

# Town of Denning – Town Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Supervisor Brooks.

Held on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 held at the Sundown Church Hall.

Present: Supervisor Brooks.

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

Also present: Highway Superintendent Dan Van Sadars

The Town Clerk Minute Book was signed prior to the meetings commencement. The Town Clerk gave the Board members their copy of the agenda and Resolution No. 49 of 2017, the 2018 Town of Denning Tentative Budget, the Claryville Fire District 2018 Tentative Budget, the NYMIR Annual Report for 2016 and the road inventory corrections list.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Motion to adopt and approve as read by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean. All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 vote.

Guest: Karen Rauter and Brenden Wagner from the Sullivan County Soil & Stream Management Program, to discuss the new contract for work to be done on the East Branch.

- Mr. Wagner gives a project over view and summary. They plan on installing a bench five foot at the top and ten to fifteen at the bottom along the collapsed sections, with the bench starting in the river bed.
- Plan includes the use of root wad and large rock, for a live, living structure.
- Reason for the delay; Barton & Loguidice did not meet time line and goals, could not meet any goals.

Karen Rauter states we are reaching out to other engineering firms, looking for a good quality of work, being responsible for costs and Barton & Loguidice is doing the work for less.

- Mrs. Rauter also states they must satisfy NYCDEP and NYS regulations.
- The NYCDEP is fully funding these projects. They understand what we are trying to do.
- She remarks they would have preferred to do both projects together.
- The Flood Plan Analysis delayed projects as well.

Supervisor Brooks states the biggest problem is you telling me, something will get done, I inform residents and then nothing gets done, it is very frustrating.

Mrs. Rauter comments they failed to get it done but a lot of other programs benefit from their services, like Tri-Valley and land owners.

Supervisor Brooks asks Mr. Wagner about the end of the East Mtn. Road were the water flows into the Rondout and it is wearing the roadway away underneath.

Mr. Wagner responds he is doing all of the six or seven rolls for that project; the drafting, hydraulics and engineering.

Supervisor Brooks inquires if there is anything the Town can do to help?

Mr. Wagner responds that Brian from the NYCDEP has informed him he should use training money to get an engineer to work with me.

Mrs. Rauter informs the Board they are working on the new contract and may request a full time engineer, the contract would run thru 2025, the budget is due on October 24, 2017. She suggests a letter of support.

Mr. Wagner, we will need a permit to work in the flood plain, Supervisor Brooks responds the Town will waive the fee.

Supervisor Brooks comments there are new owners behind the Blue Hill Lodge and asks if they are on board?

Mrs. Rauter responds yes. Mr. Wagner remarks they are a small sliver of land; they would prefer us not to work behind the house but the project would go forth regardless.

Discussion follows on type and locations of root wads as local resources are preferred.

Supervisor Brooks suggests a blanket permit from the NYSDEC to remove root wads in the rivers in Town, to be used in this project.

Supervisor Brooks states he will discuss with the Town Board and will probably sign the contract at next weeks meeting.

#### Correspondence – Supervisor Brooks

- The monthly donation from the Frost Valley YMCA in the amount of \$8,500.00 has been received and is gratefully acknowledged.
- Supervisor Brooks reads a letter from the NYCDEP regarding the opening of City property on the bottom of Red Hill Road, twenty-two acres have been left out, to act as a buffer between the open property and residences.
- Resident George Elias comments if the City is so generous in opening their property, why don't they provide a parking lot?
- Discussion follows.
- Supervisor Brooks will send a letter to the NYCDEP, regarding the No Parking Town Law and parking issues.
- Central Hudson is seeking to boost electric profits. Central Hudson is requesting a rate increase:  
"electric delivery revenue increase of approximately \$43 million, (13.5% increase in delivery revenues or 7.9% increase in total revenues. However, in it's testimony, the Company proposes increasing its rates by \$63.4 million, which takes into account the \$20.4 million revenue decrease resulting from reduction in it sales. The resulting increase represents a 21.2% increase in delivery revenues and an 11.6% increase in total revenues. The public hearing and public comments as wells as information sessions are on October 10<sup>th</sup> in the City of Kingston Town Hall from 2 and 3 as well as 6 and 7. The increase in funds is also to be used to for training and to build a training facility.
- Supervisor Brooks states the Ulster County Association of Supervisors is writing a letter of disapproval.

#### Highway Report by Highway Superintendent Dan Van Sadere

- Superintendent Van Sadere informs the Town Board the highway department chipped sealed a sections of Kawlija, Red Hill Knolls, Red Hill and Round Pond Roads.
- Patched sections of Peekamoose Road.
- Mowed brush on Red Hill Knolls, Red Hill, Round Pond and Wild Meadow.
- Freightliner back from repair.
- F-550 going in for warranty work.
- Replaced tie-rod ends in 08'
- The 05' listed on Auction International, \$4,600 currently.
- Highway Superintendent Van Sadere explains to the Town Board the road inventory list enclosed in the packet. Discussion follows.
- A resolution is needed, to correct the issue, to be done at next weeks meeting.
- Discussion opened on road signs; spelling corrections and colors.
- Supervisor Brooks responds he thinks the signs should be phased in for budgetary reasons.
- Supervisor Brooks asks Councilman Vurckio to do the research on the road inventory and County map errors.
- Supervisor Brooks opens a discussion on Sheeley Road, he says he knows there are delivery problems now, because of the Grahamsville zip code, there is a road in Grahamsville with the same name. He has concerns with emergency response; he suggests a new road name.
- Discussion on road vs. lane for private roads.
- Supervisor Brooks informs Highway Superintendent Van Sadere the new MVP packet doesn't have to be filled out unless someone moved.
- Councilman Mike Dean will check roads which should be lanes.

#### Planning Board Report by No Report

Resolution No. 49 of 2017

**WHEREAS** New York State Town Law section 27 authorizes the Town Board to determine the salaries of town officers and employees, and

**WHEREAS** New York State Civil Service Law sections 35 and 40 establish jurisdictional classification of positions, with provisions for a definition of noncompetitive classification of employment positions subject to Town Council appointment,

**NOW THEREFORE** be it **RESOLVED** that the position of Court Officer to the Justice Court was established in July of 2017 with an hourly wage of \$15.00 to be drawn from Justice Personal Services.  
(General Fund appropriations code A 1110.1)

Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Mike Dean,  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Supervisor Comments:

- Supervisor Brooks informs those present; the Tentative Budget which has been submitted to the Board is under the Tax Cap, again.
- The issue was health insurance, you must budget for a family plan and with another retirement in the spring, it increased cost by \$53,000.00.
- Health insurance is a 10 to 12% increase every year, he states the system is broken and must be fixed.
- Supervisor Brooks requests the Town Board review prior to next weeks' work shop.
- Supervisor Brooks remarks the Zoning Committee has met, and most of the differences have been resolved.

Supervisor Brooks calls for Councilman comment:

- ❖ Councilman Paul Schoonmaker remarks he has been sitting in on court and is very proud of the professional manner of the Court.
- ❖ Councilman Mike Dean opens a discussion on locking fuel caps for highway equipment, after a discussion he had with Scott Mickelson.
- ❖ Discussion follows.
- ❖ Highway Superintendent Van Sadlers replies he has locks in the draw.
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks opens a discussion on the contract with Sullivan Soil & Water commenting it is extremely frustrating try and get anything done.
- ❖ Councilman Paul Schoonmaker asks what the issue is with # 7 in the contract?
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks responds he didn't like where it said we were responsible, this was before Brenden got him Appendix B, explain the cause, which state we will not maintain it.
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks request the Town Board review the contract prior to next weeks meeting.

Supervisor Brooks calls for Public Comment:

- Resident Russ Betters asks if the 2 projects touch each other? Response no.
- Discussion opened on the East Mtn. Road water washing out Sundown Road on the Sullivan County side.
- Resident George Elias opens a discussion and complaints about bicyclists on Sugarloaf Road, stating someone will be killed or badly hurt. They take up the whole road. He states the Town of Denning is becoming a recreational destination.

Supervisor Brooks call for any further Town Board or public comments or discussion. There is none.

Motion to adjourn at 7:25 by Councilman Gregory Vurckio,  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor. Motion carried 4 to 0 vote.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Monforte, RMC, Town Clerk, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6 pm at the Denning Town Hall.

# Town of Denning – Town Business Meeting

Meeting held on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Denning Town Hall.  
Called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor David Brooks.

Present: Supervisor David Brooks

Councilmen: Mike Dean, Gregory Vurckio, Kevin Smith and Paul Schoonmaker.  
And Highway Superintendent Dan Van Sadars

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

The Town Clerk gave the Board members their copy of the agenda, Resolution No. 50 of 2017 and correspondence to the Supervisor.

Pledge of Allegiance

Highway Pre Pay Vouchers presented by Highway Superintendent Van Sadars.

(see Warrant #10PP, voucher #31-32)

MVP Health Care, Inc. DA9060.8 \$5,764.82

Trust & Agency Account DA9030.8 \$694.20

Motion to approve the paid Highway Pre Paid Vouchers by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kevin Smith. All in favor. All in favor. Motion carried.

Highway Vouchers presented by Highway Superintendent Van Sadars.

(see Warrant #10, voucher # 146-155)

Callanan Industries DA5110.4 \$520.16, \$1,040.31, \$1,038.75, \$1,555.32

Fleetpride DA5130.4 \$393.93

Heritage DA5110.4 \$1,540.67, \$723.01

Home Depot Credit Services DA5130.4 \$50.49

Kimball Midwest DA5130.4 \$371.35

Peckham Industries Da5112.2 \$37,592.58

Shakelton Auto & Truck Parts DA5130.4 \$401.03

E. Tetz & Sons DA5110.4 \$3,312.75

Advance Auto DA5130.4 \$47.38

Motion to approve and pay the Highway Fund vouchers by Councilman Mike Dean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Gregory Vurckio remarks he took a ride around and the roads came out pretty good.

General Pre Pay Vouchers presented by Supervisor Brooks.

(see Warrant #10PP, voucher (#71-77)

Central Hudson A1620.4 \$127.88, A5132.4 \$236.64, A8160.4 \$41.63

MVP Health Care Inc. DA9060.8 \$5,209.05

Time Warner Cable A1670.4 \$147.28, A1620.4 \$190.92

Trust & Agency Acct. DA9030.8 \$286.39, \$666.60

Motion to approve the paid General Fund Pre Pay vouchers by Councilman Paul Schoonmaker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kevin Smith, All in favor. Motion carried by a 4 to 0 Roll Call vote.

General Vouchers, presented presented by Supervisor Brooks.

(see Warrant #10, vouchers (# 163-)

Tammy Beck A1110.4 \$42.80

Central Hudson A5182.4 \$104.99

Councilman Paul Schoonmaker opens a brief discussion on the electric rate paid for highway garage.

Supervisor Brooks tells Highway Superintendent Van Sadars to look into a new more efficient air compressor as the current one is 10 + years old.

Highway Superintendent Van Sadars remarks the new more efficient refrigerator should bring the cost down as well.

Louise Dayton A1620.4 \$35.00

Gnome Home Inc. A8020.4 \$16.00

Carl Landon A1460.4 \$293.75

Language Line Services A1110.4 \$35.55

Joy Monforte A1410.4 \$48.00

MVP A9060.8 \$40.50, \$40.50

Quill.Com A1110.2 \$111.98, \$81.19

Office of the State Comptroller A690 \$5,275.00

UCRRA A8160.4 \$2,475.86

Motion to approve and pay General Fund vouchers by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2nd by Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor. Motion carried following a 4 to 0 roll call vote.

Supervisor Brooks remarks that due to the holiday the Budget vs. Actual will be submitted next month.

Resolution No.50 of 2017

**WHEREAS** New York State Department of Transportation has omitted roads that are in the Town of Denning, which the Town has maintained and has the legal obligation to maintain, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Denning has a history of maintaining these road as they are under the jurisdiction of the Town of Denning Highway Department, and

**WHEREAS** Town of Denning **HEREBY** acknowledges the following Town Roads as Maintained by the Town of Denning, and as a public road in use for over Ten years.

(Dot # Name Description Length Surface Width)

261917 **Clair Road**, Begin Ulster County Rte. 42 to end .14 miles unpaved. 14'

196982 **Erts Road**, Begin Denning road to end .16 miles paved 16'

196985 **Raymond George** Begin Greenville Road .13 paved 14'

196985 **Raymond George** End of pavement to end .51 unpaved 16'

196990 **Sheeley Road** From Greenville Road to dead end .15 unpaved 14'

196996 **Voss Road** From Wild Cat Rd to turnaround. .29 paved 16'

196986 **Red Hill Road** From New Road Hill to Rudolph .7 unpaved 18'

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Town of Denning Town Board confirms the roads listed above are and have been on Town of Denning roads inventory list. The Town Highway Superintendent confirms these are on the Town Highway Record and is **HEREBY** authorized to notify the New York State Department of Transportation of **SAID** fact.

Discussion opened on the adjustments to be made to the NYSDOT Inventory List. Highway Superintendent Van Sadlers replies as it is on the list, he can make adjustments with out a Resolution.

Motion to adopt and approve by Councilman Kevin Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Mike Dean. Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mike Dean AYE Councilman Paul Schoonmaker AYE

Councilman Kevin Smith AYE Councilman Gregory Vurckio AYE

Supervisor David Brooks AYE

Motion carried following a unanimous roll call vote.

Correspondence read by Supervisor Brooks

- The CWC is sending out notification to the property owners in the Claryville Waste Water plan pertaining to the start of septic pump outs.
- Councilman Paul Schoonmaker ask when the vote is? Supervisor Brooks responds he hasn't set that up yet.
- A letter regarding the increase in electric rates is read with Supervisor Brooks submitting to the Board for their approval and signing against SAID increase to be sent to the Public Service Commission. All sign.
- The Ulster County Supervisor's Association has started the letter and every town in the County is on Board and will send the letter.

- Jerry Huncosky informs the Board that Central Hudson did a survey for the solar array, the smaller in house cost would have been \$60,000 and the larger came back at 6.5 million. They will be going to Albany looking for funding.
- An email from Mark Schultz, solar cameras for the R&R Transfer Station and gate. Brief discussion follows. The Supervisor is authorized to investigate further.
- The Stream folks sent an invitation to the Angles Symposium at the Blue Hill Lodge on November 5<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 5.
- Also, from Karen Rauter and email inviting the Town Board to a documentary on the Stone Cabin Brook to be at Tri Valley CSD on Thursday, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm.
- A letter from Denning Court Justice Follender requesting a salary increase for himself and his Court Clerk, while acknowledging the effort the Town has made on behalf of the Court budget to "the excellent job in keeping the courts budget up to date and sufficient."
- Councilman Mike Dean gives Supervisor Brooks an ad for a power washer, for the Town Hall, so he doesn't do it himself.
- Supervisor Brooks opens a discussion on road signs, has concerns about 911 for Basily Road going into Flugertown Road.
- Brief discussion on adding the ID number to Town road signs.

Supervisor Brooks calls for questions or comments before the Budget Works hop starts, there is none.

#### Town Board 2018 Preliminary Budget Workshop:

- ❖ Supervisor Brooks informs the Board that in keeping under the Tax Cap the most the Budget could increase is \$17,000.00.
- ❖ The Town of Denning is again under the Tax Cap and may be the only Town in the County under the Cap.
- ❖ All Personal Budget Code .1 was increased by 1.84%.
- ❖ A line by line review is commenced, complete with comparisons to the current fiscal expense.
- ❖ Discussion opened on the Judge's request: It would put the Town above the Tax Cap. Supervisor Brooks is not saying he is not worth it but he have to be fiscally responsible.
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks informs the Board of a DCO situation this past Friday, where a CWC inspector was bit in the side and hand. The Town Clerk did OT, the Dog Control Officer resolved the situation, going to the residence with the DEP as he did not know what he was getting into.
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks informs the Board he has a meeting with the Town of Neversink Supervisor and the First Aid Squad to discuss budget. They are getting the same amount even though they no longer respond during the day.
- ❖ The General Budget is \$435,139.00 the amount to be raised by taxes is \$162,089.00.
- ❖ The Deputy Highway Superintendent was also given a 1.84% raise.
- ❖ Discussion opened on refuse, the fee schedule instituted has helped raise revenue and keep costs down.
- ❖ Discussion on revenues follows.
- ❖ \$10,000.00 to Highway Equipment Reserve Fund.
- ❖ Discussion on health insurance the new family policy for 2 hires' is \$53,000.00. Councilman Mike Dean comments they have to pay 10%.
- ❖ Discussion on CHIPS funding amount.
- ❖ The Highway Budget is \$963,226.00 and the amount to be raised by taxes is \$767,226.00.
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks call for Budget question or comments?
- ❖ Supervisor Brooks ask Highway Superintendent Van Saders if he has any problems with the budget?
- ❖ Highway Superintendent Van Saders responds no and he adds he appreciates him staying under the Cap.
- ❖ Councilman Kevin Smith; good job as usual.
- ❖ Next year he informs the Board, as they had previously discussed, the salary's would increase, including Councilman as the health benefit was taken away. He states the salaries need to be increased to bring them closer to reality as all are extremely low.
- ❖ The Town Board approves the Tentative 2018 Budget.

Supervisor Brooks asks Jerry Huncosky if he has any issues? Jerry opens a brief discussion on the multi-organizational paragraph in the zoning, which the Zoning Committee is reviewing. Jerry, wants the Attorney to review.

Jerry Huncosky also informs the Board he would like to get together with Supervisor Brooks, in the next day or two, to discuss a fair contribution level to the Town with a possible increase.

Supervisor Comments and Councilman Comments: See Above

Supervisor Brooks call for any further Town Board or public comments or discussion. There is none.

Motion to adjourn the Town Board Business meeting at 7:37 by Councilman Gregory Vurckio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Mike Dean, All in favor. Motion carried 4 to 0 vote.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Monforte, Town Clerk, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Next Meeting:  
Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6 pm at the Denning Town Hall.