

# Town of Denning – Town Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Supervisor Bruning,  
Held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011 at the Denning Town Hall.

Present: Supervisor Bruning

Councilmen: Mike Dean, Paul Schoonmaker, Kevin Smith, and  
David Brooks

Also present: Highway Superintendent Dan Van Sadlers

The Deputy Town Clerk gave the Board members their copy of the agenda, as well as a copy of the CWT minutes for March 21, 2011 and the Town NYMIR policy.

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of last months' minutes by Deputy Town Clerk Tammy Beck.  
Motion to adopt and approve as read by Councilman Mike Dean 2<sup>nd</sup> by  
Councilman Kevin Smith, All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

Guest Speaker- Karen Router gave update on the schedule for Neversink Stream Management meetings and presented scheduling cards for the Town Clerk to hand out. She states all are welcome to the Rondout meetings. Mark Whitmore will be speaking on the ash bug. Caroline Sommers will be speaking on planting as well as designing the garden plan for the Town Hall. There will be an art exhibit opening in October, they want to make an art sculpture around a WIFI tower that will be made of biodegradable materials. She also opened a discussion on knotweed and how it has been taking over riverbanks and would like to get rid of it. Open discussion follows.

Correspondence read by Supervisor Bruning

- Rural Ulster Preservation Company (RUPCO) states that they have a program to upgrade and preserve the housing stock for low-income homeowners and seniors. They anticipate serving approx. 35 homeowners. Supervisor Bruning asks if the Deputy Town Clerk can make up additional application forms. She responds yes.
- Claryville Fire Commissioner Charles Briner regarding the lack of response to the Verizon outage of last year by the Public Service Commission.
- A letter from the Oil and Gas Association stating that drilling would not harm the water.
- A letter from New York State regarding a 2% decrease in Aid.

Highway Report by Superintendent Dan Van Sadlers

- Truck repair and maintenance report.
- Back springs on truck are worn and need replacing.
- Swept all roads still some touch ups needed.
- Turned over plow trucks for summer.
- Under the coated trucks.
- Got estimates for road work and culvert replacements.
- Cleaned up yard at the Town Hall and Highway.
- Rolled parking lot.
- Getting ready to start work in Sundown on grading and ditch cleaning.

Code Enforcement – No Report

## Highway Equipment Planning- No Report

### Planning Board Report – Councilman Mike Dean

States that Chairman Carl Landon was glad to have Greg Vurckio on the board and that they may be needing a new planning board member soon. Councilman Mike Dean asks if anybody knows somebody that would be good for the position. Discussion follows.

### Supervisor Comments:

- Nothing more on broadband. A letter for rural broadband stating that they were unable to secure a partner.
- Supervisor Bruning thanks the YMCA for a great job of picking up trash along the Town of Denning Road.
- An agent from DEC visited, FEMA received a complaint that the stream was necking down by the county temporary bridge, the Supervisor went on to say that it was the county's problem and not the town's as it is a county owned bridge.

### Board Comments:

- Councilman Paul Schoonmaker asks of any plan for finishing the bridge. Supervisor Bruning responds that the County plans to do it in 2012. He also thanks Supervisor Bruning for keeping after the Public Service Commission.
- Councilman Mike Dean remarks that Highway Superintendent Van Saders should be looking for knotweed as they work along the roadway by streams.
- Superintendent Dan Van Saders comments they, the crew will keep an eye out.
- Councilman Dave Brooks met with Jerry Huncosky and they simplified the proposed highway standards. Remarking that New York State needs a SEQRA type 1 done and this plan does not effect the environment. Will send the paper work to Dave Gilmour.
- Supervisor Bruning states the changes in the section on outdoor furnaces needs to be included.

### Public comments:

- ❖ Resident Russ Betters opens a brief discussion on the proposed election districts.

Motion to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. by Councilman David Brooks, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor. Vote carried 4 to 0.

Respectfully Submitted by Tammy Beck, Deputy Town Clerk

## **Town of Denning – Town Business Meeting**

Held on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at the Denning Town Hall.

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

Minute book signed prior to the opening of the meeting.

The Town Clerk presented the Board the Budget vs. Actual thru April 2011 and a Councilman's mail.

Present: Supervisor Bruning

Councilmen: Mike Dean, Paul Schoonmaker, Kevin Smith,  
and David Brooks

Also present: Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Public Hearing regarding New York City's purchase of conservation easements in the hamlet districts, opened by Supervisor Bruning.

- Supervisor Bruning gives background information on the MOA (the Memorandum of Agreement) of 1997 reading sections 68 and 68a. Stating that New York City cannot purchase land in the hamlet districts: 690 acres in Sundown and 600 in Denning. They can however buy conservation easements and the land would be forever vacant. After years and years of negotiations an agreement has been made that the City would not be allowed to purchase these easements in the hamlet or to enlarge the hamlet districts. After lengthy discussion the Town Board has decided to pursue the conservation easements option.
- Resident Michele Egon asks if the City would pay the taxes if an easement were purchased? Supervisor Bruning responds Joy and I were just discussing that and we are not sure because it would be a lump sum payment.
- Resident James Brady complains that the Town is telling him what to do with his property. Supervisor Bruning responds we are telling the City what they can or can't do.
- Resident James Brady states he does not want any more people here - there are too many now, stating he just wants to be heard.
- Resident Michele Egon states her property is not build able.
- Resident James Brady asks what is wrong with the City paying the taxes?
- Supervisor Bruning remarks the City will open the land for fishing, hiking, hunting and parking, the City will not maintain the landscaping.
- Resident Michele Egon inquires as to mineral rights or natural gas?
- Supervisor Bruning states the City will prohibit that.

Supervisor Bruning closes the Public Hearing at 7:30pm following a motion made by Councilman Mike Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kevin Smith, All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

Highway Vouchers presented (see warrant # 5 vouchers #87-105) Motion to approve and pay highway vouchers by Councilman Mike Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kevin Smith, All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

- Brief discussion on the Salt and Sand budget line.

General Vouchers presented, (see warrant # 5 vouchers 91-108)  
Motion to approve and pay general vouchers by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

Supervisor Bruning:

- Informs the Board of a Notice of Claim filed against the Town. After conferring with Rod Futerfas the Attorney for the Town he has referred the matter to NYMIR, the Town's insurance company. Hunter Road is not in the Town of Denning an affidavit has been signed, notarized and forwarded to the insurance company who will notify the plaintiff's attorney.
- Paul Kelly has retired; he will not be doing the mowing.
- Ed Mues gave Supervisor Bruning information on e-waste recycling' the container is either a 4 foot cardboard box or a 53 foot long trailer, neither option will work.

Public Hearing discussion on the public comment received. The Board feels everything was explained and understood. The Town Board understands the resident's position. Supervisor Bruning asks if the Board should go ahead? Councilman Mike Dean comments we should proceed. Supervisor Bruning will write a resolution for next meeting.

Brief discussion on the zoning map and updating. Councilman Dave Brooks informs the Board that both he and Carl have been working on the corrections and updates.

Dave Van Valkenburg has been tasking pictures to update the Town inventory records.

Councilman Paul Schoonmaker inquires if any response has been received from the Public Service Commission?  
Supervisor Bruning responds No.

Brief discussion on the planning boards meeting attendance and possible vacancy.

Motion to adjourn at 8:29 p.m. by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker, All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Ann Monforte, Town Clerk