

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 21st day of July 2021, at the Town Hall in DeKalb Junction NY, there were present:

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

Ed Newcombe, Board Member, absent.

Members of the community present: James Gattuso, Larry Denesha, Lisa Peters

Supervisor Frary opened the meeting at 7:00 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 June 16, 2021, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be and hereby approved. Seconded by Andrew Fenton and adopted unanimously.

Actions

1. The Board to investigate the legality of posting, “No Jake-Brake Use”, signs on town roadway. **On-going.**
2. Each area inspected by SLC Risk Manager, Jody Wenzel, will have recommendations addressed and notification of such to him will be completed.
3. Highway department to replace missing Hamilton Road sign.
4. Highway department to resurface the roads as indicated.
5. Supervisor Frary to resubmit the request for a crosswalk at or near the post office located in the hamlet, as well as a request for a no passing zone to be indicated at the US Highway 11 and Jeffers Road intersection. **Sent**
6. Supervisor Frary to apply for the Local Government Efficiency Grant. **Completed 6/28/2021 with letters sent.**
7. Committee for Town Hall project. **On-going.**
8. Committee for the use of the American Rescue Plan Act funds. **On-going.**
9. Address SLC Safety concerns at each site as indicated and report to Risk Manager. **On-going.**
10. Contact Labor Union for the De Kalb Town Highway Department, of its approval of the proposed contract. **Completed.**

Public Forum:

James Gattuso, and Lisa Peters, asked the board if progress has been made regarding the issue of the noise created by Gebarten trucks using the jake-brake while approaching the intersection of the East De Kalb Road and US Highway 11. Supervisor Frary has contacted The Association of Towns for input/suggestion, has contacted the town’s attorney (has been on vacation), and has spoken with Greg Coller, owner of the trucks. Mr. Coller is having work completed on the trucks to assist with lower truck noise and will speak with the contracted drivers regarding the use of the jake-brake at the intersection. Mr. Nash, Town Attorney, indicates the town would most likely need a “Noise Ordinance”, which then would be difficult to enforce. As far as posting for the no use of jake-brake, it would need to be town-wide, and again, difficult to enforce, even if approved by NYS DOT. Supervisor Frary awaits a response from The Association of Towns.

The members of the board assure Mr. Gattuso and Ms. Peters, they hear, and understand their concerns; however, obtaining information does take time and anything that is put into place must be enforceable.

Larry Denesha, SLC Legislator

-COVID-19 vaccination rate for St Lawrence County with one dose received is 53% and 50% for those who are fully vaccinated. The county continues to have a low rate of new diagnosed infections. Nationally, the hot spots are those areas that have very low vaccination rates. The Public Health Department has moved from daily COVID-19 updates to Monday and Thursday updates.

-Worker's Comp for 2022 will increase to \$29,862.01, which is a little over a \$3,000 increase.

-Department Heads are working on their budgets. Tentative budget will be presented on Monday, October 4, 2021.

-The highway department outpost; Legislators passed a resolution to purchase property along US Highway 11 in the town of Potsdam, just past the old WPDM Radio Station. There is enough land, that at some point in time, the county will be able to move their main site from the Village of Canton to this new site.

-Legislators passed a resolution to provide the support of \$88,000, to the Town Massena, to be used for 6 up-coming major league fishing tournaments. This money originates from the NYS Power Authority as payment for taxes lost along the river due to the Power Authority and Seaway.

-The County's credit rating has recently increased from A to A+. This is due to the fund balance that is being built up.

-A while back, the Legislators passed a resolution to join a class action suit against Purdue Pharma because of the opiate crisis. The county will be receiving a portion of the settlement, but do not have a dollar amount at this time. Any monies that are received, will go toward community services that address addictions.

-The August meeting for the Legislators will once again take place at the Gouverneur St. Lawrence County Fair. The meeting will begin at 6pm on August 2, 2021, in front of the grandstand.

-The sales tax collected for the second quarter is over \$3,000,000 more than from the first quarter. The first quarter collected \$15,516,556.97 and the second quarter collected \$18,991,366.60.

Financials:

Constance Elen made the motion to accept the Town Clerk Audit for the water and sewer accounts, seconded by Michael Livingston. The vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, and John Frary yes.

Supervisor Frary distributed to each member of the board, a copy of the Monthly Budget Report. He asked that each member review the report and to please contact him if they have any questions or concerns. He did not email in advance, as the report was received in today's mail along with the checks for bill payments.

Clerk Report: Barbara Creazzo

A total of \$538 was collected for the month of June with the town retaining \$259.53 of the collections. The breakdown is as follows: NYS DEC received \$231.47, and the town received \$13.53 for fishing licenses sold, Ag & Markets received \$47, and the town received \$152 for dog licenses sold, the town also received \$50 for a building permit, \$40 for copies made and \$4 for faxes sent.

Water & Sewer collections for June: Water \$8123.40 and Sewer \$9827.00.

The tax collections for this year have been finalized and a check for \$4231.00 was written to Supervisor Frary. This is interest money the town receives from payment installments. The clerk's account is now closed with a zero balance.

Deputy Clerk, Wanda Law, worked 17 hours during the month of June.

NYS Town Clerks Association membership payment is now due. Also, the 2022 Conference will be held in April in Albany, and I would like to attend. The members of the board agree, the Conference is a great learning experience and attendance along with the local County meetings should be attended whenever possible.

DANC Report: Water & Sewer

Water, a total of 751,500 gallons of water were metered in the month of June, with an average daily flow of 25,050 gallons. A total of 5 gallons of sodium hypochlorite were used in the treatment of the water produced. One random distribution sample for bacteriological testing was completed and the result was satisfactory. The report contains daily flow graphs. Daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and/or maintenances were completed as scheduled.

Sewer, a total of 950,000 gallons of wastewater were treated in the month of June, with an average daily flow of 31,667 gallons. There were no SPDES permit violations for the month. The report contains daily flow graphs. Daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and/or maintenances were completed as scheduled. Rotating the RBCs continues for one hour daily. Pomerville Septic Service has pumped out the septic tanks.

A motion was made by Constance Elen and seconded by Michael Livingston to accept the following Resolution #5 for the Town of De Kalb. The vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, Andrew Fenton yes, and John Frary yes.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A 2021
CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, the Town of Dekalb desires to prepare a 2021 New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to fund the wastewater system improvements project as described in the March 2021 Preliminary Engineering Report and as amended in July 2021; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Water Quality Improvement Project (i.e. WQIP) program has been identified as an eligible funding source for this project; and

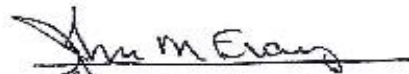
WHEREAS, the Town is eligible to apply for grant funding from WQIP to fund the Town's wastewater system improvements project.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dekalb Town Board authorizes the submission of a Consolidated Funding Application seeking maximum funds from the WQIP program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor or his assigned designee, is hereby authorized to submit a CFA grant application on or before July 30, 2021, and if received, to enter into any necessary contracts to administer said grants.


Clerk

07/21/2021
Date


Supervisor

7/21/2021
Date

This resolution is to assist with the securing of necessary funds for the upcoming mandated Sewer Plant modifications.

Supervisor Frary recently attended a meeting with the Town of Hermon, as Hermon has begun to discuss updated proposals for their aging water system. As per the Town of De Kalb's contract with them, De Kalb will be responsible for approximately 43% of the cost for any updates that occur. The town needs to be planning for this and subsequently start growing reserve funds to meet this requirement when it does occur.

Highway Report: Wayne Holland

- Have prepped roads for blacktopping.
- Woodchips have been put down at the playground along with the mats for under the swings.
- Highway crew was on vacation the first week of July.
- Blacktopping for the town roads has begun with the utilization of shared services.

Dog Control: Dan Moyer

- Received a call about a neighbor's dog stealing stuff from his garage. Spoke with the owner of the dog and while doing so, found out the dogs are not licensed. He has been instructed to license both of his dogs.
- Responded to a complaint on CR 15 regarding dogs defecating on neighbor's property. Spoke with the neighbor and he stated he would speak with his son who owns the dogs. Dogs are not licensed, and father was told his son needed to license the dogs.
- Picked up a dog on Depot Street in Richville. The dog was going after chickens and the dog is currently in the pound.

Code Enforcement: Bill Chambers

A total of 9 permits have been issues since the last board meeting. The project cost for the 9 permits is \$279,558 and the fee amount to be collected is \$1,492.40. To date, 33 permits have been issued for a project cost of \$725,558, and fee amount of \$4,743.20. The breakdown of the 9 permits for this month is as follows: 2 pole barns, 1 septic replacement, 2 additions, 1 storage shed, 1 camp, 1 deck, and 1 single family home.

Communications:

-Supervisor Frary has received a request from NYS DEC, requesting that they, the DEC, act as the lead agency for the SEQR review of the permit application that has been submitted by the Corning Canton Plant. The Plant would like to expand its glass manufacturing capacity by constructing new furnaces and ancillary equipment. If the Town of Dekalb has no objection to DEC acting as lead agency, the supervisor for the town, is asked to endorse the following request.

A motion was made by Michael Livingston and seconded by Andrew Fenton, for Supervisor Frary to sign and date the following request. The vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, and Andrew Fenton yes.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Environmental Permits, Region 6
Dulles State Office Building, 317 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601-3787
P: (315) 785-2245 | F: (315) 785-2242
www.dec.ny.gov

July 21, 2021

John Frary
DeKalb Town Supervisor
PO Box 133
DeKalb Junction, NY 13630
supervisor@townofdekalb.org

Sent Via Email

RE: Lead Agency Determination
Corning Canton Plant Expansion
McAdoo Rd, 334 Co Rd 16
Town of DeKalb, St Lawrence County
Permit Applications # 6-4030-00002/00066 and 6-4030-00002/00077

Dear John Frary:

The Region 6 Office of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received applications for the expansion of the Corning Canton Plant. The applicant, Corning Inc., proposes to expand its glass manufacturing capacity by constructing new furnaces and ancillary equipment. This project would be considered an Unlisted action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR); however the applicant has requested a coordinated review.

This letter is provided to inform you that DEC proposes to act as the lead agency for the SEQR review of these permit applications, however, since the proposed project would have many local impacts, the Town may wish to take the lead on SEQR. DEC would not object to the Town acting as lead agency for this project.

If the Town of DeKalb has no objection to DEC acting as lead agency, please endorse this letter in the space provided below and return a copy to this office. You have until August 20th to respond to this request, after which I will assume you have no objection. If you have no objection to this request and can respond sooner, I will be able to proceed with public notice requirements in a timelier manner.



John Frary, Town Supervisor

7/21/2021
Date



-Solar update; the 3 projects within the township which have had their permits expire, have applied for new permits, so should be moving forward soon.

-Borrego Solar Systems, Inc., will be starting the application processes for a proposed 60-megawatt solar project in Bigelow. Due to the magnitude of the project, IDA will be the party negotiating the process. The town will receive the permit fees if approved.

-NYSERDA Community Solar, is offering National Grid electric customers enrolled in National Grid's Energy Affordability Program (EAP), to receive a targeted bill credit of \$10 per month from community solar developed across National Grid's Upstate territory. For more information, contact communitysolar@nyserda.ny.gov or call 1-866-NYSERDA.

-Supervisor Frary informed the members of the board, that he has completed and submitted the COVID fund application as discussed at last month's meeting.

After reviewing all bills presented, and signing all bills over \$500.00, a motion was made by Michael Livingston and seconded by Andrew Fenton, to approve payment of the bills as entered on Abstract #7-2021. The vote: Michael Livingston yes, Constance Elen yes, and Andrew Fenton yes.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Barbara A. Creazzo
Town Clerk

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.**