

# Town of Denning – Town Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Supervisor Brooks,  
Held on Tuesday, December 1st, 2015 at the Denning Town Hall.

Present: Supervisor David Brooks

Councilmen: Mike Dean, Paul Schoonmaker and Kevin Smith

Absent: Councilman Gregory Vurckio

Also Present: Highway Superintendent Dan Van Sadlers

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, Resolution No. 60 and 63 of 2015, NYMIR "Our Policy" and the proposed updates for the Employee Handbook and correspondence to the Supervisor.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Motion to adopt and approve as read by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker. All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote, with 1 absentee.

Correspondence read by Supervisor Brooks

- Supervisor Brooks thanks YMCA Director Jerry Huncosky for the \$8,500.00 monthly donation from the Frost Valley YMCA.
- The Annual Report from the Code Enforcement Officer.
- Association of Towns meeting notice.

Highway Report by Highway Superintendent Dan Van Sader

- Doing shop work, hunting season, some crew out.
- The 2002 had rear brakes done.
- The 550 back from Strictly Ford had them out in 10/50 oil with hot shot.
- The 04 has a leak in the hydraulic tank and a piece of pvc pipe got stuck in the gear box of the sander breaking some teeth, both tank and gear box have been ordered.
- The 08 is running well.
- Icy roads had to be salt and sanded.
- Supervisor Brooks inquires as to much salt and sand is in the shed?
- Highway Superintendent Van Sadlers responds he has ordered salt and has been waiting two weeks now for delivery off of NYS bid. Enough sand for two or three storms.
- Councilman Dean opens brief discussion on oil for truck.

Planning Board Report- Councilman Mike Dean

- The planning board received a letter from Central Hudson requesting notification of any proposed sub divisions.
- Discussion on sale and use at Rudolph Farm.
- Chair Joe Sibiga wrote to Mrs. Hanselman confirming for her the approved and "grandfathered in" use of her property as a B&B.

Resolution No. 60 of 2015

WHEREAS New York State Highway Law §141 permits the transfer of surplus monies between highway fund accounts, and

WHEREAS the Town of Denning has an open grate bridge at Erts Brook in need of replacement and was replaced, and

WHEREAS the Town of Denning has been reimbursed by Sullivan County Soil & Water for this project, by an additional \$1,147.92

THEREFORE the Town of Denning Town Board HEREBY authorizes the Town Supervisor to increase DA2300 Inter Government charges in the amount of \$ 1,147.92 and increase appropriations code DA5120.2 Bridges-Capital Outlay by \$1,147.92.

Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Kevin Smith,  
2nd by Councilman Mike Dean. Roll Call Vote:  
Councilman Mike Dean AYE Councilman Paul Schoonmaker AYE  
Councilman Kevin Smith AYE Councilman Greg Vurckio ABSENT  
Supervisor David Brooks AYE  
Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote with 1 absentee.

Resolution No. 61 of 2015

WHEREAS New York State Town Law §113 authorizes town boards by resolution to transfer funds and unexpended balances, and

WHEREAS the Town of Denning has been dealing with court matters directly related to issues at the NYSDEC Blue Hole in Sundown, within the Town of Denning, and

WHEREAS the Town Board wishes to compensate the Town of Denning Justice Court Clerk for her many hours of overtime work dealing with SAID paperwork,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Denning Town Board HEREBY authorizes the Supervisor to transfer from A1990.4 Contingency Account to A1110.1 Justice Personal Service the amount of \$1,052.00 after careful consideration of the hours worked.

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 ABSENT  
Supervisor David Brooks AYE  
Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote with 1 absentee.

Resolution No. 62 of 2015

WHEREAS New York State Highway Law §141 permits the transfer of surplus monies between highway fund accounts, and

WHEREAS the Town of Denning Highway Fund is in need of transfers for budgetary reason,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Denning Town Board HEREBY authorizes the Town Supervisor to transfer:

\$5,000.00 from DA5110.1 Maintenance of Streets Personal Services to DA5110.4 Maintenance of Streets, Contractual Expense and

To Transfer \$6,000.00 from DA5120.4 Bridge, Contractual Expense to DA5130.4 Machinery, Contractual Expense And

To Transfer \$10,000.00 from DA9901.9 Interfund Transfer to

DA5130.4 Machinery, Contractual, and

To Transfer \$10,000.00 from DA5142.4 Snow Removal, Contractual to DA5130.4 Machinery, Contractual

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 ABSENT  
Supervisor David Brooks AYE  
Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote with 1 absentee.

Resolution No. 63 of 2015 in Support of Local Transportation Funding  
WHEREAS, a reliable transportation infrastructure is vital for the safety of New York's travelling public and its economy; and

WHEREAS, 85 percent of New York's roads and bridges are maintained by local governments; and

WHEREAS, despite well-timed and targeted preventative maintenance treatments, the age and condition of many of our locally-owned transportation assets means that they are beyond preservation and in need of much more costly rehabilitation and reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, estimates by the State Comptroller, DOT and independent studies show a large portion of road mileage is deteriorating and many bridges in the state are rated structurally deficient and functionally obsolete; and

WHEREAS, the State Comptroller estimates that there will be \$89 billion in unmet local infrastructure needs over the next 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Association of Town Superintendents of Highways commissioned its own fifteen year analysis that indicates an annual funding gap of \$1.3 billion for the local system (excluding NYC) alone; and

WHEREAS, funding for our local system has been far short of what is needed and we've fallen further and further behind in maintaining the vast and aging transportation infrastructure over this long period with severe consequences for conditions ratings; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Consolidated Local Street and Highway Program (CHIPS) provides essential funding for every municipality in the state and is part of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) capital program; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1990's the Governor and Legislature created the Dedicated Highway and Bridge Trust Fund (DHBTF) to pay for the NYSDOT capital program and the Dedicated Mass Transit Trust Fund (DMTTF) to assist with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and other transit systems' capital programs; and

WHEREAS, when the DHBTF was created, it was agreed that the NYSDOT and MTA five-year capital programs would be similar in size and would be negotiated concurrently; and

WHEREAS, through 2005-09, both five-year capital programs were similar in size and adopted within months of each other; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the Executive and Legislature broke traditional parity and enacted a five-year capital program for the MTA but not the DOT;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Denning calls upon the Governor and the state Legislature to make additional state funding and resources available at levels that accurately reflect the critical needs of local roads and bridges; and increase CHIPS funding in the 2016-17 state budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Denning calls upon the Governor, and members of the state Legislature to fully fund and submit a new NYSDOT five-year transportation capital plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Denning calls upon the Governor and members of the state Legislature to recognize the equality of roads, bridges and transit by restoring funding equality between the MTA and NYSDOT five-year programs and by voting on the plans simultaneously.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Denning Town Board HEREBY directs the Town of Denning Town Clerk to spread Said resolution upon the official record of the Town and a Certified copy sent to all of the Town's State representatives.

Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Mike Dean,  
2nd by Councilman Kevin Smith. Roll Call Vote:  
Councilman Mike Dean AYE Councilman Paul Schoonmaker AYE  
Councilman Kevin Smith AYE Councilman Greg Vurckio ABSENT  
Supervisor David Brooks AYE  
Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote with 1 absentee.

Supervisor Comments:

- The proposed updated Employee Handbook is submitted to the Board for consideration. The Board starts a quick look thru as Supervisor Brooks informs them all changes have been highlighted in yellow, he asks them to review, he comments he know there does need to be some additional verbiage changes.
- Town Board policies have been added as an appendix.
- New employees will have to pay 15% of health insurance cost, new councilman will not be offered insurance instead their will be an increase in salary, with no insurance buy out.
- The floating holiday will be Presidents Day instead of Lincolns.
- Highway Superintendent Van Sadlers has added a Beneficiary Designation page.
- There will be no buy out for an employee who resigns.
- Meals on Wheels will start in the beginning of January; Frost Valley YMCA Director Jerry Huncosky has generously offered the Town a freezer for food storage. Brief discussion on day and pick up, including delivery to the Sundown Church Hall.

Councilman Comments:

- Councilman Paul Schoonmaker opens a brief discussion on newspaper articles regarding a landfill being opened in Ulster County, he asks about Taylor, who makes electricity from the refuse. Brief discussion follows.

- Supervisor Brooks informs the Board the UC Supervisor Association has a committee working and exploring every option they will have a recommendation shortly.
- Councilman Kevin Smith inquires as to the status of the Zoning Map and SEQR asking how far along Carl is, stating it has been 6 years and needs to be finished.
- Discussion follows; Supervisor Brooks will call Carl Landon as to the status. Supervisor Brooks has called him, the last time on Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 and has not as of yet received a return call from Mr. Landon.

Public Comments:

- Resident Russ Betters states it is good to see everything running well.

Supervisor Brooks asks for any further comments? There is none.  
Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 7:17 pm by Councilman Mike Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kevin Smith, All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote with 1 absentee.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Monforte, Town Clerk, Dec. 2nd, 2015.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 8th, 2015 at the Denning Town Hall at **6** pm.