

Town of Denning – Town Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Supervisor Bruning,
Held on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at the Sundown Church Hall.

Present: Supervisor Bruning

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

Also present: Highway Superintendent Dan Van Sadlers

The Town Clerk gave the Board members the agenda and resolutions
40 and 41, as well as the Tentative Budget and Local Law #1 of 2008.

The minute book was signed prior to the opening of the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Motion to adopt as read by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2nd by
Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor. Motion carried by a 5 to 0 vote.

Correspondence: by Bill Bruning

- Winter Watch program information.
- U.C. Health Dept. flu shot date and location information.
- PLEASE NOTE: The Town will be holding a **free** flu shot clinic on Thursday, October 23, 2008 at the Town Hall from 1 to 4 pm.
- N.Y. State aid check to the Town in the amount of \$99,764.00.
- Letter to NYCDEP in regards to keeping the city owned properties on Red Hill and Dinch Roads closed.
- Letter from NYSDEC stating their interest in purchasing property off of Stone Cabin Brook Road to add to the Sundown Forest Preserve.
- Notification from New York City that it has bought the conservation easement on the Horse Shoe Gun Club property, which is on Willowemoc Road.
- Letter from Tax Collector Patricia Matero requesting funds for software being used by the county information services as well as an unused Town computer to put the software on.
- Supervisor Bruning asks her if the computer would be used at the town hall or at home. She responds it would be used at home. Supervisor Bruning then calls for comment from the Town Board- there is none.

Highway Report by Superintendent Dan Van Sadlers

- Equipment maintenance and repair report give.
- Brush cutting done.
- Pipes replaced on Denning and Barnes Roads.
- Hot patched, rolled and graded several roads.
- Cleaned up Sugarloaf Road slide and put the material on Spencer Road.
- Gary Myers is doing a smaller FEMA job on Van Aken Road.
- Rob Totten repaired a section of shoulder by Buttermilk Falls with 8 loads of material from Red Hill.
- Started the stream project today, after a lengthy permit process problem which has been resolved by putting in a temporary stonewall to prevent flooding on Peekamoose Road.
- The Town has received a permit in partnership with Central Hudson to cut 44 trees along Sugarloaf Road.

- Superintendent Van Saders opens discussion on the NYSDOT giving the Town the option of trucking material from Highway 17. It can be used for the Town roads; it must be rolled and then chipped sealed. Brief discussion follows.

Code Enforcement Report – No Report

Refuse & Recycling Report – No Report

Highway Equipment Report by Councilman Mike Dean

- Has investigated used trucks, cost is 40 to \$50,000.
- Superintendent Van Saders comments Robert Green has a Kodiak truck (GMC) in the \$40,000 range; brand new. It is a mid sized dump truck.

Planning Board – By member Dave Brooks.

- Pre plat sub division was approved at the base of Wildcat Rd. The owners will be back on Thursday with further information.
- The planning board has spent a lot of time on the Timber Harvest Law. Mr. Brooks asks everyone to come to a planning board meeting.

Resolution # 40 read by Supervisor Bruning (Introduction to the Timber Harvest Law No. 1 of 2008)

WHEREAS New York State Town Law Municipal Home Rule Law authorizes the Town Board to adopt a Local Law concerning the protection and enhancement of its physical and visual environment, and

WHEREAS it is the intention of the Town Board to adopt comprehensive legislation for the specific purpose of protecting the Town from unregulated timber harvesting,

NOW THEREFORE, be it **RESOLVED that** the Town Board hereby introduces a **Local Law** regulating timber harvesting in the Town of Denning, and that a date for the Public Hearing for said proposed Local Law shall be set after consideration by the Town Board

Further be it **RESOLVED** that a notice for said Public Hearing shall be published in the Tri-Valley Townsman.

Motion to approve and adopt by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker, 2nd by Councilman Kevin Smith. Councilman Mike Dean does not vote. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

The Public Hearing has been set for the next Board meeting on Wednesday, November 5, 2008, prior to the opening of the regularly scheduled meeting to begin at 7 p.m.

Resolution # 41 read by Supervisor Bruning (Court Audit)
Supervisor Bruning gives the background information and audit boards recommendations.

WHEREAS section 2019-a of the Uniform Justice Court Act requires that town and village justices annually provide their court records and dockets to their respective town auditing boards and,

WHEREAS such records were provided and audited by the Town of Denning Audit Board, the Town of Denning Town Board,

HEREBY has reviewed and accepted the audit results submitted by the Auditing Board.

Motion to approve and adopt by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Kevin Smith, All in favor. Motion carried by a 5 to 0 vote.

Supervisor Comments:

- ❑ The budget workshop has been scheduled for next Tuesday following the audit meeting.
- ❑ Board of Elections has determined budget figures; we will vote on the old machines and have a new machine for the handicap.
- PLEASE NOTE: The Town will be holding a **free** flu shot clinic on Thursday, October 23, 2008 at the Town Hall from 1 to 4 pm.
- ❑ The generator has been installed at the Town Hall.
- ❑ Town of Neversink is not listed as a course for the road rallies on 10-31 or 11-1-08. The 35 mph speed limits for Round Pond and Red Hill Roads are in the approval process with the State.

Board Comments:

- Councilman Paul Schoonmaker remarks to Superintendent Van Saders a nice job was done on Denning Road.
- Councilman Kevin Smith states no public hearing has been scheduled for the sub division zoning advisory committee, as there is still much work to do.
- Supervisor Bruning informs the residents that one member of the board has been removed for lack of attendance. The member will not be replaced, as there is too much material to catch up on.

Public comments:

- ❖ Resident Paul Nasierowski asks who wanted the new timber harvesting law?
- ❖ Supervisor Bruning comments he did for one, he feels the previous law had loop holes and believes the law should protect the Town infra structure.
- ❖ Resident Paul Nasierowski remarks he understands Bill's position but feels there is too much government interference. Discussion follows. He opens a discussion on the Peekamoose stream restoration process, stating he feels it is a band-aid and will not fix the problem. There is mutual agreement on his statement. A discussion follows which is joined by many of the residents.
- ❖ Resident Dave Brooks inquires as to the stop sign situation on Sundown, Greenville and Peekamoose Roads. Supervisor Bruning responds he has spoken with U.C. Commissioner Dave Sheeley and he was supposed to discuss it with his engineers. He further

continues with the information he requested was not forwarded to him regarding the church property. He will send for a copy of the deed from Ulster County.

- ❖ Resident and sub division zoning advisory committee member Dave Brooks invites all Town residents to attend a committee meeting and listen. The next meeting is on October 20, 2008.

Motion to adjourn at 8:19 p.m. by Councilman Scott Mickelson, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor. Motion carried by a 5 to 0 vote.

Respectfully submitted by Joy Ann Monforte, Town Clerk

Town of Denning – Town Audit Meeting

Held on Tuesday, October 14, 2008, at the Denning Town Hall.

Called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Supervisor Bruning

The Town Supervisor gave the Town Board members and Highway Superintendent copies of the Budget vs. Actual.

The minute book was signed prior to the opening of the meeting.

Present: Supervisor Bill Bruning

Councilmen: Mike Dean, Paul Schoonmaker, Kevin Smith.

Absent: Councilman Scott Mickelson

Also Present: Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders

Highway Vouchers presented (see warrant # 10, Voucher # 247-278)

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

General Vouchers presented (see warrant # 10, voucher # 226-250)

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

Capital Vouchers presented (see warrant # 10, Voucher # 2-5)

Motion to approve and pay capital vouchers by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Kevin Smith, All in favor. Motion adopted by a 4 to 0 vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. and workshop for the 2009 budget opened.

Supervisor Bruning opens the workshop stating he has given a 3% raise on the personal service budget line all the way thru the budget except for the Town Board and Supervisor positions. He asks if the Board has any problems with that? Response is no.

Page 1)

- The tax collector contractual expense A1330.4 is increased by \$500.00 for software costs.

Page 2)

- The contractual expense for elections A1450.4 is doubled to \$6,000 from \$1,000 as their uncertainty with the county board of election expense charge back system.
- Central Data processing increased by \$400.00 to \$2,000.00.

- Unallocated insurance is decreased by \$675.00 to \$24,000.
- Municipal dues are increased by \$100.00 to \$1,400 as the Association of Towns dues has increased by that amount.

Page 3)

- A line-by-line review.

Page 4)

- Street lighting A5182.4 is increased by \$300.00.

Page 5)

- Social security, employer contribution will increase by 3% also due to the raise. The \$50.00 in disability insurance, employee benefits is removed as it is in the highway budget line.

Page 6)

- An income explanation follows including the addition of a budget code A1081 other payments in lieu of taxes in the amount of \$50,000.00.
- Safety inspection fees are moved from A1550 to A2555 Building Permits in the same amount of \$1,500.00.

It is a proposed decrease in the general tax levy by .35%.

Highway Page 7)

- \$40,000 has been moved from Machinery Capital Outlay DA5130.2, with a \$20,000 increase each to maintenance of streets and snow removal.
- Social security increased. New York State Retirement has been increased by \$1,700.

The increase in highway taxes is 1%.

Highway Superintendent Van Sadlers asks if the highway crew could get more than 3% he feels they have earned it, the county guys are getting 4 1/2%. Councilman Mike Dean feels the Town could do 4%. Councilman Paul Schoonmaker asks if this increase would be across the board? Councilman Mike Dean responds no just highway. Supervisor Bruning it will increase taxes by \$10,000- roughly 2% of the highway taxes. Councilman Kevin Smith comments lets give it to them. Councilman Paul Schoonmaker asks about the town clerk feels she is doing a good job. Supervisor Bruning remarks everyone is doing a good job and deserves a raise. Discussion on revenue (income) follows. Councilman Paul Schoonmaker asks about the county raise? The raise is in their contract. Supervisor Bruning comments that our guys make more than they do now and they (the county crews) must pay for part of their health insurance while our guys do not. Supervisor Bruning has also asked other town supervisors what the percentage they gave was, the common answer was 3% and everyone would get the 4% raise. Councilman Schoonmaker remarks it is hard to look out for the taxpayer and take care of employees. Supervisor Bruning states exactly and we are here to take care of taxpayer's money. Continuing on he states that Ed Mues would like a \$1.00 an hour raise. Board discussion follows.

Supervisor Bruning will redo the budget and increase the raise to 4%. Discussion on public hearing date, it will be held at the next audit meeting scheduled for November 11, 2008.

Motion to adjourn at 9:18 by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor. Motion carried by a 3 to 0 vote.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Ann Monforte, Town Clerk