

# Town of Denning – Town Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Supervisor Bruning,  
Held on Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at the Denning Town Hall.

Present: Supervisor Bruning

Councilmen: Mike Dean, Kevin Smith, Scott Mickelson and  
Paul Schoonmaker,

Also present: Highway Superintendent Dan Van Sadlers

The Town Clerk gave the Board members the agenda, resolution # 47, the 2008 Preliminary Budget, and the SEQRA negative declaration with a copy of the notice and memo. The minute book was signed by the Board prior to the opening of the meeting. The August and September Monthly Supervisors Report was initialed prior to the start of the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Denning 2008 Preliminary Budget Public Hearing is opened. Supervisor Bruning explains the budget process and reviews all budget line changes.

General Page 1)

-1<sup>st</sup> change is to the Municipal Court A1110.4. Due to State mandated software; the increased cost will be \$650.00

-A1410.4 Salary increase to the Clerks.

Page 2)

-A1910.4 Unallocated insurance, there is a 5% increase.

-A1450.1 Personal Services Elections; next year is a presidential election, primary in February as well as a mandated voters registration day. Increase of \$1,000.00.

-A1620.4 Buildings is decreased by \$30,000 as we have found the new addition costs less to maintain.

-A1670.4 Central Data Processing increased by \$100 for Road Runner, the building will be wireless.

Page 3) No changes

Page 4)

-A5010.1 Superintendent of Highways, a 3% cost of living.

Page 5)

-A8020.4 Planning Board increased from \$800 to \$1,500 the increase in costs of printing for the task force.

-A8160.4 Refuse and Garbage increased as the pull charge and tonnage fee has increased.

Employee Benefits: New York State Retirement decreased by \$1,300.

Social Security raised by \$500, Workers Compensation increased by \$250 as we had 2 claims, Health insurance increased 12%, \$10,020.

Page 6) Estimated Revenue

A 1255 Town Clerk by \$10, A1560 Safety and Buildings this year was \$10,000 due to YMCA construction, A 2401 increased from \$9,000 to \$15,000 as the Town is getting a better % rate. State aid revenue sharing increased by \$10,000. The Town actually received \$96,000, however we where told not to expect that much next year as the State does not complete its budget until April.

Highway Page 7) All personal services reflect a 3% cost of living increase.

-DA5120.1 Maintenance of Bridges 5,300 to \$5,459.

-DA5130.4 Machinery decreased from 185,000 to \$55,000 plans to purchase a small roller.

State revenue went down a little bit from \$20,000 to \$17,300.

Workers compensation up from \$4,800 to \$5,350. Social Security up from \$17,900 to \$18,500, Health insurance 53,400 to \$59,800. Bond anticipation notes to 0, the Town is totally debt free. Capital fund transfers \$15,000, a balance of \$45,000.

Page 8) Interest and earnings from \$9,000 to \$10,000. Supervisor salary of 12,000 and the Councilmen's salary of \$1,500 stay the same as does the Tax Collector \$5,000 and the Justices at \$4,100 each, the Highway Superintendents salary to \$36,500 and the Clark to \$13,825. Amount to be raised by taxes: General is an increase of \$560 and Highway is \$6,220.

Supervisor Bruning calls for public comment, there is none.

Reading of last month's minutes by Town Clerk Joy Ann Monforte.

Motion to adopt as read by Mike Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Schoonmaker. All in favor.

Correspondence read by Supervisor Bruning

- ❖ A letter from Homeland Towers giving an update on their plans. They are waiting for a commitment from a major carrier.
- ❖ Senator Bonacic sends a letter containing the new office location of 21 Dolson Ave, Middletown.
- ❖ Resident Michael Herons information in regards to a proposed flu clinic which will be Friday November 9 from 2 to 5 at Town Hall. Mary Dymond will give the free shots. For anyone older than 60.
- ❖ Inventory list from the Town of Denning Highway Department naming the seasonal roads which are not maintained after December 1.
- ❖ DEP is purchasing property on Yeagerville Road.
- ❖ Letter and voucher from the Association of Towns 2008 dues are \$799.
- ❖ NYMIR the public officers and auto insurance will decrease by 5 to 6% as long as there is no law enforcement policy.
- ❖ A copy of letter from Town of Neversink Supervisor Goldstein to Alex Rau Sullivan County 911 Coordinator along with the enclosed copy from Grahamsville First Aid stating that Mobil medic will be covering their district from 6 AM to 6 PM until further notice. The Town pays Grahamsville First Aid \$10,000 a year. Bill check into the matter.

Highway Report by Superintendent Dan Van Sadlers

- Roadwork report given.
- Truck repair and maintenance report.
- The new truck has been delivered and will be registered right away as the title came today.
- The Town of Hardenburg has loaned the Town a mower, which was used to cut brush, Supervisor Jerry Fairborn has stated we can use it next year also.
- Peekamoose Road a 1/4-mile past Whitehouse Road and another past Balace Road were FEMA projects, which will have the same engineer; had been waiting for approval following a meeting with SEMO. Similar scope of work, they will be bid separately.

Projects to start in the spring. FEMA A & E report plus, must approve the final design. Must also meet with the DEC for final design.

- Supervisor Bruning FEMA has finally paid for the Balace Road Bridge, we are up to date on FEMA payments.

#### Code Enforcement Report- by Supervisor Bruning

- Saying he went with Karl to investigate 3 complaints, 1 of which is an unsafe building. Karl is unsatisfied with our current unsafe building law and has submitted one for consideration.
- Looking for a volunteer he appoints Councilman Mike Dean to review and make recommendations on the law.

#### Refuse & Recycling Report by Bill Bruning

- You may have noticed a lot of digging going on behind the center; the fill is being used for a new bridge on the Sullivan County side of Frost Valley Road. After they are done they will flatten the hill, the Town will use it for storage.

#### Highway Equipment Planning Report by Superintendent Dan Van

- The old truck has been appraised by Arkel Motors; the value is between \$8,000 and \$10,000. The Towns of Fallsburg and Callicoon express an interest in the truck, Fallsburg has offered \$12,500. Fallsburg has done a lot for the Town transporting equipment for free to Newburgh. Bill calls for Board comment. Open discussion follows. Bill Bruning feels \$12,500 is a good price. Scott Mickelson the transportation is a heck of a favor. The Board agrees to sell the truck to the Town of Fallsburg by doing an inter municipal transfer.

#### Planning Board – No Report

#### Order of Business by Supervisor Bruning

- ❖ A letter from resident Archie Ackerly Jr. informing the Board of his interest in becoming Dog Control Officer. Bill asks for the Boards opinion. Mike Dean asks if there are any other responses? Bill Bruning no other responses. Paul Schoonmaker inquires if we still have the same arrangement with the Town of Neversink for boarding? Bill responds yes and he has spoken with their DCO Danita. The Board appoints Mr. Ackerly.
- ❖ A letter regarding 600 Basily Road requesting plowing to their cabin for winter access, stating no salt or sand is needed. Further stating they have owned and paid taxes for 30 years. The cabin has solar energy and a generator for year round use. Requesting the one-mile be added to the Town road inventory. Bill Bruning spoke with Rod Futerfas the Attorney for the Town; he told him the cabin is not yet complete. He calls for comment. Paul Schoonmaker asks if there is a place to turn around. Dan Van Saders remarks you would need to salt and sand. Bill Bruning comments that would cut off the snowmobiles. He (Mr. Edwards) cannot give his permission to use Round Pond as an access. Also it opens Pandora's box in regards to other roads. Superintendent Van Saders remarks he is concerned with the wear and tear on the equipment, and it is posted a seasonal road. The entrance at the State parking lot is a muddy mess. If snowmobiles get in there you will not be able to plow. Bill will send a letter stating it is to late in the year to make a decision. Mike Dean comments he would like the snowmobiles to have a place to park. Kevin Smith the trail is in front of their door. Superintendent Van Saders asks who gives out tickets

there, the DEC? Kevin Smith answers the rangers. Residents join in the discussion. Mike Dean states we should leave it seasonal. Bill will send the letter.

- ❖ E-mail from Maurice Hinchey informing the Towns of a reconnaissance study for the Esopus and Roundout Watersheds. A federally funded study for flooding and eco restoration. Second e-mail stating purpose of meeting to verify previous studies and the 50% local cost share. The meeting is Wednesday, November 14 at 1 pm at the Stone Ridge SUNY Ulster; Paul Schoonmaker will check his calendar to see availability on attending the meeting. A public discussion is opened.
- ❖ A letter requesting support for an Ulster County grant application regarding shared services. A second letter on a truck locator system, which is not needed. Mike Dean the grant can't hurt, Dan states we already do share services. Supervisor Bruning calls for a motion on what will be Resolution 48 of 2007 motion to adopt and approve by Mike Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Mickelson, All in favor.
- ❖ Reads the negative declaration of the SEQRA in regards to the Comprehensive Plan; the Board accepts the declaration.

Resolution # 47 read by Supervisor Bruning (Fiscal Transfer)  
Motion to approve and adopt Kevin Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Mickelson, all in favor.

Vote on the 2008 Town of Denning Budget

Motion to approve and adopt by Scott Mickelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kevin smith, All in favor.

Supervisor Comments:

- Received audit report from Cooper & Nieman, has read it 3 times and will review it with Jean Cuppernall of Cooper & Nieman on Friday at 9 am.
- Emergency generator hooked and working at the firehouse.
- FEMA projects several small ones put off until next year.
- Everything is paid for; there is \$45,000 in highway reserves and \$300,000 in general reserves.

Board Comments:

- Mike Dean, Russ Betters had asked about the Frost Valley generator the slab will be done shortly if not done already. The job Paul did on the brush cutting was great.
- Paul Schoonmaker inquires if the notice was for the negative declaration was put in the Towns official paper. Answer yes.
- Mike Dean the entrance to the highway barn needs to be repaired.

Public comments:

- Resident George Elias informs the Board that Mike Coombs Road at the State land line the DEC put up signs no unauthorized vehicles and on Stone Cabin Brook signs that state no ATV's.
- He went to Neversink to thank Supervisor Goldstein for the job they did on Sugarloaf Road and picked up the latest information on septic systems from the DEC. He gives one to all Board members and the Clerk.
- Bill Bruning asks George whom he spoke to about the up date on the forest management plan?

- Resident Paul Hnatiw asks Dan Van Saders if the engineer came up with anything yet? Dan responds the berm will be reinforced and things will be wider. The DEP wants to have input too. A board discussion on flooding follows. Mr. Hnatiw volunteers pictures from 04, 05, 06 and 07.

Motion to adjourn at 8:59 p.m. by Paul Schoonmaker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Dean, All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Ann Monforte, Town Clerk

# Town of Denning – Town Audit Meeting

Held on Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at the Denning Town Hall.

Called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Bruning

The minute book was signed before the meeting began.

Present: Supervisor Bill Bruning

Councilmen: Mike Dean, Paul Schoonmaker, Kevin Smith,  
And Scott Mickelson

Also Present: Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders

Highway Vouchers presented (see warrant # 11)

Motion to approve and pay highway vouchers by Scott Mickelson, 2nd  
by Paul Schoonmaker, All in favor.

General Vouchers presented, (see warrant # 11)

Motion to approve and pay general vouchers by Scott Mickelson, 2nd  
by Mike Dean, All in favor.

Supervisor Comments:

Motion to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. by Scott Mickelson, 2nd by Paul  
Schoonmaker , All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Ann Monforte, Town Clerk