

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 18th day of October, 2017, at the Town Hall, DeKalb Junction NY, there were present:

John Frary	Supervisor	Harold Lowery	Councilman
Michael Livingston	Councilman	Barbara Creazzo	Town Clerk
Jody Hamilton	Highway Superintendent	Charles Nash	Attorney

Public Hearing

Supervisor Frary, opened the meeting at 6:45 PM. John Stransky, representing the Hermon Volunteer Rescue Squad, was present for this Hearing. He was here to inquire about the amount the Town of De Kalb has allocated in the 2018 Budget, for his department. The Rescue Squad will be receiving 3% upon passing of the budget.

There were no further questions or discussion; therefore, Supervisor Frary, closed the Public Hearing at 7:00 PM.

Supervisor Frary, opened the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Members of the community in attendance: Larry Denesha, St. Lawrence County Legislator. Mr Stransky, did not attend the regular Board Meeting.

Actions from previous meeting

1. Provide Sheila Gardner with the completed resolution for the Justice Grant. **Completed 10/02/14**
2. Submit response to NYMIR. Completed **09/28/17**
3. Continue to implement NYMIR recommendations as indicated in response.

Harold Lowery, moved that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Town Board, held on the 20th day of September 2017, as submitted by the Town Clerk be and hereby are approved. Seconded by Michael Livingston, and was adopted unanimously.

Michael Livingston, moved that the minutes of the Budget Review Meeting, held on October 5th, 2017, be approved as submitted by the Town Clerk. Harold Lowery, seconded the motion, and was adopted unanimously.

Open Forum: Larry Denesha

-The Russell Bridge, had been scheduled for replacement in 2019; however, due to the recent Red Flagging by the State, funding has been allocated for 2018. Therefore, construction will begin in the spring. The bridge is posted for a 10 ton limit.

-The bridge for County Route 20 should be opening in early November. The pouring of cement has been scheduled.

-SLC's fiscal stress level, has been upgraded from severally stressed to stressed. By doing so, it has placed the County in a better position when borrowing. The County can now borrow at a lower interest rate.

Mr. Denesha shared with the Board, the Tentative Budget for 2018. Some of the highlights include, Goals & Objectives: Did not utilize any of the 2018 tax cap (allowable \$1.6M), projecting to meet the 2017 goal to return \$1.1M to the Fund Balance, Meet the goal to provide 1% of Appropriations to the Fund Balance Annually -.75% included in the Tentative Budget. Other positive points is the property tax amount collected for 2018 has a slight decrease, and the Health Insurance for the coming year is expected to go from \$23.5M for 2017 to \$21.5M for 2018, which is a 2 million decrease.

-Report for the third quarter sales tax is up and has a 1.34% increase from last year at this time. All three quarters thus far for the year, have been more than projected and shows a 4.55% improvement from last year. If the fourth quarter for 2017 is the same as it was for 2016, the County, will have exceeded the budget by \$1,546,279 in sales tax collection.

-Amendment # 3 on the ballot for November 7th election, is one that is a benefit to affected communities and it is at no cost. The Amendment is to authorize the use of forest preserve land

for specified purposes. This means, the proposed amendment will create a land account with up to 250 acres of forest preserve land eligible for use by towns, villages, and counties that have no viable alternative to using forest preserve land to address specific public health and safety concerns; as a substitute for the land removed from the forest preserve, another 250 acres of land, will be added to the forest preserve, subject to legislative approval. The proposed amendment will also allow bicycle trails and certain public utility lines to be located within the width of specified highways that cross the forest preserve while minimizing removal of trees and vegetation. This amendment will also allow for road reconstruction to occur when a small portion of preserve land is needed for the construction. As it is now, this cannot occur.

Financials:

A motion was made by John Frary, and seconded by Harold Lowery, to accept the Justice Clerk Audit as presented. Carried 3 Ayes

The Town Clerk audit was not done this month, as the auditors were not available to do so.

Town Clerk Report:

-\$3,411.90 was collected for the month of September and the breakdown is as follows: DEC licensing, \$163.49 for the Town and \$2,800.51 collected for DEC. Dog licensing, \$74.50 for the Town and \$22.0 for NYS Ag & Markets. The Town received \$256.00 for building permits. One marriage license was issued, \$17.50 for the Town and \$22.50 for NYS Dept. of Health. There were no certified marriage or birth certificates issued. One certified death certificate was requested, which netted the Town \$10.00. There were two genealogies requested for a total of \$44.00. There were no foil request that warranted a fee. A sum of \$1.40 cents was received for copies requested.. Therefore, the Town received a total of \$566.89 for their coffers.

-Water & Sewer Collections, for the month of September, the Water District collected \$9,068.98 and the Sewer District Collected \$11,612.06. To date, Water District has collected a total of \$35,797.66 and the Sewer Districted has collected \$40,445.51. Tentative re-levy for 2018 is \$11,969.00 for Water and \$11,225.21 for Sewer. Both are down a few hundred dollars from last year.

-Wanda Law, Deputy Clerk, worked 25 hours for the month of September.

The Rabies Vaccination Clinic that was held October 2, 2017 at the Town Garage, was very successful. There were a total of 139 pets vaccinated, 54 cats and 85 dogs.

The year to date financial report was distributed to the Board members for review. There were no questions or concerns noted.

September's financials report was also distributed. After reviewing, Board members signed the report.

Lighting upgrade has been completed at the Town Hall.

Supervisor asked for a motion for passing the 2018 Budget as presented. Harold Lowery, motioned for the passing of the 2018 Budget as presented. Michael Livingston seconded the motion. Carried 3 Ayes

Water/Sewer Report: DANC

-Water, a total of 573,500 gallons of water were metered in the month of September, with an average daily flow of 19,117 gallons. A total of 8 gallons of sodium hypochlorite were used in the treatment of the water produced. Completed daily visual inspections of the water plant. Graphs of the daily flows are included in this report. Collected and submitted to Converse Laboratories one random distribution sample for bacteriological testing with a satisfactory result. There were no chargeable events for this month.

-Sewer, a total of 748,000 gallons of wastewater were treated in the month of September, with an average daily flow of 24,933 gallons, graphs are included in the report. There were 0 SPDES permit violations. Daily operations tests and visual inspections for the plant and Family Dollar lift station were completed. Weekly and monthly inspections were also conducted. Collected required quarterly samples for CBOD, TSS, and TKN. The following operation and maintenance events were performed in addition to the regular contract services: pulled pump from Family Dollar, tore it down to determine malfunction was beyond repair, installed new E-One grinder pump and panel at the Family Dollar.

Repair of sewer line under Second Street, was completed by the Highway Department. The need for this repair was noted earlier in the year and was slated to be completed before winter.

Assessor's Report: Robert Ball

- Between July 1st 2016 and June 30th 2017, there was a total of 77 Property Transfers. Of those sales, 27 are arms-length sales that will be used in the determination of the Equalization rate. It is anticipated we will remain at 100%.
- Exemption renewals will be mailed out on the second of January.

Code Enforcement Report: No report this month.

Highway Report: Jody Hamilton

- Completed seasonal end of the De Kalb-Kelly Rd. to be used as a school bus turn-around. One culvert was installed, several loads of gravel, as well as, one load of cobble stone, was hauled in for fill, for a total cost of \$ 5,798.00.
- Cut shoulders on 1.5 miles of the Child's Rd. and for a portion of the Colton Rd.
- Finished drawing sand (Mackin – 201 loads & Cullen – 165 loads). All total for sand hauled for the season is 366 loads at \$4.50 per yard – 4,392 yards for a total of \$19,764.
- Drew sand for Gouverneur for 3 days as part of shared services. Day 1, one truck was used, day 2, two trucks used, and day 3, one truck was used.
- Truck #8 has gone to Whiteboro Springs for walking beams.
- Truck # 2 remains at Stadium.
- Stocked 10 loads of crusher run and 22 loads of gravel for use in the months to come.
- Replaced sewer line running under Second St.
- Summer help has been laid off as of 10/12/2017.
- Received copy of Resolution # 297-201 authorizing the NYS DOT to alter CR 19 and pave intersection roads in the town of De Kalb.

Harold Lowery, made a motion to accept the contract as presented between TEAMSTERS LOCAL 687 and the Town of De Kalb Highway Department, which becomes effective 01/01/2018 and expires on 12/31/2020. Michael Livingston, seconded the motion.

Carried 3 Ayes

Communications:

- Received Dog Control Officer Inspection Report which was conducted on 09/27/2017. The report is rated as Satisfactory. However, the report also included remarks concerning unavailability of the Officer and/or requiring assistance on multiple occasions.
- Received notice from NYS Dept. of Financial Services pertaining to Vacant and Abandoned Properties.
- The President of the Association of Towns, will be attending a meeting in Canton, on November 28, 2017. Anyone interested in attending his meeting are invited to do so.
- Received a copy from NYS Dept. of Labor Division of Safety and Health Industry Inspection Bureau Explosives Magazine Certificate for Graham's Gun Shop. This certificate expires 09/30/2018.

John Frary, made the motion for the Town Clerk to submit to SLC Real Property, all unpaid water and sewer bills, as of November 1, 2017, so said bills may be re-levied onto the 2018 Town & County Tax Bills. Michael Livingston seconded the motion. Carried 3 Ayes

A motion was made by Harold Lowery, and seconded by Michael Livingston, to approve payment of the bills as entered on Abstract # 10-2017. Carried 3 Ayes

A motion was made by Harold Lowery, and seconded by John Frary to adjourn. Carried 3 Ayes

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted by
Barbara A. Creazzo
Town Clerk

ACTIONS

1. Mail signed copy of contract for the Highway Dept. to Brian Hammond. **Completed 10/20/2017**