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Town of Denning – Audit Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7: 02 p.m. by Supervisor Bruning,
Held on Tuesday, February 12, 2008 at the Denning Town Hall.

Present: Supervisor Bruning

Councilmen: Mike Dean, Paul Schoonmaker and Kevin Smith

Absent: Scott Mickelson

Also present: Highway Superintendent Dan Van Sadlers

The Town Clerk gave the Board members the agenda, resolution #23 and the Watershed Advocate prior to the opening of the meeting. The minute book was signed prior to the opening of the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Highway Vouchers presented (see warrant # 2)

Motion to approve and pay highway vouchers by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker, Absent Councilman Scott Mickelson. All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

General Vouchers presented, (see warrant # 2)

An unknown number of general vouchers have not been returned by the Bookkeeper due to the storm. They will be authorized at a later date.

- Discussion opened by Supervisor Bruning regarding the mileage of Tax Collector Patricia Matero.
- She responds by stating she has spoken with Greg Smith at the N.Y. S. Comptrollers office for clarification and has his printed e-mail stating she is entitled to mileage reimbursement.
- Supervisor Bruning comments that is not the way he understood it and will check into it.

Motion to approve and pay general vouchers by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker, 2nd by Councilman Kevin Smith, Absent Councilman Scott Mickelson. All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

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

Motion to adopt as read by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker, All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

Town of Denning – Town Board Meeting

The meeting commences at 7:42 p.m.

Correspondence read by Supervisor Bruning

- A "wish list" from Ulster County Emergency Management Director Art Snyder. The information was already forwarded at a meeting at the community college in Stone Ridge.
- Information from Governor Spitzer pertaining to the Executive Budget for 08-09. A 3.7% increase in AIM Revenue Sharing. Last year the Town received \$96,858 it will increase by \$3,584 for a total of \$100,442.00.
- Dean Palen Director of Ulster County Health Department with additional flu and pneumonia vaccinations sites and dates available.
- A letter from Senator Bonacic regarding the extension on the removal of the "sunset provision" for the Hudson Valley Greenway. Discussion follows. Councilman Mike Dean suggests that Councilman Paul Schoonmaker look into the matter.

- A copy of a letter sent to Floyd Van Wagner requesting immediate action on the removal of vehicles from the roadway. Supervisor Bruning remarks that Floyd has stopped at the Town Hall and is working on the problem.
- Sundown Court report from Judge Vurckio; 56 Environmental Conservation tickets, Penal 4, Town Parking 5, Pending Cases is 5 for a total of 70 court actions with fines totaling \$2,350.
- Supervisor Bruning reads a letter he wrote to the Denning residents explaining the recent decrease in fire tax levy and the actions taken by Town Assessor Mike Sommer. With thanks.

Highway Report by Superintendent Dan Van Saders

- ❖ The crew has been battling ice storms.
- ❖ New truck is back from the dealer however the 4-wheel drive does not stay engaged this under warranty and will go back to the dealer as soon as storms permit.
- ❖ Grader work done Frost Valley Road to remove ice build up.
- ❖ Diesel has frozen up again. Kerosene was used to aid in the controlling of the jelling.
- ❖ Two FEMA projects to be done in the spring. One at the bottom of Brooks Hill Road rip rap will be used. The other is in the stream behind Paul Hnatiw. Met with Jack Isaacs. The engineering is done on this project. Both will be put out to bid.
- ❖ New pick up has been ordered. Cost of extended warranty is \$7,260 Arkel motors is waving their profit of \$2,000. The warranty is for 84 months and includes fuel injection and electronics. He asks if the cost has to come out of his equipment expense.
- ❖ Supervisor Bruning responds yes and remarks that the Town of Hardenburgh no longer uses Viking plows. Their supervisor was supposed to call Dan.

Code Enforcement –No Report

Refuse & Recycling –No Report

Highway Equipment Report

- ❖ Supervisor Bruning asks Superintendent Van Saders about the small roller previously discussed. Brief discussion follows.
- ❖ Supervisor Bruning tells Superintendent Van Saders the difference in the cost of the roller under \$20,000 will go toward the extended warranty.

Planning Board – No Report

Resolution #23 read by Supervisor Bruning (Memoriam for Archie Ackerley Sr.)

Motion to adopt as read by Councilman Mike Dean 2nd by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker, Absent Councilman Scott Mickelson. All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

Supervisor Comments:

- ❑ Planning Board Chairman Alden Thayer left a packet on my desk titled the Municipal Tower ownership Program.

- FEMA figures for the years 1996 to 2007 are \$2,063,233 the 3rd lowest in the county.

Board Comments:

- Councilman Mike Dean has spoken with Ken Ross of Ross Electric in regards to a generator in Town Hall. The cost is \$6, 000. It is a 15 KW generator with a 200-amp transfer switch, 18,000-watt load and will switch on automatically. This price does not include propane hook up or the slab. He did not get a figure to switch the furnace to propane.
- Discussion follows. Supervisor Bruning feels it is a good price.
- Councilman Mike Dean has been asked by the property owners by Cherry Tree turn to speak to the Board in regards to an adjoining property owner's gate off of Barns Road. Discussion follows. No action will be taken.
- Councilman Paul Schoonmaker called Ed Pine the engineer for Ulster County for an update done on the abandoned road project - response no activity at this time however it will be done.
- Councilman Kevin Smith- the advisory committee public hearing is rescheduled for Saturday April 12 at 9 am. Claryville Fire Hall.

Public comments:

- Clayton Brooks states it has been interesting sitting here and commends the Board on the addition saying it was much needed. Further stating he is here in support of my wife. The board has approved the monies in the budget. The duties where completed and she trained the new tax collector. She has met all the mandates. He feels the Board should release her check. We have owned the house on South Hill for 20 years if residency is one of the criteria it should not be an issue. The monies where approved and she met the mandate.
- Supervisor Bruning responds with a reading of the text from the Town Law Book: determining whether a Town office is vacant. A few of the reasons are: death, resignation of the official, removal from office for misfeasance, malversion or maladministration, ceasing to be a resident. Residency means domicile when the officer moves from town.
- Mr. Brooks inquires who did the job?
- Mrs. Charlotte Brooks states that you and the Board knew I was doing the work. You said the health insurance would be removed at the end of October.
- Supervisor Bruning- I found out you moved when the bank said you changed your address in June or July.
- Mr. Brooks- we can go back and forth all night.
- Supervisor Bruning- she did a good job all these years. No on disputed that fact.
- Mr. Brooks- what do you do when a job becomes vacant?
- Supervisor Bruning- I talked to these guys we would appoint the newly elected tax collector in November.
- Mrs. Charlotte Brooks- that is not the impression you gave me.
- Supervisor Bruning-here I am thinking I'm being a good guy paying your health insurance until the end of October.
- Mrs. Charlotte Brooks- why didn't you tell me I was done.
- Supervisor Bruning- that's a mistake I made- I should have.

- Mrs. Charlotte Brooks polls the Town Board asking if the Council member knew she was done:
- Councilman Kevin Smith- No, Councilman Mike Dean-No.
- Mr. Brooks-ask if the Board knew what was going on?
- When asked by Mrs. Brooks Councilman Paul Schoonmaker states Charlotte should be paid as a contractor for services rendered. Believes this is a misunderstanding.
- Tax Collector Patricia Matero questions if the Board knew, who lets the Board know. Further if there is a problem, do I let the Board know, asking Supervisor Bruning do you let the Board know, who makes the decision.
- Supervisor Bruning responds I make the decision.
- Mrs. Charlotte Brooks- they (the Board) knew I was doing my job.
- Mr. Brooks- we can argue the law all night.
- Supervisor Bruning- yes we can.
- Councilman Kevin Smith moves to open discussion on Councilman Schoonmaker suggestion.
- Supervisor Bruning- sure.
- Councilman Schoonmaker we should pay her and say thanks a lot for a job well done.
- Mr. Brooks thanks Supervisor Bruning for listening and asks Superintendent Van Saders about Peekamoose Road. Brief open discussion follows.

Tax Collector Patricia Matero presents Supervisor Bruning with the January tax monies collected, check #2000 in the sum of \$603,277.69.

- Board discussion, Bill has spoken with Cindy to release Charlottes' check.

Motion to adjourn at 9:01 p.m. by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker, Absent Councilman Scott Mickelson, All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Ann Monforte, Town Clerk

*****PLEASE NOTE RESOLUTION # 24 OF 2008 *****

(MARCH 12, 2008 AUDIT MEETING)

RESCINDING APPROVAL OF THE APPROVED MINUTES AS PUT FORTH BY SUPERVISOR BRUNING.