

# 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 18<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023, at the Town Hall in DeKalb Junction NY, there were present:

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

Members of the community present: Mark Deaver, Gouverneur Vol. Rescue Squad, and Larry Denesha, SLC Legislator

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

Supervisor Frary opened the meeting at 7:02 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Frary, 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 December 21, 2022, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be and hereby approved. Seconded by Andrew Fenton and adopted unanimously.

Andrew Fenton moved that the minutes of the Organizational Meeting, of the Town Board, held on January 6, 2023, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be and hereby approved. Seconded by Ed Newcombe and adopted unanimously.

## Actions

1. Supervisor Frary to sign BIL and send to Scott Thornhill. **Completed 12/21/22.**
2. Inform the County, the town will host Rabies Clinic in the fall. **Completed 12/23/22.**
3. Send Local Law #4 of 2022 to Albany. **Completed 12/23/22.**
4. Notify Real Property of Elizabeth Holland's appointment to B.O.A.R. **Completed 12/27/22.**
5. Mr. Chambers to follow up with attorney regarding clean-up order. **Completed 01/18/23.**
6. Add streetlights to insurance listing. **Completed 12/23/22.**

## Public Forum:

Mark Deaver, rescue squad, spoke about the number of calls for the town that the Gouverneur squad responded too. Also, the overall number that the squad was called for. Numbers are up from last year. The department is offering training classes, which are possible through a grant that has been received. More classes will be offered as there has been statewide attendance and even attendance from eight surrounding states. Will be working with Gouverneur Hospital to provide paramedicine. Making follow-up house visits for those who frequently are transported to the hospital for medical reasons. Through the paramedicine, training is occurring to help these people live a healthy life and to help them to not require additional emergency care.

Larry Denesha, the Legislators held the County's Organizational meeting and elected David Forsythe, as Chair, and Richard Perkins as Vice Chair.

-Committees and advisory boards that I will be on this year are Agriculture and Farmland, Buildings and Grounds, Cooperative Extension, Fire Advisory, Office for the Aging, Safety and Health, Trails and Oversight.

-Three of the towns I represent have received over one-half million dollars in ARPA Funds. The three towns are De Kalb, Hermon and Clifton.

-The amount of sales tax money received for 2022 has a surplus over the anticipated amount, the Legislatures passed a resolution to share the excess with the various municipalities that receive sales tax monies.

-Passed a resolution to ratify the 2022 budget to cover Court ordered health coverage for those who are incarcerated and or with mental health issues. To date, \$1,528,251 had been paid out

prior to October, which had an additional \$78,000 paid. November and December expenses have not been listed yet.

-Assigned Council has also become mandated for the County to cover the cost and to date, that cost is \$110,000 over which was budgeted.

### **Financials:**

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

Michael Livingston made the motion to accept the Town Clerk Audit for the Clerk's water and sewer accounts, seconded by Constance Elen. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

### **Clerk's Report: Barbara Creazzo**

For December, a total of \$980.10 was collected and the town was able to retain \$936.93. The breakdown is as follows: DEC \$14.17 and town \$.83, Ag & Markets \$29, town \$93.50, the town also received \$760.60 for building permits, \$80 for Certified Death Certificates, \$2 for copies made.

For the year, a total of \$15,943.20 was collected and the town retained, \$9,048.40. The breakdown for the year is as follows: DEC \$6894.73, town received \$315.77, Ag & Markets \$360, town \$1197, building permits \$6,405.70, NYDOH \$157.50, town \$122.50, Certified Marriage Certificates \$30, Certified Birth Certificates \$20, Certified Death Certificates \$580, Genealogy \$44, copies made \$302.50, faxes sent \$6, junk fee \$25.

There were eight marriage licenses issued for 2022, seventeen live births were registered and 11 deaths were issued for 2022.

Deputy Wanda Law worked 6 hours during the month of December and an total of 172.5 hours for the year.

Water and Sewer collections for the month of December netted \$18,333.15. Water collected \$7,445.32 and sewer collected \$10,887.83.

The clerk has received this year's information packet for Association of Towns', annual meeting and training. These will be held in New York City at the Marriott Marquis. Anyone who is interested in attending can obtain the information from the clerk.

Supervisor Frary distributed this month's monthly budget report. Since this is the first report of the year, all is inline with what is to be expected.

### **Water/Sewer Reports:**

DANC, a total of 742,300 gallons of water were metered during the month of December, with an average daily flow of 23,945 gallons of water. A total of 7 gallons of hypochlorite were used in the treatment of the water produced. The full report includes all daily flow charts for review. All daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and maintenances were completed as scheduled. One random distribution sample for bacteriological testing was conducted with a satisfactory result. A water main break occurred on 12/29/2022, which required repair by members of the highway crew. Boil water notice was distributed to those affected by the break. After 2 satisfactory bacteriology-samples were obtained, the boil water notice was lifted.

A total of 1,636,000 gallons of wastewater were treated in the month of December, with an average daily flow of 52,774. There was one SPDES permit violation due to high water flow. The full report contains all daily flow charts. All daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and maintenances were completed as scheduled.

Supervisor Frary has received three quotes now for the drainage ditch study. The three that were received are: EDR, at a cost of \$7,490, Tisdell, at a cost of \$9,000, and C2AE, at a cost of \$13,700.

A motion was made by Andrew Fenton and seconded by Constance Elen, to accept the quote of \$7,490 from EDR, for the study of the drainage ditch. The ditch starts between Josephine Street

and Caroline Street and runs past the fire station and in to the small brook that runs past the sewer plant. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

**Highway Department:** Wayne Holland, Highway Superintendent (12/20/22-1/18/23)

- Working in the shop.
- Plowing and sanding.
- New truck supposed to be built in May of this year.
- All employees took CPR and First Aid training on 1/16/23.
- Have ordered a lift basket in order to be able to completed task that are off of the ground.

It is time to submit to the County, the town's intentions for spending highway funds for this year. A motion was made by Andrew Fenton and seconded by Michael Livingston, to spend the sum of \$375,000.00, for the general repair of approximately 75 miles of town highways. This may include sluices, culverts, paving, etc. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

Every year, the town must pass a resolution, holding harmless, the County of St. Lawrence for providing services for 2023.

A motion was made by Andrew Fenton and seconded by Constance Elen, to pass Resolution #3, which states the town of De Kalb will hold harmless, the County of St. Lawrence for providing services for 2023. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

**Dog Control Report:** Dan Moyer

- Complaint of yellow lab running on Tanner St. spoke to owner.
- Picked up dog on Main St Richville, owner did not want dog back. After eleven days, dog was relinquished to Friends for Pound Paws in Gouverneur.
- Picked up dog in Fowler that belonged on the Old Northerner Road. Owner licensed dog and got dog back.
- Spoke to owner behind the hardware store in De Kalb regarding the running of dogs and bull. Also informed him his dogs needed to be licensed.
- Spoke to owners of dogs running at large behind the ice cream shop.

Received report from NYS Ag & Markets inspection of Mr. Moyers kennel. The DCO services report shows a satisfactory rated report.

**Code Enforcement Report:** William (Bill) Chambers

- For the year, a total of 41 permits were issued with fee amounts of \$5,557.80 and project costs of \$899,666.00. The permits issued were for 5 new houses, 1 camp, 2 barns, 4 sheds, 3 solar projects, 2 garages, 2 repairs, 2 decks, 1 electrical, 2 accessory structures, 9 roofs, 4 additions, 1 pool, 1 miscellaneous, and 2 cell tower maintenances.
- US Boundary Survey has been filed for the year.
- Form 1203 will be filed with the State by April.
- Family Dollar had a propane tank incident that closed the store for a couple of days. A tank at sometime had been buried without a permit. While the lot was being plowed of snow, the plow hit and broke the valve. While the tank was empty of fuel, there was residual that still posed a hazard. The tank was removed, proper piping of the current tanks was installed and once the air quality was back to normal, the store was allowed to reopen.
- Will be attending annual training in Lake Placid the last two days of February and the first three days of March.
- The notice given to clean the garbage from the residence on the Ritchie Road, has been noncompliant. The matter will now be turned over to the town's attorney.
- This past year's construction project at Corning has been completed.

**Assessor Report:** No report for this month.

The board would like Ms. Arquette to investigate the possibility of providing some type of exemption for firemen and emergency personnel.

**Communication:**

-Solar projects, all three have been completed and have received their Certificate of Compliance. They are waiting for National Grid to tie them into the grid system.

-Received report from the De Kalb Hermon Senior Citizen Club for the past year. Activities have resumed.

Have received quotes for the Bond process. Green County Commercial Bank is 4.19% for 12 months and Community Bank is 4.49%, for 12 months.

A motion was made by Constance Elen and seconded by Andrew Fenton, to accept the 4.19% from Green County Commercial Bank for a 12-month period regarding the Bond for the wastewater treatment upgrade.

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 #1-2023. Vote: Michael Livingston yes, Ed Newcombe yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, John Frary yes.

A motion was made by Michael Livingston and seconded by Andrew Fenton, to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Barbara A. Creazzo  
Town Clerk

Actions

1. EDR will be notified they have been award the job of studying the drainage ditch from Josephine Street to the sewer plant. The other two companies will receive notice of EDR's notice. **Completed 01/20/23.**
2. Send copy of resolution for the Hazard Mitigation Plan to the County. **Completed 01/20/23.**
3. Send copy of resolution for holding harmless to the County. **Completed 01/20/23.**
4. Send copy of insurance notification to the County. **Completed 01/20/23.**
5. Send copy of agreement to spend town highway funds to the County. **Completed 01/20/23.**
6. Notification of acceptance of Greene County Commercial Bank as the institution for the bonding of the sewer plant up-grade. **Completed.**