

Town of DeKalb Board Meeting

At a regular meeting of the Town Board, of the Town of DeKalb, St. Lawrence County, New York, held on the 16th day of August, 2017, at the Town Hall in DeKalb Junction NY, there were present:

John Frary	Supervisor	Harold Lowery	Councilman
Michael Livingston	Councilman	Rae Ann Davis	Councilwoman
Jody Hamilton	Highway Superintendent	Ed Newcombe	Councilman
Bill Chambers	Code Enforcement Officer	Barbara Creazzo	Town Clerk
Charles Nash	Attorney		

Public Forum: Members of the community present:

Rachel Hunter, Tribune Press	John Stransky, Hermon Rescue Squad
Mark Deaver, Gouverneur Rescue Squad	Larry Denesha, SLC Legislator

Supervisor Frary opened the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Harold Lowery, moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Town Board, held on the 19th day of July, 2017, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be and hereby approved. Seconded by Michael Livingston, and adopted unanimously.

Michael Livingston, moved that the minutes of the special meeting of the Town Board, held on August 7th, 2017, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be and hereby approved. Seconded by Ed Newcombe.

ACTIONS

July's meeting

1. Continue to address recommendations suggested by NYMIR. Have sign for Playground made and installed. **On-going**
2. Develop Prior Notice Documentation books (2). **Completed 07/24/2017**
3. Establish a road sign inventory.
4. Continue to explore opportunities for Shared Services. **On-going**
5. Sign Third Party Custody Agreement for Community Bank, N.A. **Completed 07/20/2017**
6. Continue to improve means of green energy for the Town of De Kalb. **On-going**
7. Post with Watertown Daily Times meeting time for first Budget meeting. **Completed 07/01/2017**
8. Post with Watertown Daily Times meeting time for first Negotiation meeting for Highway Department contract. **Completed 07/01/2017**

Public Forum:

-John Stransky, from the Hermon Volunteer Rescue Squad, presented the squad's budget for 2018. Mr. Stransky asked the Board to consider increasing the contractual amount the Town pays to the Rescue Squad to \$15,000; this is an increase of \$5,000. Mr. Stransky explained the low reimbursement rate from Medicare and Medicaid, along with non-payment of service provided, from individuals, the squad is currently in the red. The Board thanked Mr. Stransky for presenting his budget and request in a timely manner. The Board will take his request into consideration, as they continue to develop the 2018 budget.

-Mark Deaver, from the Gouverneur Volunteer Rescue Squad, informed the Board, he has not completed his budget, but should by the end of the week. Mr. Deaver presented the board with similar information about reimbursements. He did add that due to unforeseen expenses, low reimbursements, and non-payment, many of the squad's budget lines have been exhausted for the 2017 year. The Board looks forward to seeing Gouverneur's budget request, and will take any increase request into consideration, as they continue to work on the new budget.

-Larry Denesha, SLC Legislator, reported the following:

-The SLC Worker's Compensation Algorithm has been voted on and passed. It is now based on incidents of risk, and not on assessment of property.

-The Legislators did not pass the Wireless Communication Device surcharge. Only landlines will continue to be charged the surcharge for the fiscal support of 911.

-Another grant in the amount of \$500,000 along, with an additional \$75,000 for the continuing clean-up of the old J&L site in the town of Clifton has been promised. To date, 1.2 million has been committed to the clean-up.

-The Municipal Safety Compliance Audits are continuing.

-Delinquent properties that are up for sale. The legislators have been in contact with a company that will provide the auction to be on-line, while the auction is in progress at the Richard Lockwood Civic Arena in Ogdensburg. If the County contracts with the company, they believe they can increase the total sales by 30%. This is due to the fact the amount of buyers would increase, due to encompassing a much larger area of interested buyers. Those wishing to bid on-line, would pay a 10% buyer's premium. The on-line service would be no cost to the County. All properties are guaranteed to be photographed. Interested buyers would register on-line and bid on-line. This is an option that may be available for next year's property sale.

-The Town of Fine, will be hosting a History Day at their old Town Hall, located on Route 58. The date of the event is Saturday, August 19th.

Financials:

A motion was made by Ed Newcombe and seconded by John Frary, to accept the Justice Clerk Audit as presented. Carried 4 Ayes

A motion was made by Harold Lowery and seconded by Michael Livingston, to accept the Town Clerk Audit as presented. Carried 4 Ayes

Town Clerk's Report: Barbara Creazzo

-A total of \$643.15 was collected for the month of July, and of that amount, the Town received \$442.87. The breakdown is as follows: DEC received \$157.78 for licenses sold and the Town, received \$9.22 in commission. Ag & Market received \$20 for NYS Animal Population Program from licenses sold or renewed. The Town received \$66.50. Building Permits brought in \$315.55 for the Town. One marriage license was issued; therefore, the NYSDOH received \$22.50 and the Town received \$17.50. One certified marriage certificated was issued for \$10. No certified births were issued for the month of July. Two certified deaths were issued at \$10 each. Small sales totaled \$3.10 for copies and \$1 for a fax. The Town received these revenues.

-Water and sewer collections is in the middle of a paying cycle; therefore, the Water District collected \$891.76 and the Sewer District collected \$722.37.

-Deputy Clerk, Wanda Law worked a total of six hours for the month of July.

-The Clerk request the opportunity to attend a Regional Education Seminar in September. The seminar will focus on NYS Racing and Wagering. The cost of the seminar is \$35 and the hotel room is \$84.00. Members of the Board are in favor of the Clerk attending said seminar.

-The Clerk will also be attending, "Local Government Day", in Potsdam in October. The cost of this training is \$40 and registration has been paid.

Rae Ann Davis arrived for the Board Meeting.

2017 monthly and year to date financials:

-Supervisor Frary, distributed the Town of De Kalb Profit & Loss Budget for members of the Board to review. Supervisor Frary pointed out the areas that have exceeded this year' budget. They are as follows: Building – contractual, Unallocated Insurance, Unclassified, Refuse & Garbage-Recycling, Unemployment Insurance, Health Insurance, and Administration – contractual for the Sewer District. Most of these were anticipated, but not until the budget had been approved.

A motion was made by Ed Newcombe, and seconded by Harold Lowery, to approve the budget amendment, to amend the General Fund budget to reflect an increase in Estimated Expenditures due to under budgeted accounts and invoices paid. Appropriation A1620.40 to be increased by \$4,000; A1910.40 to be increased by \$700; and A8160.41 needs to be increased by \$3,000.

Carried, as all members voted in favor of the above amendment.

A motion was made by Harold Lowery, and seconded by Michael Livingston, to approve the budget amendment, to amend the Sewer Fund budget to reflect an increase in Estimated Expenditures due to under budgeted accounts and invoices paid. Appropriations SS810.40 to be increased by \$500.

Carried, as all members voted in favor of the above amendment.

A motion was made by Rae Ann Davis and seconded by Harold Lowery, to approve the budget amendment, to amend the Highway Town-wide Fund to reflect an increase in Estimated Expenditures due to the termination and new employee cost and the under budget for Unemployment Insurance. Appropriations DA960.80 to be increased by \$4,500 and Account DB9060.80 to be increased by \$4,500; and DA9050.80 to be increased by \$300.

Carried, as all members voted in favor of the above amendment.

Members of the Board, also reviewed and signed the July financial income/expense document.

Lighting up-grades: Supervisor Frary, received and shared with the Board, the outcome of the recent electric lighting audit that was completed for the Town Hall and for the Town Garage.

For the Town Hall; Project cost \$795.10
 Grid Incentive \$471.74
 Lump Sum with 5% discount \$307.19
 Labor Reimbursement \$147.00
 Total all in cost for the Town Hall is \$160.19

Town Garage: Project cost \$3,698.97
 Grid Incentive \$1,638.42
 Lump Sum with 5% discount \$1,957.52
 Labor Reimbursement \$338.00
 Total all in cost for Town Garage is \$1,619.52

Members of the Board, agree this is a good deal and the Town should move forward with the up-grade.

John Stransky and Mark Deaver, returned to the meeting, as they had stepped outside after their discussion concerning the rescue squads. They asked the Board, if it would be a possibility for the Town to form an Emergency Service District, much like the current Fire District that encompasses the De Kalb Junction Vol. Fire Dept. and the Richville Vol. Fire Dept. If this were to occur, then emergency services could become a budget, separate of the Town's budget. There would be a taxable line on St. Lawrence County and Town Taxes, just as there is for fire protection now. Supervisor Frary, responded that it was something to consider and the Board would look into the feasibility and legality of such an arrangement. Both John and Mark, would like to know when the next budget meeting is scheduled and asked if they could be notified.

Supervisor Frary has sent Nick Eels, the Town's Account, the preliminary budget that was put together at the Budget meeting held August 7th. Once Mr. Eels has given his suggestions, another Budget meeting will be set.

DANC Report:

Water Facility Report:

-A total of 659,280 gallons of water were metered in the month of July, with an average daily flow of 21,267 gallons. A total of 7 gallons of sodium hypochlorite were used in the treatment of water produced. Daily visual inspections of the water plant were conducted and graphs of all daily flows are included in the report. One random sample was collected and submitted to Converse Laboratories and it received a satisfactory report. There were no chargeable events performed for this billing period.

Wastewater Facility Report:

-A total of 1,430,000 gallons of wastewater were treated in the month of July, with an average daily flow of 46,129 gallons. There were no SPDES permit violations for the month. Graphs of daily flows are included in the report. Daily operations tests and visual inspections of the Plant and the Family Dollar Lift Station were completed. Weekly and monthly inspections and maintenance were completed. There were no chargeable events performed during this billing period.

Assessors Report: None

Code Enforcement Report: William Chambers

-A total of 14 permits were issued for the month of July. Total project cost of the 14 permits is \$153,438.26 and the collectible fee amount is \$1,007.35. Year to date, 47 permits have been issued with a project cost of \$610,451.26 and fees collected \$3,162.35. The permits issued for July include: 1 mobile home, 1 single family home, 1 camp, 2 re-roofings, 1 deck, 1 new foundation, 1 garage, 1 accessory building, 2 pole barns, 1 milk house, 1 new service (residential), and 1 accessory structure (ramp).

Highway Report: Jody Hamilton

General Update and Road Work

- Have worked 6 days with other townships for shared services.
- During the 7/24/17 rain storm, the Town received between 6 and 7 inches of rain. Due to the torrential rains, there were 6 major washouts of roads. All roads were open at the end of the next day by the close of work. The Highway Superintendent is working with FEMA, to determine the damage assessment caused by the storm. At this time, it is estimated to be a cost of \$31,000 for supplies and manpower.
- Have continued to haul sand for this winter.
- First round of mowing has been completed, as the gearbox has been replaced. Second round has begun.
- Have needed to grade most dirt roads again due to the severe rain.
- Four culverts have been replaced.
- The ramp at the Town Hall, has been replaced and support work for the Town Hall continues.
- Have cut shoulders and brush on the Stevens Road in preparation for paving.
- Will be constructing a school bus turn-a-round, installing a culvert, and building up the end of the Kelly Road that is off of the Childs Road. A school age child is now living in a home on this portion of the road, and the Town must make it accessible for a school bus. Work will need to be completed before the school year begins.
- Weather permitting, paving will be finished on Monday and Tuesday of next week.

Labor contract is due, waiting to hear from Brian Hammond to set date for meeting.

Parking lot paving-3 quotes have been received for paving the parking lot next to the gazebo. American Paving's quote was the best of the three.

A motion was made by Rae Ann Davis and seconded by Harold Lowery to pave the Town's portion of the parking lot near the gazebo, at a cost of \$16,330. Carried 5 Ayes

The Town has received notice from NYS DOT, requesting a resolution, by the Town Board, that approves the construction of highway improvement for sections of the Fenlong Road and County Route 19. This resolution will allow for maintenance of either highway as deemed necessary. Blueprint plans have been submitted for review.

A motion was made by Harold Lowery, and seconded by Ed Newcombe, for Resolution #10, which will allow the State of New York Department of Transportation, to make changes to portions of the Fenlong Road and County Route 19, as deemed necessary while work is being completed on the overpass of US Highway 11. Carried 5 Ayes

Communication:

-Shared service update, the next meeting is scheduled for August 24th. Areas that are being looked at are fuel oil and consolidation of courts. Mr. Denesha addressed the Board by stating the County has been leasing vehicles for the past few years and are finding it to be cost saving. The Board may want to explore this as a possibility in the future.

-ANCA-Clean Energy Community-EV charging station, Supervisor Frary, has received a quote from David Hughes, representative from EV Connect, for the installation of a charging station to be located in the Town of De Kalb. Grant money for such will be coming to an end at the close of this year. De Kalb wants to have available a charging station, especially when most of the cost will be covered via grant money. The location for the charging station has not been determined, but most likely will be at the Town Hall.

The quote is as follows:

	Unit	Unit Discount	Adjusted Price	Extended Price
1 EV Box Dual Unit	\$3,995	\$300		\$3,695
1 Box Accessories	\$1,200	\$600	\$600	\$600
1 Network 4 yr.	\$5,560	\$1,390	\$4,170	\$4,170
2 NYSERTA Rebate	\$4,000		\$4,000	\$8,000
			One Time Total	\$465
1 Extended Warranty	\$800	\$400	\$400	\$400
			Optional Total	\$400
			Grand Total	\$865

A motion was made by Rae Ann Davis and seconded by Ed Newcombe to apply for the EV Connect grant based on the quote provided. Carried 4 Ayes 1 Opposed

Supervisor Frary has spoken with Howard Putney and Sheila Gardner, regarding items the Court might include in a grant request. One item is a new copier that is more up to date, and have received a quote from Advanced Business System, for leasing and purchasing a new copier. Another possibility for the Court would be some type of security system, as there is nothing in place at this time. The Board is asked to think of anything they might include in the request. The Board will need to pass a resolution next month, allowing Ms. Gardner to apply for the grant.

A motion was made by Rae Ann Davis, and seconded by Harold Lowery, to approve payment of the bills as entered on Abstract # 8-2017. Carried 5 Ayes

A motion was made by Rae Ann Davis, and seconded by Michael Livingston, to adjourn. Carried 5 Ayes

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM

Respectfully submitted by
Barbara A. Creazzo
Town Clerk

Actions

1. Move forward with the lighting upgrade for the Town Hall and Town Garage. **Completed 08/23/2017**
2. Explore possibility of developing an Emergency Service District.
3. Set next budget meeting.
4. Set contract negotiation meeting.
5. Have parking lot paved. **Completed 09/08/2017**
6. Sign resolution #10 and mail to NYS DOT regarding road work on the Fenlong Road and County 19. **Completed 08/22/2017**
7. Move forward with Charging Station. **Completed 08/22/2017**
8. Continue to explore grant possibilities for Court.