

# Town of Denning – Town Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Supervisor Brooks,  
Held on Tuesday, February 4th, 2014 at the Denning Town Hall.

Present: Supervisor Brooks

Councilmen: Mike Dean, Paul Schoonmaker, Kevin Smith, and  
Greg Vurckio

Also present: Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders

The Town Clerk Minute Book was signed prior to the commencement  
of the meeting.

The Town Clerk gave the Board members their copy of the agenda and  
Resolutions 26 and 27 of 2014 as well as the Budget VS Actual for  
December 2013.

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading of last month's minutes by Town Clerk Joy Monforte.  
Motion to adopt and approve as read by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd  
by Councilman Kevin Smith. All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0  
vote.

Correspondence – Supervisor Brooks

- The Ulster County Supervisors Association has sent a letter  
opposing the closing of the Lake Katrine Social Security Office.
- Ulster County Emergency Management Director Art Snyder has  
sent an announcement regarding the Biggert-Waters Flood  
Insurance Reform Act, a postponement of the implementation  
until a more cost effective and equitable solution is found. This  
has passed the Senate but must still pass the House of  
Representatives.

Highway Report by Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders

- Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders remarks they are using  
sand and salt, he will be ordering salt tomorrow.
- Fixed a spring on the 550, will replace the other side as time  
permits and keep it for a spare.
- FEMA update: the funds have not yet been released to New York  
State for Peekamoose and Clair Roads.
- New Road Hill has been written up for \$47,000.00 still waiting on  
approval.
- Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders informs the Town  
Board he is considering using pile driven sheets, at a cost of  
\$16,000 plus labor. Discussion opened includes comments  
concerning site and ledge rock and the depth of the sheets.
- Spoke to Karen Rauter about his concerns regarding the stream  
at the end of Denning Road were New York State and Frost  
Valley YMCA property meet, by Straus Lane.

Code Enforcement – No Report

Planning Board Report- Councilman Mike Dean

- ZBA Chairman Mark Boncek came to the meeting and informed  
the Board of the information he has accumulated, including  
comments from the Sierra Club and Audubon Society, both of  
whom have no problem with the installation.

- Mr. Vaia is considering becoming the Town of Denning representative to the Ulster County Planning Board.
- Frost Valley has asked for a 3-month extension on the West Branch logging site.

Discussion opened by Supervisor Brooks pertaining to the renewal of the Shared Services Contract with the Town of Neversink.

Motion by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean to authorize the Supervisor to enter into the renewal. (Two copies are signed, 1 for each Town's file as the agreement has been approved and signed by the Town of Neversink Supervisor.)

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean	AYE
Councilman Paul Schoonmaker	AYE
Councilman Kevin Smith	AYE
Councilman Greg Vurckio	AYE
Supervisor David Brooks	AYE

Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Court Audit discussion opened by Supervisor Brooks; the Auditors where Councilman Mike Dean and Councilman Greg Vurckio. (Councilman Paul Schoonmaker was unavailable due to a prior appointment.) Supervisor Brooks remarks that Tammy is doing a fabulous job.

Resolution No. 26 of 2014

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 and an independent Auditor on Friday, January 24, 2014, the Town of Denning Town Board,

HEREBY has reviewed and accepted the audit results submitted by the Auditing Board, for the years 2013.

Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean	AYE
Councilman Paul Schoonmaker	AYE
Councilman Kevin Smith	AYE
Councilman Greg Vurckio	AYE
Supervisor David Brooks	AYE

Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution No. 27 of 2014

WHEREAS the total CHIPS allotment for the Town of Denning for the year 2013, was \$234,748.58, and

WHEREAS there was insufficient funds to complete the work available in the Highway Fund, and

WHEREAS Resolution No. 41 of 2013 was approved by the Town Board on July 9th, 2013 to loan \$234,748.58 to the Highway fund from the General Fund in order to fund the required highway work until reimbursement was received, and

WHEREAS the funds have been received from CHIPS, the Town of Denning Town Board

HEREBY authorizes the Supervisor to transfer \$234,748.58 from DA630 Due to Other Funds (Highway Fund) to A391Due From Other Fund (General Fund) in order to repay the loan authorized by Resolution No. 41 of 2013.

Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker, 2nd by Councilman Kevin Smith.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean	AYE
Councilman Paul Schoonmaker	AYE
Councilman Kevin Smith	AYE
Councilman Greg Vurckio	AYE
Supervisor David Brooks	AYE

Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Supervisor Comments:

- ❖ Informs the Board that the Town will need records for the Stormwater Maintenance program.
- ❖ Councilman Greg Vurckio inquires as to how many times a year the storm drain catch basin at the highway garage needs to be cleaned?
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks responds every time we get an 1½" of rain, the debris must be removed and Dan must track it.
- ❖ Spoke with Aaron Bennett from the Ulster County Dept. of the Environment and he gave this website for the flood map, he said they will be updating it. [Gis.co.ulster.ny.us](http://Gis.co.ulster.ny.us)
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks informs the Town Board that TWC has agreed to lower the homes per mile for the extension, to 20 instead of 35, which the lowest they can go.
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks informs all present that he has spoken with U.C Legislative Chair John Parete who is also our representative about the hold up for payment for the Clair Road project. Karen Rauter, of the Stream Management Program, has informed him that the hold up is due to the Ulster County Legislature. Chairman Parete said he would bring the payment up before the Legislature, tomorrow.
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks also reminded him about Bridge 100, Chairman Parete reaffirms that it is in the works.
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks informs those present that our housekeeper has moved to the Town of Neversink and that the position has historically been a resident, due to tax dollars involved.
- ❖ Councilman Paul Schoonmaker comments that if she is doing a good job then lets retain her.
- ❖ Brief discussion follows.
- ❖ Board will keep the current housekeeper.

Board Comments:

- Councilman Mike Dean brings in an article for Highway Superintendent Van Sadars regarding army surplus equipment. He asks Superintendent Van Sadars if he wants some aid in investigating the availability of the free surplus equipment because he knows he has his hands full right now with the weather.
- Highway Superintendent responds yes, someone to help with the legwork would be helpful. Councilman Greg Vurckio will also help.

Public comments:

Resident Russ Betters comments they are holding off on the new flood zones because they have found errors and want to give people time to protest it.

Motion to enter into Executive Session due to pending litigation at 8:11 by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Greg Vurckio, All in favor.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean AYE

Councilman Paul Schoonmaker AYE

Councilman Kevin Smith AYE

Councilman Greg Vurckio AYE

Supervisor David Brooks AYE

Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Supervisor Brooks informs the Town Board of pending litigation due to an accident with a Town truck. The Town Board takes no action.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session at 8:22 pm and return to the Town Board Meeting by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker 2nd by Councilman Kevin Smith, All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Brooks asks for any further business, there is none.

Motion to adjourn at 8:27 by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Kevin Smith, All in favor. Motion carried 4 to 0 votes.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Monforte, Town Clerk

February 10th, 2014

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 11th, 2014 at the Denning Town Hall.

## Town of Denning – Town Business Meeting

Held on Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Denning Town Hall.

Called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Supervisor Brooks.

Minute book signed prior to the opening of the meeting.

The Town Clerk presented to the Board a copy of Resolution No. 28 of 2014 and the Budget vs. Actual thru January 2014.

Present: Supervisor Brooks

Councilmen: Mike Dean, Paul Schoonmaker, Kevin Smith,  
and Greg Vurckio.

Also present: Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders

Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders informs the Town Board of a \$1,00.00 Highway Equipment from the newly bankrupt Carquest. The purchase was for a hydraulic drill press, which will do hose up to 1", will be getting a bench and bin as well as some fittings. plus a chop saw.

Highway Vouchers presented (see Warrant #2AP-2013, voucher#10-12)

Motion to approve and pay highway fund vouchers by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Kevin Smith, All in favor. Motion carried by a unanimous 4 to 0 Roll Call vote.

The warrant is in the amount of \$

Highway Vouchers presented (see Warrant # 2PP, voucher #1-5)

Motion to approve and pay highway fund vouchers by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor. Motion carried by a unanimous 4 to 0 Roll Call vote.

The warrant is in the amount of \$

Highway Vouchers presented, (see Warrant # 2, voucher #6-31)

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

The warrant is in the amount of \$

General Vouchers presented, (see Warrant #2AP-2013, voucher#5-12)

Motion to approve and pay general fund vouchers by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker, All in favor. Motion carried by a unanimous 4 to 0 Roll Call vote.

The warrant is in the amount of \$

General Vouchers presented, (see Warrant #2PP, voucher#1-8)

Motion to approve and pay general fund vouchers by Councilman Mike Dean, 2nd by Greg Vurckio, All in favor. Motion carried by a unanimous 4 to 0 Roll Call vote.

The warrant is in the amount of \$

General Vouchers presented, (see Warrant #2, voucher#6-45)

Motion to approve and pay general fund vouchers by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2nd by Greg Vurckio, All in favor. Motion carried by a unanimous 4 to 0 Roll Call vote.

The warrant is in the amount of \$

Supervisor Brooks informs the Town Board of a resignation letter from ZBA member Frank Comando, he introduces:

Resolution No. 28 of 2014

WHEREAS New York State Town Law section 267 requires a Town Board to make appointments to the Town Zoning Board of Appeals, and

WHEREAS a vacancy has been created due to a resignation,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Denning Town Board HEREBY appoints John Barnum to the ZBA to fill Said vacancy with a 5 year term set to expire on December 31, 2018.

Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Mike Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Greg Vurckio.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean	AYE
Councilman Paul Schoonmaker	AYE
Councilman Kevin Smith	AYE
Councilman Greg Vurckio	AYE
Supervisor David Brooks	AYE

Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Supervisor Brooks informs the Town Board that the TWC Franchise Agreement has been updated to 20 homes per mile for the cable expansion instead of the 35 in the original agreement. Supervisor Brooks submits the previously (by Supervisor Bruning) done map to the Town Board. Councilman Greg Vurckio wonders when Sundown will get cable. Supervisor Brooks explains that residents who are not on the map must petition TWC to get services. Councilman Paul Schoonmaker inquires if this is a 1-time thing or must be renewed annually. Supervisor Brooks responds that the Franchise Agreement is for 15 years. The Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to sign the contract following a Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Greg Vurckio.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean	AYE
Councilman Paul Schoonmaker	AYE
Councilman Kevin Smith	AYE
Councilman Greg Vurckio	AYE
Supervisor David Brooks	AYE

Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Highway Superintendent Dan Van Saders gives an update on the pending litigation. Due to new information a 30-day extension has been granted.

Councilman Greg Vurckio attended the Ulster County Supervisor Association meeting this morning and submits to the Town Board for review and disapproval a new federal plan to include Ulster County in the new NY Major Transmission Lines Sustaining Reliability in Southeastern NY (SENY) the purpose of which is to provide New York City with more power. The program favored by the Federal Government will cost taxpayers \$840 million and use eminent domain

while the program favored by NYS will cost \$270 million using current electric poles. Review of the material and discussion follows. The Town of Denning taxpayers will be paying New York City electric prices to help pay for the plans. (The information is available in the Town Clerk's Office for review.) The Town Board authorizes Supervisor Brooks to sign the proposed resolution against the Transco Plan (\$840 million) following a Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Greg Vurckio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean	AYE
Councilman Paul Schoonmaker	AYE
Councilman Kevin Smith	AYE
Councilman Greg Vurckio	AYE
Supervisor David Brooks	AYE

Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Councilman Greg Vurckio also informs the Board that the free equipment from the Hurricane Sandy program has ended. There is a surplus site he has checked and will continue to check although there isn't any equipment listed we need right now.

Councilman Greg Vurckio also informs the Town Board of other discussion at the County Supervisors Meeting, which had Ulster County Deputy Executive Robert Sudlow present. Items discussed were: a big push on garbage, emergency communications getting all of the Town on the same frequency as Ulster County, the Governors tax cap has become a burden on towns that are already at a bare bones budget, saying he, Robert Sudlow, is aware that highway budgets are the next part of Towns budget to cut costs, the County is developing a prefab bridge in New Paltz at this time, voting districts and broadband are also discussed.

Town Board discussion opened on new employees paying a percentage of the health insurance and retirements costs, the upcoming 2015 budget is also discussed, briefly.

Supervisor Brooks remarks he is sure that consolidation will be brought up again.

Motion to adjourn at 8:44 by Councilman Mike Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kevin Smith, All in favor. Motion carried 4 to 0 votes.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Monforte, Town Clerk 2-12-2014

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Denning Town Hall.

