Public Hearing for Wednesday, November 10, 2026 at 6:00 pm prior to the regularly scheduled Town Board meeting. Motion made by Councilman Scott Mickelson and Seconded by Councilman Mike Dean. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

- Supervisor Brooks received notification that the Sundown Methodist Church has been slated for closure. A timeframe is not available at this time. The church has been in existence since 1856. Discussion follows regarding the Church Hall polling place situation. Voting for this November's election is fine but future elections are in jeopardy. Further discussion revolves around a possible emergency shelter / polling place / community center for Sundown.
- Supervisor Brooks wants to add "no drone usage" by renters to rules and regulations for the Short-Term Rental updates to the zoning law. Discussion follows. Supervisor Brooks reports that in discussing drone usage with NYS DEC that it is illegal to launch a drone on Forest Preserve property.

Supervisor Brooks calls for Councilmen Comments:

- Deputy Supervisor Vurckio reports that he has no comments on the CWT at this time as there was no meeting last month.
- Councilman Scott Mickelson reports that a domestic abuse case was before the Court October 7th. An order of protection with a full stay away was issued. There have been issues at the residence and police were involved since that time. No arrest was made. This matter is back in Court on October 21st.
- Councilman Mike Dean reports that he observed the largest crowd he has ever seen at the Fire Tower parking area on Denning Road. 19 cars parked on road but only one side. No other visible issues.

- Councilman Kevin Smith asks Supervisor Brooks the status of the STR amendments to the Zoning Law. Final adjustments being made and Public Hearing will be announced soon. Discussion follows.

Supervisor Brooks notes that there is no Public present for comments.

Supervisor Brooks requests a Motion to adjourn the Town Board meeting and open the 2027 Budget Workshop. Motion is made at 7:25 pm by Councilman Scott Mickelson and seconded by Councilman Mike Dean. All In Favor.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean AYE

Councilman Scott Mickelson AYE

Councilman Kevin Smith AYE

Deputy Supervisor Gregory Vurckio AYE

Supervisor David Brooks AYE

Motion carried.

Supervisor Brooks opens the 2027 Budget Workshop at 7:26 pm to review the Tentative 2027 Budget with the Councilman. Line by line review. Key points:

- The overall tax dollar increase to be raised in 2027 is \$ 42,886.00 which is 3.51% which is over the 2% tax cap. Of that total \$35,223.00 (a big piece of that cost was for Health Ins.) is the increase in Gen Fund which is 2.88%. \$7,663.00 is the increase in Hwy Fund which is .63% (a little over 1/2 of a %).
- Health Insurance increase
- Retirement significant increase
- Insurance increase
- Sundown Fire Protection District with Grahamsville Fire Dept. increase.
- Claryville Fire Department Budget increase.
- Raises on the General side were across the board except for the Code Enforcement Officer position as that is a new appointment from June 2026, the Councilman salaries remain the same as 2026 and Dog Control budget line also remains the same.
- Raises on the Highway side were \$1.00 / hour.
Councilmen discussion follows.

Supervisor Brooks requests confirmation from the Town Board to change the Tentative 2027 Budget to the Preliminary 2027 Budget. The Board is All In Favor with None Opposed. The 2027 Budget Public Hearing is scheduled for 6:00 pm on Tuesday, November 10, 2026 before the regularly scheduled Town Board meeting.

Supervisor Brooks calls for any further Councilmen comments or discussion. There are none.

There is no Public present for comments.

Motion to adjourn the 2027 Budget Workshop at 8:00 pm by Councilman Gregory Vurckio and seconded by Councilman Scott Mickelson. All in favor. Workshop Adjourned.

Motion to enter Executive Session at 8:01 pm to discuss Highway Personnel matters made by Councilman Kevin Smith and seconded by Councilman Mike Dean.

No decisions were reached during Executive Session.

Motion to end Executive Session and Adjourn meeting at 8:25 pm made by Councilman Gregory Vurckio and seconded by Councilman Scott Mickelson. All in Favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Parrow, Town Clerk, October 19th, 2026.

Next Town Board Business Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10th 2026 at 1:00 at the Denning Town Hall, Claryville, NY, and the next Town Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10th, 2026 following the 2027 PRELIMINARY BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING starting at 6:00 pm at the Denning Town Hall, Claryville, NY