

Town of De Kalb Board Meeting

At a regular meeting of the Town Board, of the Town of DeKalb, St. Lawrence County, New York, held on the 18st day of August 2021, at the Town Hall in DeKalb Junction NY, there were present:

John Frary	Supervisor	Michael Livingston	Board Member
Ed Newcombe	Board Member	Connie Elen	Board Member
Wayne Holland	Highway Superintendent	Andrew Fenton	Board Member
Bill Chambers	Building & Codes	Barbara Creazzo	Town Clerk/Collector
Charles Nash	Attorney		

Members of the community present: Sue Denesha, Larry Denesha

Members of the community attending via ZOOM: There was no one in attendance.

Supervisor Frary opened the meeting at 7:03 PM

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

Andrew Fenton moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting, of the Town Board, held on July 21, 2021, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be and hereby approved. Seconded by Ed Newcombe and adopted unanimously.

Actions

1. Continue to follow-up with Jake-brake inquiry. On-going.
2. Submit Town of Dekalb Resolution #5 to the necessary parties. **Completed 7/27/21.**
3. Begin dialogue to establish a fund balance for upcoming water improvements.
4. Supervisor Frary to submit SEQR Lead Request to DEC. **Completed 7/27/21.**

Public Forum:

Sue and Larry Denesha are having their parking lot resealed, and they obtained two quotes. They also obtained two quotes for the Town's parking lot and Mrs. Denesha presented these to the Board. The quotes include line striping for parking, as well as, for the resealing. The Board will discuss this topic later in the meeting.

Supervisor Frary informed the Board, the various DOT, and Town Association responses regarding his inquiries regarding the use of Jake-brakes and current laws/regulations. He reported that the Jake-brake is considered a significant safety feature of the vehicle and due to this, there is no law or regulation restricting the use of it.

Larry Denesha: SLC Legislator

-COVID rates are increasing as the County had been listed with a moderate infection rate but is now listed as high. As of 8/13/16, there are 120 reported cases with 9 in the hospital. Of the 9 individuals in the hospital, all are unvaccinated. All cases are driven by the Delta Variant.

-If an employer/business has more than 6 unvaccinated employees, the County Public Health will do a vaccination clinic at the work site.

-Fifty percent of the county has been vaccinated. For those 17 years and older, 70% has been vaccinated.

-The recently completed US Census report shows the population has declined in St. Lawrence County.

-The Sheriff's department will be offering a gun safety course. Anyone interested must be registered prior to the class. The cost is \$30, and people can preregister at the County Clerk's Office.

-The VA Clinic in Massena will be moving to Potsdam. The contract for the current provider has been awarded to another provider and they plan to locate in Potsdam.

-The Lazy River Bridge has been selected for major refurbishing which will begin next year.

-For 2020, there was 65.4 million in unpaid taxes, and of this amount, the County should have received 37.1 million. When there is this type of shortfall, it makes it very difficult for the County to add to its reserve, as the County makes each municipality whole.

Financials:

Ed Newcombe made the motion to accept the Court Clerk Audit as presented, seconded by Andrew Fenton. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes

Constance Elen made the motion to accept the Town Clerk Audit for the clerk account, seconded by Michael Livingston. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes

Supervisor Frary informed the Board that notice has been received from NYS Department of Labor regarding the Town's Unemployment Insurance Account.

He also distributed copies of the January through August Budget Finance Report. The members are once again asked to review at their leisure and notify him if they have any questions. Supervisor Frary did explain why DB and the Sewer District accounts show as they do.

COVID funds have been received.

Clerk Report: Barbara A. Creazzo

The amount collected for July was \$1295.70 with a total of \$1213.33 retained by the town. The breakdown is as follows: NY DEC \$62.37, town \$3.63 for fishing licenses sold, NYS Ag and Markets, \$20 for animal Population Program and the town retained \$66.50 for dog licenses, \$1094 collected by the town for building permit fees, the town also received \$10 for a Certified Birth Certificate, \$10 for a Certified Marriage Certificate, \$22 for a genealogical search, and \$7.20 for copies made.

Water & Sewer Collections: water collected \$1984.11, and sewer collected \$2214.15.

Deputy Clerk, Wanda Law worked 5 hours during the month of July.

Water & Sewer Reports:

DANC- Water, a total of 693,00 gallons of water were metered during the month of July, with an average daily flow of 22,355 gallons. A total of 6 gallons of sodium hypochlorite were used in the treatment of the water produced. Daily flow graphs are included in the full report. All daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and/or maintenances were completed as required. One random distribution sample for bacteriological testing was completed and it received a satisfactory report.

Sewer, a total of 1,357,000 gallons of wastewater were treated in the month of July, with an average daily flow of 43,774 gallons. Daily flow graphs are included in the full report. All daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and/or maintenances were completed as required. There were no SPDES permit violations for the month. RCB rotation in reverse continues for 1 hour each day.

Supervisor Frary informed the members of the board, that Hermon has begun the initial planning process for upgrading their water system.

Highway Report: Wayne Holland 07/21/21 to 08/18/21

-Shared services with Morristown, Oswegatchie, Russell, and Canton for blacktopping.

-Completed De Kalb's blacktopping as follows:

- 0.6 miles on the Colton Road
- 2.1 miles on the Ritchie Road
- 0.7 miles on the Boland Road
- 1.2 miles on the Maple Ridge Road
 - Shim 4.6 miles
 - 0.9 miles on the River Road
 - 1.1 miles on the Jenkins Road

-Shoulder work has also been completed on the Colton, Ritchie, Boland, and Maple Ridge Roads.

-A total of 6,900 tons of blacktop was used at a cost of \$12 per ton.

Resealing of parking lot next to the gazebo. Two quotes were presented for the resealing of the parking lot. The quotes also included all prep work and filling in of cracks. The preferred quote does not include line stripes for parking; however, will ask to have it completed.

A motion was made by Michael Livingston and seconded by Ed Newcombe to accept the quote from Full-Service Paving Inc., with the inclusion of line stripes for parking. The quote without the line stripes is \$1846.44. (The other quote is for \$2003 without the line strips.) Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes

Supervisor Frary shared with the board, the good deed that Dallas Denney assisted with. He helped to rescue a group of people, who got stranded in the river, in Rensselaer Falls. While people were enjoying the water, there was a sudden rise in the water level, and they had retreated to the old dam for safety until they could be helped safely ashore.

Supervisor Frary also shared a response letter from NYS DOT regarding the Town's request for crosswalk markings on US Highway 11, in the hamlet of De Kalb Junction. As the result of DOT's investigation, "given the randomness of the crossing locations, and the limited volume and duration of pedestrian activity, the Department determined it was more appropriate to install pedestrian warning signs that cover the entire area, rather than marked crosswalks at specific locations". The signs are in place.

Town wide pick-up day will be held October 12, 2021. As always only one pass on each road will be done.

Dog Control Report: Daniel Moyer

- Responded to call for dogs in trash on CR 18 in Richville, owner of dog is taking care of it.
- Picked up a female black lab on CR 18, returned to owner as the dog was licensed.
- Working on issuing more unlicensed dog tickets off list from town clerk.

Code Enforcement Report: Bill Chambers

- Only one building permit for roof replacement was issued for the month of July.
- The 3 solar projects will begin either this fall or early spring. Due to the previous permits expiring, a new fee of \$44,000 will be collected when new permits are issued, which will be due prior to work beginning on the projects.
- Have received official word that Corning Glass, Inc. will be doing a large expansion.
- Site Plan application for the old Loopy's Restaurant site has been received. If approved by DEC, the company will establish a fuel depot for propane and heating fuel.

Communications:

Supervisor Frary passed out information for a portable LED Speed indicator. He will follow-up with SLC Highway Superintendent, Don Chambers, regarding possible restrictions, and for his input.

Clerk Creazzo recently had the opportunity to visit the new Hammond Town Hall. A copy of the architectural design was distributed to board members. Clerk Creazzo gave a description of the design that she liked, as well as didn't like. A time is being set for a visit with the Hammond Supervisor, Michael Livingston, Andrew Fenton, and Barbara Creazzo for tour.

Budget Meeting: a budget work session is scheduled for September 9, 2021, to begin at 7PM at the town hall. There will be no public input at this time.

After reviewing all bills presented, and signing all bills over \$500.00, a motion was made by Constance Elen and seconded by Andrew Fenton to approve payment of the bills as entered on Abstract #8-2021. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes

A motion was made by Constance Elen and seconded by Ed Newcombe, to adjourn. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted by

Barbara A. Creazzo
Town Clerk

Actions

1. Discussion of Jake-brakes is completed.
2. Advertise for the Fall Pick-up Day. **October 12, 2021 will be the pick-up date.**
3. Notify Full-Service Paving for resealing and lining parking lot. **Completed.**
4. Supervisor Frary to contact Don Chambers regarding portable speed sign.
5. Councilmen Livingston, Fenton, and clerk Creazzo, to visit Hammonds new town hall.
6. Budget work session, September 9, 2021, publish notice. **Completed 7/26/21.**