

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 19th day of September 2024, at the Town Hall in DeKalb Junction NY, there were present:

Jordan Deleel	Supervisor	Michael Livingston	Council Member
Constance Elen	Council Member	Ed Newcombe	Council Member
Andrew Fenton	Council Member	Kelly Davis	Town Clerk
Wayne Holland	Highway Superintendent	Bill Chambers	Building & Codes

Absent: Charles Nash

Members of the community present: Brian Thompson, Town Historian

Supervisor Deleel opened the regular meeting at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Deleel, followed by a moment of silent prayer and/or reflection.

Constance Elen moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town Board, held on August 21st, 2024, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be hereby approved. Seconded by Andrew Fenton and adopted unanimously.

Public Forum: None

Supervisor Deleel:

- Pavilion Update:

On September 21st, 2024, a community event was held, "Construction In The Junction", from 4:00 to 5:30 pm. There was free entertainment, a bounce house for the kids, food from local establishments, and business expo several businesses from the town. A band performed at the DeKalb Hotel from 6-9 pm. The Town paid any expenses this year as the inaugural event but hopes to get donations for next year. Supervisor Deleel hopes to build on it for next year and make it bigger with more in attendance.

- Ditch Clean Out:

An informational meeting was held on September 18th, 2024, at the Town Hall with residents directly affected by the proposed ditch clean out. Several questions and concerns were raised. Supervisor Deleel will consult with the town's lawyer and get clarification on what options there are and whose responsibility it is to keep the ditch clean.

- Rt 11 Speed Limit:

DOT has replaced the person we were dealing with. Waiting to hear from the new person to get more info.

- **DANC Report:**
Waiting on the water tower inspection. The sewer plant had an air leak that will be fixed by next week.
- **Sewer:**
Supervisor Deleel had an interview with WWNV-TV. Construction will start in the fall inside the plant with the rest of the work beginning in the spring.
- **Water:**
Our current water/sewer billing program will become obsolete as of December 31, 2024. A new program is needed. G Works, our current programmer, has an 'upgraded' program from the one we are currently using available for \$1900. This fee covers installation and any upfront costs through 2025. There is then a yearly maintenance fee afterwards. There will be inhouse training for the new program beginning in December.
- Replacing the existing water meters is still on hold. Looking to find some sort of grant but they are few and far between.
- C2AE will have our lead survey completed by October 16, 2024. We have been billed \$4500 with the rest due upon filing.

Financials:

Town Clerk Audit: Motion by Constance Elen, seconded by Michael Livingston, to accept the Town Clerk Audits for the Clerk account covering the month of August. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Andrew Fenton yes, Jordan Deleel yes.

Justice Report: Ed Newcombe made the motion, seconded by Andrew Fenton, to accept the Justice report for August 2024. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Andrew Fenton yes, Jordan Deleel yes

Clerk Report: Kelly Davis reports:

- A total of \$909.00 was collected for the month of August with the town retaining \$142.08.
- A total of \$1,073.41 was paid in water/sewer bills for the month.

Michael Livingston made the motion to accept the Town Clerk Monthly Report, seconded by Constance Elen. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Andrew Fenton yes, Jordan Deleel yes.

Highway Report: Wayne Holland reports:

- Blacktopping has been completed. Covered approximately 3.5 miles of roads. Blacktop cost \$352,988 and county bills totaled \$22,133 so far. There is approximately \$37,780

left in CHIPS money. All stone pile is gone, and we need to purchase culverts. Still finishing up with the shared services.

- There have been two responses to ad for a part-time employee, neither with good references. Another person has said they would be available on a per-dem basis if the town needed help plowing. Rate of pay is \$23/hour with CDL. Discussion held.

Motion made by Constance Elen, seconded by Supervisor Deleel, to hire Tim Green to help plow per diem this winter at \$23/hour. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Andrew Fenton yes, Jordan Deleel yes.

- Still do not have a contract revision to sign off on changing to the clothing allowance verses supplying uniforms.
- We were awarded a Bridge NY grant for 1.43 million for the replacement of the Limekiln bridge.
- The new pick up truck for the highway has been received from the dealership.
-

Dog Control:

- Discussion and review of budget for dog control. Supervisor Deleel reminded the board that Mr. Moyer had already asked for a one-time fee to help defray state mandated upgrades to the kennel facility, which the town has paid. Other towns had shared that he was asking for money again, but it is unclear as to whether the towns being asked had paid anything to him yet for the upgrades.

Code Enforcement: Bill Chambers reports:

- The new program is up and running.
-

Assessor Report: None

Historian Report: Bryan Thompson reports:

- Jazz concert is planned for September 20th with a garage sale before to raise funds to purchase a new furnace.
- September 27th, 2024 Cemetery walk at the Old De Kalb & Pioneer cemeteries at 2:00 pm
- Federal government is not supplying any funds towards the 250 Year Celebration. It is now supposed to come from the state.
- There are two minutemen buried in the town cemeteries, Issac Stacy and Asa Sprague. Mr. Thompson would like to have some sort of celebration in the spring to honor these soldiers. Board members thought it was a good idea to bring attention to this fact.

Security cameras: Supervisor Deleel let the Board know that security cameras are going to cost \$550 not \$500.

Anrew Fenton made the motion, seconded by Michael Livingston, to change the amount to spend on security cameras to \$550 from \$500. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Andrew Fenton yes, Jordan Deleel yes.

Door Locks at Town Hall: The door locks need to be changed as there is no way to ascertain the location or in whose possession all the keys for the current locks are in. Barkley's locks has not responded after three phone calls so Supervisor Deleel called All Northern Locks who gave a quote of \$625 to replace the three door locks and give us twenty four keys. They are scheduled to come next week.

Ed Newcombe made the motion, seconded by Andrew Fenton, to approve the changing of door locks with All Northern Locks for \$625. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Andrew Fenton yes, Jordan Deleel yes.

Phone system: Service from TDS has not been good for several months. The current system is overcomplicated, and way more than we need. It is very expensive. Supervisor Deleel is looking at another system. Not sure if we can keep our same numbers but believes we can. He needs to check on internet options available. From the quote received from Advanced Business Systems, it looks like we can save significantly over the year.

Motion made by Andrew Fenton, seconded by Constance Elen, to change phone systems to Advance Business Systems if we can keep our same numbers and the cost savings are there. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Andrew Fenton yes, Jordan Deleel yes.

Copier: The current copier is getting out dated and parts can no longer be found for it. Advanced Business Systems Has a lease verses but outright option so it wouldn't impact he budget quite as badly with a \$70 per month difference in costs. The current copier is one that is technically the courts as it was bought via a grant. The Clerk's office cannot go without a functioning copier. An order will take about one month for a new copier to be delivered as they custom build it.

Motion made by Constance Elen, seconded by Andrew Fenton, to approve the ordering of a new copier from Advanced Business Systems at the price quoted on the flyer provided. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Andrew Fenton yes, Jordan Deleel yes.

Preliminary Budget: Supervisor Deleel and Nick Eels have been working on the 2025 budget and have one more meeting scheduled to finalize numbers. The Budget committee will be meeting to discuss this 'final' version which will then be available at a public hearing.

Communications:

250 Year Celebration: No report

After reviewing all bills presented, and signing all bills over \$500.00, a motion made by Andrew Fenton and seconded by Constance Elen to approve the payment of the bills as entered in abstract #9-2024. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Andrew Fenton yes, Jordan Deleel yes.

A motion was made by Michael Livingston, seconded by Ed Newcombe, to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Andrew Fenton yes, Jordan Deleel yes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kelly Davis, Town Clerk